

Advanced Early American History

Course Syllabus

Course Instructor: Mr. Duerring (dduerring@nhvweb.net); 908-713-4199 extension 4476

Textbook:

Cayton, Andrew, Elisabeth Israels Perry, et. Al, America: Pathways to the Present, (Boston, Massachusetts: Prentice Hall, 2007)

Each student will have access to digitized copies of each textbook chapter being covered.

Course Description:

This course includes an investigation/examination of early American history spanning from European colonization and settlement to the beginning of the Modern Era. The various topics/subjects will be presented/studied through a blend of primary, secondary, and visual accounts representing a myriad of differing perspectives. Historical investigations will focus, among other things, on the following: (1) the causes/effects and scope of important events in early American history (e.g. pivotal moments, decisive moments, defining moments); major periods/epochs in early American history; prominent figures who contributed to shaping and influencing America's growth and development as a nation and society. This course will follow both a chronological and thematic approach. In addition, emphasis will be placed on content-specific vocabulary, concepts, and literacy-based skills as well as content.

Units to be covered:

Origins of a New Society, to 1783
Balancing Liberty and Order, 1776-1830
An Emerging New Nation, 1800-1860
Division and Uneasy Reunion, 1848-1877
Expansion: Rewards and Costs, 1850-1915
The United States on the Brink of Change, 1890-1920

Classroom Policies and Procedures:

Grading Policy: Grades will be determined using a straight point system. The final grade will be the sum of points earned divided by the total possible points and multiplying the quotient by 100 to determine a percentage average. This average will then be plugged into the district's grading scale. Point values will be determined by the nature of the assignment (e.g. homework, project, paper, quiz, test, etc.).

Homework assignments will vary in terms of point values and will be assessed on the basis of both correction and completion. Score determination and expectations for assignments will be communicated prior to completion and submission. For full completion credit to be awarded, work must meet my pre-communicated expectations by the assigned due date. For completion-based assignments, any work that is not "completed" may be given partial credit on the basis of quantity and quality. **Only in extreme extenuating circumstances will work be accepted late.** It is the student's responsibility to collect or receive any missing or outstanding work for completion immediately upon their return from an absence and/or to see the instructor for any work or material that was missed in a timely fashion. Students who have been absent from class must also turn in assignments immediately upon their return if it was collected during your absence. Classroom policies regarding **make up work** following absences will be pursuant to the district policy outlined in the parent/student/ teacher handbook. Students will be given 2 days for each day of absence to make up work effective upon their return to school if they wish to receive full credit.

Aspen codes:

EXC (Student is excused from assigned work.)

INC (Student was present when assignment was given and turned in, but did not submit completed work; credit—either full or partial depending on the circumstances—may be earned upon timely submission.)

ABS (Student was not present when assignment was given and/or turned in; student must come see me about what work was missed and/or complete and submit the work on time for credit; otherwise, the assignment will be scored as a zero.)

0 (Student neither completed nor submitted the assigned work and no additional opportunity will be given to earn credit.)

Punctuality: Students must arrive to class by the bell. There is no longer a five-minute grace period and any student who is late to class will be marked as "Tardy" in ASPEN (three tardies will count as one absence).

No cell phone use: In accordance with NJ law and NJDOE guidance, all personal internet-enabled devices must be **OFF** and **AWAY** from the first bell to the last bell every day. [District policies and procedures](#) will be strictly adhered to regarding the unauthorized use of any aforementioned device(s).

District Board policies will be strictly adhered to on issues involving **academic integrity**, including the revised academic integrity procedures pertaining to the use or application of artificial intelligence.