

Montclair High School

Course Syllabus

Department: Social Studies
Course: United States History I
Level: Academic
Credits: 5

Course Description:

US History I is an exploration of American history from the roots of revolution to the dawn of “modern America” at the turn of the 20th Century. Many fascinating events happened during this time span, and our job will be to understand and analyze how our nation progressed, both domestically and internationally. Our vehicles to accomplish this study will take many forms, including but not limited to readings, film, debates, cooperative and individual assignments and essay writing. This course satisfies one of the two years of US History required to graduate

Standards:

NJCCCS 6.1.12.1-6.1.12.5; 6.3.12 CCSS ELA RH.9-10.1-7 WHST. 9-10.1a - 5

Anchor Text(s):

Text Title	Publisher/Author	Year/Edition	ISBN	Text Distribution
Boyer's The American Nation	Holt, Rinehart and Winston	2001	0-03-066423-3	Hard copy- In class use only

Supplementary Materials:

Internet activities, educational videos, articles from journals, magazines, and/or newspapers.

Units of Study:

- **MP 1** – “We the People: Establishing a New Nation” includes units on the road to Revolution, the Revolutionary War itself, development of the Articles of Confederation and Constitution, and applications of the Bill of Rights.
- **MP 2** – “Expansion and Reform” includes westward expansion of the territory beyond the original 13 states – the Louisiana Purchase, expansion into the Southwest, and settlement into Oregon Territory. Students will study the changing political, economic, and social reasons for moving into each territory as time progresses. In addition, students will look at issues for Native Americans during this time period as well as the growing reform movements in the mid-1800s.
- **MP 3** – “Civil War and Reconstruction” includes the political and social issues that led to the Civil War, the War itself, and how the accomplishments and failures of Reconstruction are tied to the Civil Rights movement in the 20th Century.
- **MP 4** – “Industrialization and Urbanization” includes an exploration of the rise of big business and robber barons in the late 1800s, and how subsequent immigration and urbanization led to the labor movement.

Proficiencies:

By the end of this course, students will:

- Explain how ideas about democracy, freedom and individualism found expression in the development of cultural values, political institutions, and American identity.
- Explain how interpretations of the Constitution and debates over rights, liberties, and definitions of citizenship have affected American values, politics, and society.
- Explain how philosophical and scientific ideas have developed and shaped society and institutions.
- Explain how popular movements, reform efforts, and activist groups have sought to change American society and institutions.

Evaluation & Assessment:

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| • Tests and Quizzes | 35 % |
| • Projects and Essays | 35 % |
| • Classwork and other assignments | 30 % |