

**Newark Memorial High School
U.S. Government
Ms. Ortiz
Rm.464**

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Course Description: In this course, we will take prior knowledge from past courses and pursue a deeper understanding of the United States government.

Classroom Expectations

Absences and Tardies: Assignments, powerpoints, and other class resources will be posted on Google Classroom and the class website. It is the student's responsibility to **check Google Classroom daily**. Missed assignments must be done on the student's own time. When a student is tardy, the main consequence is missing important information that is relevant to overall success in class. Chronic unexcused absences and tardies will greatly impact class participation score.

Extra Credit: Extra credit will always be offered to the entire class. It will often appear on tests/quizzes.

- **Journal:** The main extra credit for this class will be a journal/diary students will keep for the entirety of the school year. Journals are some of the best primary sources in the study of history. In order to get full credit, the journal must:
 - Have regular and consistent entries
 - Can be in any medium (Regular Journal, Running Google Doc, Google Slides, Video Entries, Blog, etc.)
 - Must be at least two paragraphs unless the entry is a song, poem or rap
 - Due May 27, 2022

Classroom Policies/Procedures:

1. Please adhere to these four basic rules
 - **Respect** - Be respectful to others, the classroom environment, and yourself.
 - **Integrity** - Work must be your own and honesty is the best policy. Give your best effort and work hard. You will get out of this class what you give.
 - **Accountability** - Please take responsibility for your actions and words.
 - **Safety**- Please act safely and exercise common sense.

Classroom Expectations (Continued)

2. Please be in your seat and ready to learn when the bell rings.
3. Please be prepared with the necessary supplies needed for this class:
 - **Needed**
 - Binder/Tabs
 - Paper
 - Pencil/Pen
 - Art Supplies - Crayons, Markers, Colored Pencils
 - History Textbook - *The American Vision: Modern Times*
 - **Suggested**
 - 2 inch Binder
 - Binder Paper
 - Art Supply Box - Scissors and a Glue Stick
4. Please leave the room better than you found it. Pick up trash and put away laptops or any classroom supplies.
5. Every student will be assigned a number. This makes things easier for grading and organization purposes.
6. Students will keep their phones put away unless told otherwise.
7. Discipline in this class will work on a 3 level system:
 - **Level 1** - Verbal Warning
 - **Level 2** - Call or Email to parent/guardian
 - **Level 3** - Referral

Note: Depending on the offense, a student may go straight to level 3

Grading Scale

Grades from tests, projects, classwork, homework, and participation will be based on the following percentages:

A 90-100	D 60-69
B 80-89	F 0-59
C 70-79	

Assignment Percentages

These percentages are an estimate, actual percentages may vary. Grades are based on point accumulation and final grades are based on the number of points from the below categories:

- **50% Tests/Projects**
- **25% Classwork/Homework**
- **25% Participation**

Late Work Policy

This policy applies to regular class attendance as well as absences that are legally classified as truant and unexcused. For excused and unexcused absences, this policy goes into effect when a student returns.

- **Full Credit-** Class work must be started on the day that it is assigned; it needs to be turned in on the due date. Turning in an assignment after the due date will result in a reduction of points. If you need to turn in work late for any reason, please let me know.
- **No Credit-** Failure to turn in work will result in a zero. I cannot grade what I cannot see.

Weekly Surveys (10 pts.)

At the beginning of each week, a check in survey will be posted on Google Classroom. The purpose of this survey is to check in with each student and to review the lessons from the previous week.

Binder (10 pts.)

The binder will have four dedicated sections - Notes, Passed Back Assignments, Handouts, Projects.

Every other Monday we will have binder checks to make sure everyone is on the same page and to provide another opportunity for points towards participation.

Assignment Expectations

For full points on assignments, please do the following:

- Be factual
- Write in complete sentences/paragraphs
- Turn in on time
- Give your best effort . . .Try

Tests & Projects

- Tests and/or projects will occur at the end of each unit.
- Students are allowed to use their own handwritten notes (not typed) and quizzes on tests.
- No technology may be used during or after exams.
- There is a zero tolerance policy for cheating. Cheating students will receive an automatic zero on the test.

Confirmation

Please acknowledge below that the student and parent/guardian have read and understand the syllabus.

My parent/guardian and I have read and understand the syllabus.

Date: _____

Period _____

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Permission

At times during this course, the class will view and listen to television, commercials, advertisements, radio, and film clips that are appropriate for the topic being covered in class. At times, clips may have a rating by the MPAA as TVPMA, PG-13 or R because of violence or adult themes.

Clips from certain movies/shows serve as a basis for critical analysis of historical events and specific events portrayed within them. All clips, whether bearing a mature rating or not, will be placed in the proper historical context for students before viewing and if not deemed suitable, another assignment will be provided for them.

I give permission for my student to watch PG13 rated movies.

I do not give my permission.

Parent Signature: _____

I give permission for my student to watch R rated movies.

I do not give my permission.

Parent Signature: _____