Ms. Ramm

Room 205

lramm@rsd17.org



Syllabus

History and Civics Course

**Description:** John F. Kennedy once said “The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all.” To ensure our security you will be taking United States History and Civics to learn about our past and to better understand and act in the present. In this class we will cover seven different units that span from the American Revolution to the modern era. Throughout this wide span of time we will also examine the structure and workings of the United States government to prepare you to be actively involved in the democratic process. The following will be the units of study for this course:

**Unit 1: The Foundation of America (American Revolution, Constitution and Expansion)**

**Unit 2: The Civil War, Reconstruction and Industrialization**

**Unit 3: Urbanization, Immigration and Progressivism**

**Unit 4: World War I and the 1920s**

**Unit 5: The Great Depression, New Deal and World War II**

**Unit 6: The Cold War Era**

**Unit 7: Modern America**

 *“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.” – Franklin D. Roosevelt*



**Goals of the Course:**

1. Develop an understanding of the nation’s history through a comprehensive curriculum.

2. Become an informed U.S. citizen in regards to civic responsibility and knowledge of government.

3. Develop and/or improve critical thinking and analytical ability through research.

4. Improve the manner in which research is conducted and documented.

5. Enhance reading, writing and presentation skills.

6. Gain awareness of our nation’s past, present and develop a sense of responsibility for improving our nation.

**Class Materials:**

The textbook that we will be using is *United States History*. This book does not need to be brought to class every day and can be kept at home or in your locker for use at school. I would encourage students to use the online textbook for homework (as it is considerably lighter than your textbook). You can log in to your online textbook at **pearsonsuccessnet.com** or from a link that can be found on the class website. An account has been created for this class that can be used by all students. Please note that the account is case sensitive.



**Textbook Resources:**

1. Audio Book Version

2. Quick Study Guides for each chapter

3. Self-Test with vocabulary practice

 Username: **UShistory2018**

 Password: **Juniors2018**

**Quizlet -** <https://quizlet.com/class/1385898/>

A Quizlet page has been created for this class and you are encouraged to create a quizlet account and join the class to make use of the study materials. Quizlet includes sets of vocabulary that can be modified or added to, matching games, self-tests and flash cards that can be printed or used on the app. To join the class, enter the link above or search for the class **US History HKHS**, or the member name of **MsRamm**.

**Class Webpage -** [**http://lramm.rsd17.org/us-history-civics.html**](http://lramm.rsd17.org/us-history-civics.html)

A webpage has been created for the class that contains varied content including: a calendar of all of the homework assignments, study materials, argumentative essays, class activities, a list of unit objectives, and research materials. We will routinely use this website in class and students will also be asked to check the site for homework.

## Junior Writing and SAT Goals:

## US History and Civics will focus on both argumentative writing skills and SAT Reading Comprehension skills for junior year. Students will continue to develop their argumentative writing skills by completing several document based writing assignments. All junior students will be taking the SAT in March and in preparation for that exam the class will be completing assignments that are in line with the skills that the new SAT requires. In order to track student writing and SAT progress all students will create a class folder. This folder will remain in the classroom and will be used by students to gauge their progress and identify areas of strength and weakness concerning their skills.

**Grading Policy –** Students will be graded on the following criteria:

Marking Period One – 20%

Marking Period Two – 20%

Mid Term Exam – 10%

Marking Period Three – 20%

Marking Period Four – 20%

Final Exam – 10%

Tests/ Projects / Essays: 45%

Quizzes/ Short Writing Activities: 35%

Classwork/ Homework/ Participation: 20%

**Attendance –** (Refer to the *Student Handbook* for the full attendance policy) Please be on time and prepared for class. Tardiness will not be accepted and it is important not to miss class.

**Cheating and Honor Code –** (Refer to the *Student Handbook* for full policy) Plagiarism is unacceptable and any violation of the honor code will be persecuted. Plagiarism is both the intentional and the unintentional use of another’s ideas, words, phrases, metaphors, and structures without giving proper credit. This makes plagiarism a question of fact not intent. To avoid plagiarism make sure that you take careful notes during the writing/ research process and develop a habit of identifying (or citing) the authors/ sources that you are indebted to.

## US History and Civics

# HOMEWORK AND CLASSROOM POLICIES

Welcome to US History! Below you will find a list of classroom expectations and policies for this course.

**Rules of the Classroom –**

1. Treat others in the class as you would like to be treated and respect their ideas by listening and paying attention.
2. Be prepared for class by bringing a writing utensil, your textbook, notebook, and any due homework or other assignments.
3. Do NOT use cellular devices, or electronics unless asked to do so (these will be confiscated if they are being used inappropriately)
4. Be on time to class and have a pass if you are going to be late.
5. Food or drink will be allowed until it makes a mess, becomes a distraction or is left in class.
6. Homework is due the day after it has been assigned. If you have missed class your homework must be turned in the next time you are in class. Students can only receive partial credit for late work.
7. If you are absent, get any assignments/notes from another student or talk with me directly. All homework assignments will be posted on my website as well.
8. Plagiarism in any form will not be tolerated.
9. Feel free to stop by during free time or after school to ask any questions about the class that you might have.
10. **Behavioral Agreement:**

a). Students will be verbally warned for minor transgressions of any classroom guidelines

b). If student’s behavior does not change he or she will be assigned a ½ lunch detention

* 1. If you are assigned a ½ lunch detention you must report to my room the next lunch period
	2. If you fail to come to the ½ lunch detention you will be given a full lunch detention for the next lunch period
	3. If you fail to come to the full lunch detention you will be referred to the office, you will be assigned an after school detention and your parents will be contacted.

c). Any serious behavioral infractions will receive an after school detention, referral to the office and your parents will be contacted.

1. If you have problems meeting class expectations please see me to discuss

If you have any questions please feel free to either call at (860) 345-8541 x205 or email me at lramm@rsd17.org. (email is preferable). Please keep this syllabus in your class binder throughout the year.

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**Student Accountability/Syllabus Form**

In order to create a database of contact information and for me to ensure that both you and your child has read and understood the class guidelines**, I am asking for each parent to email me or complete the form at the bottom of this page with a small amount of information**. I would appreciate it you could please email me the following information at lramm@rsd17.org or return this form by September 8th. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the year please feel free to email me.

*I have read and understood Ms. Ramm’s class policies and expectation. I agree to work to the standard that has been set.*

**Student’s Name**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Signature**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian(s)**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Signature**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* **Home Phone\***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Work and/or Cell Phone**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **Email Address\***: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*(Please select which is your preferred method of communication)

**Any concerns or additional information**