

Course Title: United States History and Government

North Salem High School Course Information Sheet

Teacher: Mr. Valenti and Mrs. Longobardi

Course Prerequisite: Successful completion of Grade 9 and Grade 10 Social Studies and Regents Exam.

1. Course Description

This course is required for all students taking the US History and Government Regents in New York State. Upon completion of the course, each student must pass the Regents in order to meet graduation requirements. The course will be taught both chronologically and conceptually in seven units of study that include Constitutional Foundations for United States Democracy, Industrialization of the U.S., The Progressive Movement and responses to Industrialization and Urbanization, Prosperity and Depression, Global Crisis, and the World in Uncertain Times. The course also emphasizes the importance of key Supreme Court decisions.

2. Common Core Learning Standards

The Common Core Learning Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy define general, cross-disciplinary literacy expectations that must be met for students (Standards) and characteristics of CCLS instruction. The Standards are organized into four overlapping strands: Reading, Writing, Language and Speaking/Listening. Because the CCLS present an integrated model of literacy, the Standards mutually inform one another.

For more information, please visit <http://www.engageny.org/>

3. Necessary Materials

- a. Notebook and folder or binder
- b. Pen and pencil

4. Text Title

- a. *The American Yawp*, Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook, Stanford University Press
<http://www.americanyawp.com/index.html>

5. Grading Policy

35% = Test

35% = Essay/Quiz/Project

30% = Homework/Classwork

a. Homework:

All assignments are posted on the Google Classroom. Homework assignments handed in late will receive a grade of 50. **No assignment will be accepted once we leave a particular chapter or unit of study.**

b. Tests, Essays, Quizzes:

- i. All Tests, Essays, and Quizzes missed due to a legal absence are to be made up within a week after the student returns to class. It is your responsibility to find out what you miss and make arrangements with the teacher to make up the work. Any Test, Essay, Quiz, or other assignment missed due to illegal absence will result in a zero.
- ii. You will never have an unscheduled Test, Essay, or Quiz. Expect a chapter test every 2-3 weeks, depending on the length of the chapter. Tests will be formatted to mirror the U.S. History and Government Regents examination.
- iii. If you fail an exam, you can not re-take the exam.

- c. Your **final average** at the end of the year will equal the four marking periods counting 80% and the Regents Exam counting 20%

6. Attendance and Tardiness

- a. Attendance will be taken every day and being in class is essential. You cannot participate in class discussions and/or activities if you are not present
- b. Lateness to class will not be tolerated as it is disruptive to the class. Detention will be the result according to school policy.
- c. If you consistently miss class, you will struggle to catch up.
- d. Please refer to the district Attendance Policy.

7. Extra Help Days and Locations

- a. Extra help and make up work sessions will be held every week from 2:15-2:55.
Mr. Valenti - Tuesdays and Wednesdays in room W-13
Mrs. Longobardi – Tuesdays and Wednesdays in room W-11b

8. Other Pertinent Information

- a. **Plagiarism – the unauthorized use of the language and thoughts of another author and the representation of them as one’s own** (Webster’s College Dictionary).
- b. Cheating and copying are not acceptable behaviors. Any students involved in these actions will receive no credit for the assignment.
- c. If you consistently do all your work and keep yourself organized, you will have a very successful year.
- d. Passing the U.S. History and Government Regents exam is necessary to receiving a Regents Diploma at graduation.
- e. The use of electronic devices during class is prohibited based on school policy, unless I have instructed you to use it for educational purposes.

9. Contact Information

Mr. Valenti
mvalenti@northsalemsschools.org

Mrs. Longobardi
jlongobardi@northsalemsschools.org

10. Class Expectations

- a. Be on time
- b. Be prepared
- c. Be respectful

11. Course Goals – students will have

- a. A general content knowledge of U.S. History
- b. An ability to make connections between historical events from different periods of time
- c. An opportunity to make connections between historical and current events