

Holy Family Academy
Ad Veritatem Per Fidem Et Rationem
Grade 7

Instructor: Miss Vandegrift

Course Title: American History

Course Description: This course will serve as an overview of American history from the first European visitors to the twentieth century. It will also, as much as possible, steep the student into the time and concerns of the events being studied with discussions about the issues facing Americans through the centuries and the reading of important documents that helped to shape our nation. Additionally, this course will pay special note to the role of New Hampshire in the unfolding of American history.

Course Objectives:

1. To grasp the general narrative of America's history
2. Employ tools of historians to study and analyze historical events
3. Exercise the skill of thinking critically about the concerns of different ages to better understand the time
4. Learn to gain wisdom from the events of the past so as to become pro-active participators in the formation of the history of our own generation

Scope and Sequence:

1. A New World (ca. 5th cen.–16th cen.)
2. Conquests of the New World (16th cen.)
3. Conquistadors of Christ (ca. 16th cen.–18th cen. Western America)
4. France in the New World (ca. 16th cen.–18th cen.)
5. England Comes to America (ca. 15th cen.–17th cen.)
6. The Battle for North America (ca. 17th cen.–18th cen.)
7. If This Be Treason... (18th cen.)
8. The Revolutionary War (18th cen.)
9. How We Got Our Constitution (18th cen.)
10. The Early Days of a New Nation (ca. 18th cen.–19th cen.)
11. Catholics in the Early United States (ca. 18th cen.–19th cen.)
12. The Young Republic Grows (19th cen.)
13. In the Days of Old Hickory (19th cen.)
14. The Fight for the Far West (19th cen.)
15. America between the Wars (19th cen.)
16. The Civil War, Part 1 (19th cen.)
17. The Civil War, Part 2 (19th cen.)
18. The Wild West (19th cen.)
19. Land of Steel and Steam (ca. 19th cen.–20th cen.)
20. Catholics in America (20th cen.)

Course Texts:

Christopher Zehnder, *Volume 5 From Sea to Shining Sea: The Story of America*, (Catholic Schools Textbook Project: United States), 2011.

Course Supplies:

- Binder
- Loose-leaf Paper
- Pens and Pencils
- Colored Pencils

Grading:

- Class Participation: 10%
- Homework: 25%
- Tests: 25%
- Projects/Presentations: 20%
- Exam: 20%

Class Participation:

Class participation will be graded according to four tasks that can and should be done each class. 1) Be on time to class, 2) Bring all appropriate materials for class, 3) Have your homework (even if you didn't finish, have it out and that will count), 4) Be fully involved in class, (this includes active listening, readiness to participate in class discussions, and respect towards your teacher and classmates).

Homework:

Homework will primarily be comprised of taking notes on the assigned readings. Notes will be collected at the beginning of each class and returned to students in a timely manner. Students will also be asked to present summaries of historical events to the class. Exams will be cumulative, so students should keep all notes, tests, and class materials until the end of the course.

Tests and Projects:

Tests will be given at the end of each chapter. Furthermore, students will complete at least one larger project each semester. Projects will be announced at least two weeks in advance of their due date.

Extra Assistance:

I am personally committed to the success of every student in this class. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or desire assistance with class or homework. My e-mail is: avandegrift@holyfamilyacademy.org.

The instructor reserves the right to change or modify this course and the syllabus subject to appropriate and timely notice to the students enrolled in this class