

HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY I

COURSE SYLLABUS

Instructor: Mr. Jason D. Woodcock

Textbook: Give Me Liberty: An American History (Vol. 1), Eric Foner, Published by W.W. Norton and Company.

Course Description: Honors U.S. History I is an accelerated full-year course for high school sophomores. The course will focus in depth on the political, social, cultural, and economic history of the United States from the days of early English colonization at Jamestown and Plymouth to the time of the Civil War and Reconstruction. As a social studies course, this class also strives to promote not only academic excellence but responsible and active citizenship as well in a positive, safe, and respectful environment.

Course Expectations: Honors U.S. History I is a lecture course, much in the way of college level history instruction. Students, therefore, need to attend class ready to take notes of the daily lecture. Their textbook is a secondary source of information, primarily used for homework assignments, and is not required in class. In addition to textbook assignments, students will complete comprehensive identification sheets and essay assignments for each unit covered. As honors students, they will also be exposed to various primary source documents (when available) to supplement their instruction. The major distinction between this honors class and the regular college-preparatory courses offered to sophomores is the amount of assigned reading and written work the students will produce, on examinations, identification sheets, and essay assignments.

Any student who has been absent from class should see me upon return to find out what lecture notes and assigned work has been missed. Make-up work for excused absences must be completed in accordance with the student handbook. Unexcused late assignments will be accepted with a loss of credit (2/3 credit given if one day late, 1/3 credit given if two or more days late).

Course Grade: As an honors class, student grades are based primarily on test performance. As such, test scores account for 80% of the quarterly grade and homework assignments (chapter questions, ID sheets, unit essay questions...) the other 20%.

Extra Help: I am available to students for extra help or make-up on a daily basis during my free period or from 2:10-2:50.

iPass: The weekly iPass update will occur on Monday.