

Ms. Meghan Eigo
8th Grade US History
2016-2017
Hosford Middle School
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In this class, we will be critically evaluating the history of the United States from before its creation until now. We will be examining the history of its people, the many conflicts that have shaped our society, the influential people and movements that have modeled our society into what it is today, and the various issues that our nation faces. At the end of the year, it is my hope that you will have gained the following:

- A rich knowledge of the country you live in, where it began, the struggles and triumphs it has experienced, the people that make up its rich history, and the causes of many of the social issues that we as Americans experience today.
- The ability to take effective notes from lectures, videos, readings, and class discussions.
- The ability to formulate thoughtful written works based off of your knowledge and notes.
- The ability to incorporate your own creativity into history-themed assignments.
- The ability to work well with others and to respectfully and effectively discuss your viewpoint aloud in classroom discussions.
- The ability to do independent research on any given subject matter.

My Classroom Policies:

Grading:

1. For every assignment, you will be given clear instructions, a list of requirements, and a due date for when the work needs to be completed. You are expected to do each assignment completely and to the best of your ability. You are also expected to turn it in on time. **IF YOU NEED TO TURN IT IN LATE, PLEASE DISCUSS THIS WITH ME BEFORE THE DUE DATE.** I know that you have other things going on in your life, and if needs be, I am more than happy to give you an extension.
2. Your grade will only be determined by **SUMMATIVE** assessments. This means that things like tests, quizzes, and assignments that require you to reflect or demonstrate your full knowledge of something will be used to help me understand how well you grasp the subjects we are learning. We will do other work that is considered **FORMATIVE**. This work is meant to help you absorb information in smaller bits and practice the skills that will help you do well on the summative work. **Do not consider the formative work as optional.** If you don't put in the time to practice with the formative work, the summative work that makes up your grade will suffer.
3. I will be sending progress reports home on a monthly basis. They need to be taken home and signed by a parent/guardian. I will be using these signed progress reports to make sure you are communicating with your parents about your continued progress in my class. **IF I DO NOT SEE A SIGNED PROGRESS REPORT FROM YOU FOR TWO MONTHS IN A ROW, I WILL CALL HOME** to make sure your parents know how you're doing in class.

4. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to check in with Ms. Eigo when you return and get any work you missed.
5. Your grades on Synergy will be converted from Proficiency Grades (HP, PR, CP, DP) to letter grades (A-F). Here are what the grade conversions will look like:

Letter Grade	What that means
A	At least 2/3 HP, No CP or DP
B	At least 1/2 HP, No CP or DP
C	Mostly Hp and PR, maybe a few CP, no DP
D	At least 2/3 HP, PR and CP, no more than 1/3 DP
F	More than 1/3 DP

Classroom Atmosphere:

1. In this classroom, everyone is entitled to an opinion. It is my goal that we all work together to create a respectful, open, responsible, and caring community. I will not tolerate bullying or other disrespectful or rude behavior, either towards myself or towards other students. In this often difficult world, I want this classroom to be a safe haven. I will waste no time in contacting the parents/guardians of anyone who consistently proves themselves to be disrespectful to other members of the classroom. If necessary, I will also get the school's administration involved.
2. Use respectful and thoughtful language towards one another. I know that the way you talk with your friends may be a bit more colorful than the way we expect you to talk in school, but be aware that the words you choose reflect upon you as a person. Try to minimize your use of curse words and derogatory, insulting terms. If you have a question about whether or not a word is considered inappropriate, feel free to ask me privately.
3. During movies, tests, lectures, or journaling, the classroom is to be quiet. At other times, such as during classwork and discussions, I welcome conversation.
4. Please respect my, the school's, and other students property. Writing on desks or walls, defacing my or other students' possessions, leaving your work space messy, and taking or hiding other students' things (even if it's a joke) will not be tolerated. If this becomes an issue, I will contact parents immediately. You will also spend time after school performing a community service activity either in my classroom or around the school.

Food/Gum/Drinks, Phones and Hall Passes:

1. Food, gum and drinks **besides water** are not permitted in my classroom.
2. Phones/iPods are not to be used in class. No exceptions. This is a school-wide policy. The first time you have it out, you will get a warning. The second time you have it out, I will take it until the end of the day and call home. The third time, I will give it to the office and your parent will need to come and pick it up. If you have an emergency and need to call home, there is a phone in my classroom and a phone in the office that you are welcome to use.

3. **You will be allowed to leave my classroom once a week**, either to use the restroom, go to your locker, or get a drink of water, for example. Use this opportunity wisely. Once you've used your weekly hall pass, you may not leave my room again until the following week (except in case of emergency). YOLO! (You Only Leave Once)
4. When you leave the room for ANY reason, you must carry a hall pass. Even if you are working on a class project in the hall or simply stepping outside the door to take a short break (if needed), you must have a pass in hand. Working in the hall or taking a "cool off" break will not count against your YOLO count.

Supply List for Ms. Eigo's Class:

- ☼ A spiral notebook/composition book of some kind for your daily journal
- ☼ A binder or folder to keep classwork/homework in (can be used for other classes too)
- ☼ A daily planner
- ☼ Loose-leaf lined paper
- ☼ Pencils
- ☼ **Optional:** highlighters

Student Recognition of Responsibility:

I, _____, have read the syllabus above. I understand what is expected of me in this classroom and I accept responsibility for my actions. I recognize that there will be consequences for ignoring these guidelines and I am prepared to accept those consequences if I choose to ignore them. I know that if I have a problem, either with my school work or with something more personal, that I can talk to Ms. Eigo about it at any time. I plan on working hard to have a positive experience in this class and look forward to becoming an important member of this learning environment.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

To the parents/guardians of my students:

As the saying goes, "It takes a village to raise a child." It is the responsibility of all of us, teachers, administrators, family members, and influential adult figures, to make sure that we do everything in our power to ensure your student's future success. Unfortunately, there are always mistakes to be made and struggles to be overcome. With our joint efforts, however, I believe that each of my students has an equal chance at fulfilling their hopes for themselves.

That being said, my door is always open. It is my goal to maintain an open line of communication with you at all times. If, at any time, you have any questions about this class or any concerns about your student, please do not hesitate to contact me. I promise to do the same. It is my hope that together, your student and I can learn, have fun, and grow. Each student teaches me an invaluable lesson, and I greatly look forward to seeing what your student has to share with me.

Here's to a wonderful school year,

Meghan Eigo

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____