

HONORS US HISTORY

MERIDIAN MEDICAL ARTS CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL - 2024-2025

With Ms. Wood

Welcome to our class! I'm so excited to learn with you this semester during our Honors United States History class. Over our year together, we will learn about our nation's rich roots and examine how they feed into the present day. We will stay up-to-date with news and current events, and we will learn how heroes of the past fought for the freedoms we enjoy today. **The goal of the class** is to engage you in critical discussions about the evolution of freedom, democracy, and the American dream. **Who's ready?! :)**



"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - **Nelson Mandela**

CONTACT ME



ROOM NUMBER: 12



PREP PERIOD : 2ND



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SKILLS BUILT

- Note Taking _____
- Civil Discourse _____
- Media Literacy _____
- Critical Thinking _____
- Reading & Writing _____

GRADING BREAKDOWN

Unit Assessments **Projects/ Assignments**

Participation

Quizzes

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Respect

For our classmates.
For our classroom.
For our school.
For ourselves.

Professionalism

Come on time.
Come prepared.
Appropriate phone use.
Contribute your brilliance.

Growth

We're all here to grow!
Extend grace to yourself and others during the process.

Failure

Failure is a natural part of learning and growing.
Re-doing assignments and tests is encouraged!

WHY DOES THIS CLASS MATTER?

"The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future." – Theodore Roosevelt

History Matters!

Scholars of history understand the world more deeply through a holistic understanding of the present. Historians know our experiences in the present are directly influenced by the foundation laid by those who came before us. Historic knowledge creates more knowledgeable, empathetic, and socially informed citizens. In this class, knowledge is REAL POWER!

You Matter!

Who you are matters. What you think, say, and do matters. It very literally changes the world we exist together in. Being open to learning and participating in this class will help you become an educated & empowered citizen of the world.

POLICIES

Grading –

Unit Assessment: 30% of Total Grade

- Each unit will end with a test or final project.
- In class, we will have a review session and complete a study guide before each assessment.
- Each test/unit project **can be made up one time if you score below an 80%**. If you are retaking a test, you will fill out a retake form and make arrangements with me to come in during lunch, study block, or after school.

Quizzes: 20% of Total Grade

- Quizzes will happen (about) once every other week, and they will typically be on a Thursday or Friday.
- If you are absent, quizzes must be made up before the next quiz.
- You **cannot** retake quizzes, but **I will drop your lowest 2 quiz grades** each semester.

Participation: 20% of Total Grade

- Your participation, opinion, and voice matter! Help us build a strong classroom community by sharing your brilliance.
- Participation grades are earned through participation in Socratic Seminars, warmups/exit tickets, and bi-weekly binder checks. (More details about binder checks are found under the "Assignments" section of the syllabus.)

Projects/Assignments: 30% of Total Grade

- Your Projects/Assignments grade is awarded by completing group projects and larger assignments.
- Projects and assignments **can be re-done for a higher grade if you score below an 80%**, but they must be resubmitted within a week of their original due date.
- Late projects/assignments turned in more than 3 days after the due date will be marked down 10%.

Use of Technology –

Phones:

- Your phones are expected to be put away during the majority of our class time. **If your phone becomes a distraction to your learning, I will charge it at my desk for you until the end of class.** Daily technology breaks can be earned.
- At times, your phones will be used to scan QR codes and participate in class activities.
- Headphones may be worn during silent work time, but they must be **taken out of your ears** during instructional and group work time.

Housekeeping –

Absences:

- **If you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up your missed work and learning.**
- Make-up copies of paper assignments can be found in the "Assignments" binder.
- All lecture slides and digital versions of assignments will be posted to Common Curriculum daily.

Extra Credit:

- Several extra credit opportunities will be offered during the semester with various requirements and rewards.
- I am open to student designed extra credit opportunities. **If you have an idea for extra credit, come talk to me!**
- Most extra credit opportunities will count towards quiz or test grades.

Statement on Academic Dishonesty:

- In this class, cheating is any attempt to attain credit through dishonest means. This includes plagiarism, copying work, inappropriate use of AI, or any other action that inaccurately portrays your academic effort or knowledge.
- **Cheating will not be tolerated and will result in a 0 on the assignment without an option to make up or drop the grade.**

ASSIGNMENTS

Binder Checks -

- You are expected to complete work in class daily. If you do not finish your assignment, it becomes homework.
- You will keep all assignments in a binder or folder that you have designated for this class. Every other week (typically after we take our quiz), there will be a binder check where you will turn in 1-2 assignments that I select.
- Work that is turned in completed and on time will receive full credit.
- Late work will be accepted until the end of the unit with 10% taken off your grade.

Community Learning -

- This class is designed to be interactive. Throughout the semester, you will be expected to participate in several group projects and Socratic seminar discussions.
- Although the work will be shared, individual grades will be given based on my observations of your contributions to your group and feedback I collect from your peers.

Homework -

- **As long as you are on task and actively participating in class, you will rarely have homework.** If you do not use your class time wisely, you will be expected to complete any unfinished classwork at home as homework.
- On select occasions, homework will be assigned to prepare you to participate in classwork and discussions for the following day. Typically, this homework will be in the format of a short reading or video.
- I acknowledge that many of you have obligations outside of school (family care, sports, clubs, religious obligations, etc.), and I want you to be able to maintain a healthy school/life balance. **If coursework ever begins to impact your mental health or ability to fulfil your other obligations, please communicate your needs and circumstances to me.**

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

You deserve to feel safe, accepted, and provided for at school and at home. If you are in need of support, please consider reaching out to Ms. Wood, Mrs. Bishop, or any of these community resources.

If you do not have enough to eat...

- **Idaho Food Bank** - Phone: (208) 336-9643, Website: idahofoodbank.org

If you need support getting clothing...

- **The Closet** - Phone: (208) 409-0204, Website: theclosetinc.org

If you are experiencing a mental health crisis...

- **Suicide and Crisis Hotline** - Phone: 988

If you or someone you know is being abused...

- **Faces of Hope** - Phone: (208) 577-4400, Web: facesofhopeidaho.org

If you need access to healthcare...

- **Idaho Association of Free and Charitable Clinics** - Phone: Various clinics & numbers, Website: idahoafcc.org

If you need access to sexual/reproductive health resources...

- **Central District Health** - Phone: (208) 327-7400, Website: cdh.idaho.gov/health/clinics/reproductive-health-care

If you are struggling with addiction or substance abuse...

- **Youth Alcohol & Substance Use Prevention** - Phone: 208-994-8507, Website: cdh.idaho.gov/community-health/community-health-partnerships/ya-sup/

If you or your family do not have access to reliable or safe housing...

- **Ada County Homeless Coalition** - Website: homelesscoalitionboise.com/need-help/

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The beginning point for this course is acknowledgement that our school sits on ancestral land of Indigenous peoples. Meridian Medical Arts Charter High School is built on land previously occupied by the Shoshone, Bannock, and Paiute peoples. These Indigenous peoples stewarded this land for thousands of years, long before the arrival of settlers. We honor their enduring connection to this land, their resilience, and the rich cultural heritage they continue to share with us today. We also recognize the deep injustices inflicted upon these communities through forced displacement, broken treaties, and systemic marginalization. Native inhabitancy, sovereignty, and resistance is not simply a thing of the past. Modern-day descendants of those Native people continue to hold and protect land all around us. Indeed, Idaho is home to four current Native nations. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the Kootenai Tribe, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe exist in sovereignty today. It is important to note, many Native nations still actively fight for rights to protect their land, water, and sovereignty. Most critically, acknowledgement of the history of the land we occupy comes with a commitment to educating ourselves and our peers about past and present fights for Native rights. We offer gratitude and respect for the land itself and the original caretakers of it.

FALL LEARNING MAP

Unit 1: Foundations of the Great American

Experiment Important Dates:

August 14: First day of School!

September 2: Labor Day - No school :)

Essential Questions:

- 1) Why is the founding of the country known as "The Great American Experiment"?
- 2) What is the best form of government?
- 3) What are the United States's founding principles?

Unit 3: The Progressive Era & WWI

Important Dates:

October 10: Parent Teacher Conferences

October 11: End of Q1 - No school :)

November 5: Teacher Work Day - No school :)

Essential Questions:

- 1) What areas of society "progressed" most rapidly during the Progressive Era, and which areas remained relatively stagnant?
- 2) How did World War I influence the Progressive movement and its goals?
- 3) Based on the original goals of the Progressive movement, what (if any) progressive reforms are needed in today's society?

Unit 2: The Gilded Age

Important Dates:

September 18: Ms. Wood's Birthday

September 18: Teacher Work Day - No school :)

Essential Questions:

- 1) Are we in a second Gilded Age?
- 2) How did the concept of the "American Dream" evolve during the Gilded Age, and for whom was this dream attainable?
- 3) How did the political and economic power of "Robber Barons" affect democracy and governance in the Gilded Age?

Unit 4: The Roaring 20s & Great Depression

Important Dates:

Nov. 25-29: Thanksgiving Break - No school :)

December 20: End of Fall Semester

Dec. 23 - Jan. 3: Winter Break - No school :)

Essential Questions:

- 1) What role did the cultural developments of the 1920s, such as the Harlem Renaissance and jazz music, play in shaping American identity?
- 2) In what ways did the social changes of the 1920s challenge tradition, particularly in terms of gender roles, morality, and consumerism?
- 3) How does the New Deal still impact the lives of Americans?

Please Note: The policies, procedures, and learning map outlined in this syllabus are subject to change. If changes are made, Ms. Wood will inform you prior to them going into effect. For the most up to date version of the syllabus, please visit the MMACHS webpage.