

U.S. HISTORY

MR. PRIEST

F18

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CURRICULUM

This is the bulk of what your student will be responsible for. Not every part of U.S. history will be discussed, as it is extraordinarily difficult to fit *everything* in a single semester. Every week we will focus on a new (often marginalized) group and their impact on American history, so things will change week by week. These are the constants.

READING RESPONSES

The textbook for this course is *American Panic* by Mark Stein. Students will be reading inside and out of class, and will be expected to fully comprehend the material in due time. To facilitate that, most homework will revolve around active reading and responding to the information on Google Classroom. This might take the form of a discussion, or it could be more personal and private.

EMPHASIS ON GEOGRAPHY

Geography plays an integral part in our understanding of the past, present, and future. In fact, students' awareness of the country in which they live will be the driving force of this class. As such, there will be an emphasis throughout the semester on location, location, location. This will take the form of maps on tests, interpretation of data and graphs, and plain ol' rote memorization of places and names. First up: States and their capitals.

TESTS AND QUIZZES

Quizzes will be given, announced and unannounced, throughout the semester. There will be three unit tests this semester, including the final (which *will* be cumulative).

SUPPORT

The most important avenue to success in this class is understanding the grading scale. Tests make up 50% of the grade. Your student needs to commit to the preparation involved in being successful in not just memorizing information for these tests, but using that information to think critically. If students feel the need to retest to show their growth in learning, there is a system in place for them to do that. For tests over content, encourage students to do these outside of class:

- Creating flashcards of vocabulary and important nouns
- Actively reading (and rereading) the writings assigned every week
- Reading out loud to anyone who will listen to them and help them
- Reviewing and organizing notes from class
- Doing outside research about certain topics (like watching videos)
- Completing study guides, when given

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Students will be on Google Classroom for discussions, resources, and announcements. Their success in the course will depend on the ability to consciously log-in and participate.