**U.S. History**

**2022-2023**

**Ms. Arechaga**

Welcome to U.S. History! I’m super excited to have you all in my class and hope that this is a great year we can all enjoy. I would like to outline our class so you have an idea where we are going and what will be covered. There will no doubt be some slight changes throughout the year, but this will be the basic map.

**Course Description:**

We can’t understand the present unless we first look at the past. The current issues we’re facing in this country didn’t just appear, and in order to be fully present, to be able to have informed opinions and to listen openly, we need to understand how we got here. And that journey has been different for different people in this country. Our goal in this class is to be able to better understand those voices and connect the past to the present. We will focus on Reconstruction to the present. We will first review the cultural encounters between the indigenous peoples and Europeans through the Civil War. I hope we can go into this year with an open mind and our defenses down, with an eagerness to learn and to grow.

**First, I would like to state my expectations:**

I expect you to be prepared, not just with your chromebook, notebook, and writing utensils, but mentally prepared as well. If there was a reading you had to do for homework, I expect it to not just have been read, but thought of and fresh in your mind.

I expect you to be respectful of your peers and of myself. If someone says something you don’t like or you’re especially cranky, or whatever, you don’t take it out on other people, and you find an intelligent appropriate response to other peoples beliefs or statements. If we’re doing something that is not interesting to you in class, I still expect you to put your all into it, to try as best you can, and to keep complaints to a minimum.

I expect you to take accountability for your actions. Everyone makes mistakes, everyone messes up, own it. There are always consequences to ones actions, sometimes good, sometimes bad.

I expect you to be a positive member of your peer group. This means you try to encourage others, to go out of your way to help someone, to set a good example.

**What you can expect from me:**

You can expect me to be prepared for class everyday, both with materials and mentally.

You can expect me to be respectful of who you are and of your beliefs.

You can expect me to be positive and to always encourage and challenge you to do your best.

You can expect me to facilitate an open, safe, and secure environment for you to learn and feel comfortable in.

You can expect me to take your work seriously and know that I thoughtfully grade and look over you assignments.

**Behavior Policy:**

School is supposed to be a safe, educational environment. No one has a right to take that from you, if someone in the class compromises that, it needs to be addressed.

That being said, history is complicated and people are complicated. Things we cover and discuss might insight anger, defensiveness, shock, sadness, and make us feel uncomfortable. Just remember to respect each other and to allow each other to talk and to truly listen. That being said, opinions voiced that are downright offensive, use expletives, racist, homophobic, or sexist, will not be tolerated. There is a difference between ignorance and asking uncomfortable questions and knowingly saying something to upset or offend others.

This goes both ways, if I say or do something that upsets you or offends you, please come talk to me. If you feel like there is something going on or someone making comments that I’m not addressing, please tell me.

I would ideally like to deal with behavior problems in the class, during lunch, or before or after school. But if chronic disruption, rude or unsafe behavior, or tardies/absences begin to occur, then office intervention will be used.

**Game Plan**:

Unit One: Review up to the Civil War

Unit Two: Native Americans and the Federal Government

Manifest Destiny – Genocide

Unit Three: Reconstruction

Unit Four: Industrialization, Urbanization, and Immigration

Unit Five: Progressive Era and Imperialism

Unit Six: WWI

Unit Seven: First Wave Feminism, The roaring 20s, the Great Depression, and the New Deal

Unit Eight: WWII

Unit Nine: The Cold War – Domestic Issues and International Responses

Unit Ten: Social Movements (Civil Rights, Chicano, Women’s Rights, LGBTQ, AIM)

Unit Eleven: The Vietnam War and the Nixon Years

Unit Twelve: 1970s- 2001

Unit Thirteen: Post 9/11

**Materials:**

Binder with notebook paper or separate notebook, writing utensils, chromebook

**Assignments:**

We will have tests, essays, classwork, research projects, presentations, and discussions. No one group is weighed over the other.

**Extra Credit:**

I do not usually give extra credit out. The only time I do this is when a student is failing but close to getting a D, and has been at school and is putting in some effort. Please don’t ask or have your parents ask for car insurance purposes or because you want a higher GPA but have lower grades in other classes.

**Circles:**

We’ll do periodic circles to check in. A circle is time for gathering together and checking in on one another in order to build trust, community, and just to have a place to be heard.

U.S. History

Ms. Arechaga

By signing this I attest that I have read and understand the contents of this syllabus/classroom rules and I will abide by this contract for the 2022/2023 school year.

Student Name – Please Print

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

**Hellgate High School**

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Judson Miller, Principal Susan I. Bageant, Associate Principle

Nicholas Latch, Associate Principal/AD

August 27th 2020

Dear Parent:

In U.S. History, we will be watching a variety of films and YouTube clips to increase our understanding of historical events. Some of these movies may have an R rating, however, in most cases; only a historical relevant clip will be shown to reinforce the concept discussed in class. I will only show clips that are relevant to a specific historical event but those clips may include violence as well as adult situations.

I have attached a list of selected films because I feel they will help demonstrate important historical events. This is a very long list and the majority of the films will not be used. However, I would like permission to pick clips from this list of films. I understand that some families may object to their child viewing some material presented in these films. I encourage you to take a look at this list and if you have any concerns, please contact me.

Please return this form with your signature to indicate your approval or disapproval for the films listed.

Sincerely,

Juliana Arechaga

I give my permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to watch movies chosen at the instructor’s discretion.

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*Parent Signature*

I would prefer alternate assignments for the following films: (Please list the specific titles here and use additional space if necessary.)

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**U.S. History Possible Films:**

**15th Century**

America Before Columbus (2009) Americas before Columbus

**17th Century**

The New World (2005) - John Smith, Native Americans

The Crucible (1996) – Salem witch trials; Puritans

**18th Century**

Last of the Mohicans (1992) – French & Indian War

1776 (1972) - musical, American independence

**19th Century**

The Buccaneer (1958) – War of 1812

Amistad (1997) – 1839 slave ship uprising and trial

The Alamo (2004) – 1836 battle of Texas Revolution

September Dawn (2007) - 1850s, Mountain Meadows Massacre, Mormons v Arkansas settlers

Geronimo (1993) - Apache resistance, US/Native American relations

Santa Fe Trail (1940) – Civil War "Eve"

Gone With The Wind (1939) – Antebellum and Civil War South

Gods & Generals (2003) – rise and fall of Stonewall Jackson

Gettysburg (1993) – decisive battle of the Civil War

Harriet (2019) American biographical film about abolitionist Harriet Tubman.

Glory (1989) – Civil War; African-American regiment 54th Massachusetts

Dances With Wolves (1990) – Civil War era relations with Native Americans

Birth of a Nation (1915) - Civil War era, Ku Klux Klan

Far & Away (1992) – Immigration, 1860's land rush

The Conspirator (2011) - conspiracy to assassinate Lincoln

The Story of Alexander Graham Bell (1939) - work with the deaf, invention of the telephone

Legend of Hell's Gate (2011) - 1870s Texas

Tombstone (1993) - western frontier towns, Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday

Wyatt Earp (1994) - western frontier towns, biography of Wyatt Earp

Pat Garrett & Billy the Kid (1973) - western frontier, 1880s New Mexico

The Molly Maguires (1970) – 1876 coal miners strike

Little Big Man (1970) - Native Americans, Custer

Little Big Horn (1951) - Native Americans, Custer

Rough Riders (1997) - Teddy Roosevelt, Spanish-American War

American Experience Reconstruction: The Second Civil War (2004) Reconstruction

13th ( 2016) Documentary on 13th amendment

Dakota 38 (2012) The largest mass execution in the U.S.

**20th Century**

Inherit the Wind (1960) – Scopes Monkey Trial

The Greatest Game Ever Played (2005) - 1913 US Open (golf)

Flyboys (2006) - World War I, fighter pilots

Iron Jawed Angels (2004) - women's suffrage

Once Upon a Time in America (1984) - Prohibition Era, Jewish gangsters

Matewan (1987) - 1920s, coal miners, unionization

The Untouchables (1987) - 1920s crime, Al Capone

Public Enemies (2009) - 1930s gangsters

King of the Hill (1993) - Depression Era, boy separated from family

Cinderella Man (2005) - Depression Era boxer

Seabiscuit (2003) - Depression Era horse racing

Tora, Tora, Tora (1970) – Pearl Harbor

Pearl Harbor (2001)– World War II

Band of Brothers (2001) – World War II, 101st Airborne

Schindler’s List (1993)– World War II, concentration camps

Saving Private Ryan (1998) – World War II

Tuskegee Airman (1995) - World War II, African-American pilots

The Longest Day (1962) - World War II, D-Day

Fatman and Little Boy (1989) - Manhattan Project

Midway (1976) - World Way II, Pacific

Flags of Our Fathers (2006) - World War II, Iwo Jima

Wind Talkers (2002) - World War II, Navajo Code

The Right Stuff (1983) – 1950s Cold War, beginning of space race

October Sky (1999) – Post Sputnik

Dr. Strangelove (1964) – Cold War arms race

Quiz Show (1994) - 1950s, fixating game shows, anti-Semitism

The Long Walk Home (1990) - Montgomery Bus Boycott

The Majestic (2001) – McCarthyism; Hollywood blacklisting

Good Night and Good Luck (2005) - CBS reporter Edmund R Murrow exposes Joe McCarthy

Honeydripper (2007) - 1950s, rural Alabama, music

Pleasantville (1998) – 1950s suburbia

The Game of Their Lives (2005) - 1950s, soccer

Cadillac Records (2008) - 1950s Chicago, music

America Mississippi Burning (1998) – Civil Rights

A Time to Kill (1996) – Civil Rights

Thirteen Days (2000) – Cuban Missile Crisis

JFK (1991) – JFK assassination

Bobby (2006) - Robert Kennedy assassination

Apollo 13 (1995) - NASA, space program

Eyes on the Prize – Civil Rights movement

Malcolm X (1992) – Black Nationalist leader

Forrest Gump (1994) – various events 1950s through 1980s

We Were Soldiers (2002) - Vietnam War, first phase

Platoon (1986) – Vietnam War

Good Morning Vietnam (1987) – Vietnam War

Made in Dagenham (2010) - female workers walk out in protest of sexual discrimination

All the President’s Men (1976) – Watergate

Nixon (1995) – biography of President Nixon

Frost/Nixon (2008) - post Watergate interviews with President Nixon

Secretariat (2010) - 1970s Triple Crown winner

Norma Rae (1979) - unionizing southern mill workers

Milk (2008) - Harvey Milk, gay activism

Charlie Wilson's War (2007) - US involvement in Afghanistan during Soviet occupation

Blackhawk Down (2001) - US military in Somalia

American History X (1998) – Contemporary racism

Lincoln (2012) - In depth study of the civil War and the assassination of Lincoln

Various Youtube Clips and TED Talks

Trapped (2016) Legislating reproductive rights

Cesar Chavez (2013) Cesar Chavez, Social Justice

The Laramie Project (2002) LGBTQ Rights

Suffragette (2015) – British suffragettes

Unchained Narratives (2003) Slave Narratives from the 1930s

The Black Power Mixtape (2011) Black Power Movement

American Experience The 1930s (2003) Crash of 1929, CCC, Hoover Dam, Dustbowl, Seabiscuit

The Other Side of Immigration (2010) Immigration Issues

Food, Inc (2008) Documentary about food U.S. food production

Bhopal (2013) Bhopal Union Carbide Explosion

American Experience Triangle Fire (2018) – Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire

Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam (1987) Footage of the war and letters written during the Vietnam War