

United States History



Course Syllabus Ms. James

Course Overview

U.S. History is a year long course and a requirement for graduation. This course will deal with issues, events and people in history beginning with the onset of the Civil War and continuing to present day. We will look at these topics from the United States point of view and also see how the United States became a key player in world events. In addition, we will try to gain an understanding of why history is important and what parallels can be made to your own lives and the world you live in today.

Course Materials needed to be Successful:

- You should have your **laptop** on a daily basis (*make sure it's charged*)
- **Textbooks** will remain in the classroom. If you need one to complete an assignment you may check one out when needed by signing your name and book number on the whiteboard by the bookcase.
- **Headphones**
- **Notebook**
- **Pen/Pencil**

Classroom Procedures

Attendance: If you are absent for class whether it be for illness, a school related activity or any other reason, **you** are responsible for finding out what material you missed. I will not hunt you down to make sure you know what you've missed. Be responsible and take care of this before school, after school, or at the beginning or end of class if time permits. If there are any questions on the assignment, or if you need handouts to complete the assignment please ask for them or check my website and Google Classroom. Should you know you will be gone from school ahead of time, please get all Advanced Assignment sheets filled out by me BEFORE you are absent.

Tardy Policy: All tardies are considered unexcused unless excused by having a pass from a teacher or the district office. A student is counted tardy if he/she is not in their seat when the bell rings. Each student will receive one "free" tardy per class per semester. Each tardy thereafter has the following consequences: 2nd & 3rd tardy equal a half-hour detention with Ms. James, the 4th tardy equals a visit with Mrs. Knight and a one hour Saturday school. Each additional tardy will be an additional hour of Saturday school. This policy follows the district tardy policy.

LATE WORK:

1. All students are expected to turn in their work completed and on time, as this is a life skill.
2. If a student turns in work within 2 days of the original due date they can still receive up to 75% credit.
3. After an assignment is 2 days late, students can still turn it in up to one week (5 school days) later to receive up to 50% credit.
4. After an assignment is 7 total school days late, students will receive a zero for the assignment unless other arrangements have been made with Ms. James.

RE-DO POLICY

1. Students are allowed to re-do any assignment and/or re-take any assessment at the discretion of Miss James. Please note: late assignments are not eligible for re-doing.
2. Students need to meet with Miss James during a time of the day she has open to fill out the re-do/re-take ticket together.
3. Once the re-do/re-take ticket is filled out with a due date cooperatively decided on between the student and Ms. James, the student may earn up to 100% on the re-do/re-take.
4. If the re-do/re-take is not complete by the new due date, the student may still earn up to 75% credit if it is completed within one week of the original agreed upon date.

PLEASE NOTE: All Re-dos and Re-takes are given at the discretion of Ms. James

Class Website: My class website is: www.ecsdsocialstudies.weebly.com. Please bookmark this on your laptop, as we will use it frequently. I will post all assignments on this page, links that we will be using in class as well as documents you may need. If you are unable to meet with me before being absent, please check my website for what you will be missing during your class period.

Google Classroom will also be used in conjunction with my classroom website for assignments and announcements.

Grading Scale

Grades will be determined using a total points system and will be based on the following scale:

A	100% - 93%	C	76% - 73%
A-	92% - 90%	C-	72% - 70%
B+	89% - 87%	D+	69% - 67%
B	86% - 83%	D	66% - 63%
B-	82% - 80%	D-	62% - 60%
C+	79% - 77%	F	59% - 0%

Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities will appear on *most* exams. Should an opportunity for an extra credit assignment arise, students will be notified in advance.

Whoops! Pass

At the beginning of the semester, all students will receive a Whoops (or Late) Pass to use on one late assignment without penalty. This pass is to allow students an extra 24 hours to turn in an assignment they may have forgot about or didn't quite have enough time to finish. The pass is a one time deal per semester and will be kept track of by Ms. James. Students must turn in the physical pass with their assignment or they will not be able to use it. Should students lose their pass, they will not receive a new one.

Classroom Expectations

I have very few classroom rules, which can be found below. Other classroom expectations will be formed at the beginning of the semester by students. These will be posted in our room throughout the year. Please follow them to keep our learning environment a positive one for everyone.

1. **Respect** all people and objects around you. This includes respecting others opinions.
2. **Be on time** for class. Unexcused tardies will be reported to the office.
3. **Be prepared** for class. You should bring all of the course materials listed above with you to class everyday.
4. **Pay attention, participate, and listen.** This class will include both direct instruction and discussion. I expect you to participate at all times.
5. **Cell Phones:** I will follow the district policy. Please plan accordingly.

Best ways to contact Ms. James

email: ejames@ecsdcards.com

phone: 758-2214 ext 471

Have a great year!

I, _____, have read the U.S. History course syllabus and have reviewed with my parent/guardian what the course procedures, policies, and expectations consist of. I agree to follow these procedures, policies, and expectations as well as the policies and procedures outlined in the 2015-2016 MS/HS student handbook. Should I have concerns at any time during the year about my academic performance or course material, both my parent/guardian and I understand how to contact Ms. James.

Student's Name (Please Print)

Student Signature

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name (Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date: _____