

Core C--American History Syllabus
PEP Mandarin
2023/2024

Contact Information:

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”Life must be lived forward, but understood backward”
Kierkegaard

Course Objectives: Students will grow in their understanding and application of knowledge about the founding and development of the American nation, the various periods in its history, the impact of the events on the lives of those who lived then as well as those who live now, the natural consequences of events and movements throughout our history, the understanding of the present that is gained from an examination of the past, and the unique nature of our nation in terms of the rights and powers of the individual. This class is designed to utilize discussion, lecture, group activities, exploration of primary and secondary sources, and numerous texts to gain knowledge and increase critical thinking skills in American history.

Class Rules and Policies: RESPECT is the main idea behind all of my classroom rules and policies. Respect everyone around you. You will show respect for me by remaining silent when I am talking and by paying careful attention to what I say. You will respect your classmates by coming to class prepared so that you are not wasting their time, and by listening attentively—without interrupting or talking—when they speak. You will respect yourself by doing your work diligently and learning as much as you can in this class. You will respect the property by using your materials only in the way that they were designed and by cleaning up your area thoroughly before you leave. The first time you violate this rule, I will demand an immediate apology to the person you failed to respect. For each time after, there will be additional consequences. The complete list of class rules and policies is attached.

Course Grades: Your grades will be determined by tests, homework assignments, projects and class participation. There will be **at least one** test per quarter, and **this will be taken in class**. During the course of the year, you will complete two projects: a newspaper (2d quarter) and a film project (4th quarter). These will count as test grades.

Stay up-to-date on your readings. A lesson plan will be posted every **Thursday** on my weebly page with the following week's readings and written assignments. I will be assigning readings in the textbook, as well as readings from additional sources, which I will provide. In order to earn full credit for participation, students must volunteer meaningful information that encourages class discussion. It is not enough merely to talk.

Course Information: Our course website can be found at: <http://bronwyngauthier.weebly.com/>. Once in, click on the button for your class (Mandarin—Core C -- American History) and then click on the various links. Here you will find your weekly lesson plans and assignments, as well as additional information and other things related to our subject. Check this site regularly for assignments and updated information.

Grading:

Tests	-	40%
Homeschool Work	-	45%
Participation	-	15%

Grading Scale:

- 90 - 100 = A
- 80 - 89 = B
- 70 - 79 = C
- 60 - 69 = D
- Below 60 = F

Class Format:

Some classes will begin or end with a short writing assignment, or activity. These will reinforce the material we are covering and will be graded. You will take notes as I lecture. **You will need these notes to study for tests and quizzes.** Your notes and handouts should be kept in a three ring binder, in chronological order. This will help you when studying for tests. We will also discuss the assigned readings and lecture material, so you need to make sure you come to

class prepared—read the material!

Goals:

1. The first goal of this class is simply to see that students are able to identify major names, events, ideas, movements, causes, and important dates pertaining to the settlement and growth of our nation.
2. The second goal is to encourage students to see that history is the study of the thoughts and subsequent actions of real people with *real* passions, *real* constraints, prejudices and limitations--in short, people just like themselves. The goal is to help students place themselves into history and to relive it—wondering how THEY would have reacted!
3. Because man's thoughts inform his actions, then the actions of men (history) ultimately reflect their beliefs about God and His world. They are either bringing God glory or they are not. Therefore, the third goal of the class is to help students begin to develop and exercise a Christian world-view in order to judge whether the choices and actions of men and their institutions were in agreement with God's principles or in conflict with them.

General Information:

Weekly reading is guided by focus questions and vocabulary. (**NOTE:** To some, this may seem like busywork—it **is not!!!** The questions focus the students on what is important for them to know in the chapter. Our book is a high level text. However, the volume of information *can* be overwhelming and so the questions zero in on the pertinent topics we need to know at this level. They act as a highlighter for the students and allow for informed discussion in class.) **Answers to questions must be in full sentences for full credit!**

Tests. Most tests will be taken at home and will be sent in an email to parents, proctored and signed by parents at home and returned to class in one week. All testing is to be the student's own work without the use of textbook or notes unless *specifically instructed* in the test instructions. A few tests, however, will be taken in class.

Written Assignments: Written work is due at the beginning of class each Tuesday. If a student is absent or ill then of course the work may be turned in the next class day. If a student is in class the assignment is due on its due date unless the parents have notified me earlier. If no arrangements have been made, the assignment can be turned in with no penalty on the following class day. After that, it will lose 50% for every day that it is late.

Handwritten Assignments? NO. For this class, unless students have made special arrangements *in advance*, they are required to type their assignments. **I do not accept handwritten work!**

Typed assignments must follow these rules:

Your name must go in the **top left-hand corner** of the page, class name, along with the date and the title of the assignment. Multiple page papers must be stapled together-- I will not accept

them otherwise. Type your assignment **double-spaced** in **12-point Times New Roman** (some programs use Times Roman) **ONLY**. The page must have a **one-inch margin** all around (top, bottom, left and right).

Required Books:

United States History For Christian Schools 5th edition; Publisher: Bob Jones University Press; ISBN:
9781628562255

BJU Press United States History Grade 11 Student Activities Manual, 5th Edition

Class Schedule:

FIRST QUARTER

- WEEK 1: Introduction & Background (Exploration)
- WEEK 2: Early Colonization
- WEEK 3: Native Americans/ English Colonies
- WEEK 4: Religious Factions in Colonial America
- WEEK 5: French and Indian War
- WEEK 6: Moving towards the Revolutionary War/ Declaration of Independence
- WEEK 7: Revolutionary War
- WEEK 8: Revolutionary War

SECOND QUARTER

- WEEK 1: From Freedom to the Constitution
- WEEK 2: The Federalist Years
- WEEK 3: The Jeffersonian Era
- WEEK 4: The Age of Jackson
- WEEK 5: Growth of Society
- WEEK 6: Manifest Destiny
- WEEK 7: Divisions/Pre-Civil War Years
- WEEK 8: Civil War

THIRD QUARTER

- WEEK 1: Reconstruction
- WEEK 2: The Gilded Age
- WEEK 3: Expansion /The Old West
- WEEK 4: The Progressive Era
- WEEK 5: The Progressive Era/ WWI
- WEEK 6: World War I
- WEEK 7: The Twenties
- WEEK 8: The Thirties

FOURTH QUARTER

- WEEK 1: The Thirties and lead up to WWII
- WEEK 2: WWII
- WEEK 3: WWII
- WEEK 4: The Post War Era
- WEEK 5: 1960's and Vietnam
- WEEK 6: Post Vietnam
- WEEK 7: The Modern Age
- WEEK 8: The Modern Age