

10th U.S. History I

Spring 2024

Classroom: 251



Teacher: Mr. O'Neal

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Course Description:

This course is a comprehensive study of the first half of American history, from pre-Columbian cultures of the Americas to the reconstruction of the United States after the Civil War. This course is designed to emphasize writing, research, and critical thinking skills necessary to prepare students for future Advanced Placement history courses.

Course Objective:

By the end of the semester, students should be familiar with important primary sources, research methods, and be able to explain how the United States evolved politically, socially, and economically from the era of pre-colonization (1491) until the end of Reconstruction (1877).

US History 10 Course Guide (Based on [Alabama Standards](#)):

Unit 1: Natives, The Age of Exploration, & Colonization

Unit 2: The English Colonies

Unit 3: The Road to Revolution

Unit 4: The Early Republic

Unit 5: The Era of Reform & Expansion

Unit 6: A House Divided

Unit 7: Reconstruction

Textbook:

Students will be issued a laptop that has their textbook preloaded in PDF form. They will not be issued a physical, hard-back textbook, but they can check one out from the library. Students will also have access to their online textbook account through their Pearson app, located in Clever.

Primary sources and secondary sources will be handed out in class or will be posted on the Schoology class page. A free online textbook/primary source reader, that can be found at [The American Yawp](#), will sometimes be utilized in class.

Grades:

Semesters are divided into two 9-week grading periods. Final grades during the 9-week grading period are composed of the following:

- 60% Summative Assessments: Tests, quizzes, projects, writing assessment. Each unit will contain quizzes and a test.
- 40% Formative Assessments: In-class assignments, group work, homework.

Tests are composed of primarily multiple choice questions with matching, true/false, and short answer. Students will receive a study guide before each test. Quizzes are composed of only short answer questions but are open note.

Projects and writing assignments are graded with a rubric that will be provided to students.

Any in-class assignment not completed is expected to be finished as homework, unless otherwise noted.

Late Policy:

- Excused Absences*: Per HCS policy, students with excused absences will have ten days to make up all missing assignments and tests/quizzes. Should students not make up their work in time, they will receive a zero for those assignments and tests/quizzes.
- Unexcused Absences: Students with unexcused absences on traditional in-class days will be able to turn in late work. Submitted late work will have 5 points deducted from the final grade each day that it is late.
- Students who are present in class on traditional in-class days and choose not to do the assignment will receive a ZERO.

Grading Scale:

	A	B	C	D	F
Grading Scale	90 - 100	80 - 89	70 - 79	60 - 69	0 - 59
AP/IB Scale	5	4	3	2	0
Honor Scale	4.5	3.5	2.5	1.5	0
Regular Scale	4	3	2	1	0

Progress Reports / Report Cards

A progress report will be sent out in the middle of each 9-week grading period. It is the student's responsibility to monitor their grades on PowerSchools. Parents also have access to PowerSchools, and it is recommended that they utilize this tool. It is also recommended that parents create an account to follow along with their students' academic progress on Schoology.

The semester average is calculated as follows: 20% (1st Grading Period) + 20% (2nd Grading Period) + 10% (Semester exam).

Expectations:

Students are responsible for make-up work and scheduling make-up tests. If a student is struggling or has questions, they are encouraged to ask. Seek help before falling behind and do not be afraid to email.

Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in an automatic zero. Plagiarism is a form of cheating, and if detected, will result in an automatic zero; these policies include assignments completed digitally. Any submitted work written, developed, or created by artificial intelligence (AI) is considered plagiarism and will result in a ZERO.

Students are expected to come to class on time and prepared. The use of technology is prohibited unless required for certain assignments or allowed otherwise. Disruptions or unprofessional actions will result in an email sent home.