

# U.S. History IV

Course Syllabus

Mrs. Hollis

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412-655-8610 x6276

## Course Overview:

In the course of U.S. History IV we will explore the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. We will examine the social, political and economic impact of the events occurring post-World War II, and analyze how they have shaped our country.

## Course Objectives:

- Students will understand the social, political and economic impact of events that occurred post-WWII.
- Students will identify the influence of significant events during this time period.
- Students will enhance and build upon geography skills and current global and U.S. knowledge.
- Students will be expected to better understand the influence of the social sciences in their lives today.

## Course Outcomes:

### Students will be evaluated on their ability to:

- Write description, analysis, and argumentation of key historical concepts/theories with logical support.
- Write critical compositions in response to historical issues.
- Apply theories learned in class to their own life experiences.

All students must be able to participate in class discussions, group projects, completion of maps, writing assignments, daily homework, and unit tests.

## Course Outline:

Unit I: The Cold War and The Red Scare

Unit II: The Kennedy & Johnson Years

Unit III: The 1950s

Unit IV: The Vietnam War

Unit V: The 1960s Conflict/Civil Rights Movement

Unit VI: The Counterculture

Unit VII: Nixon, Ford & Carter

## Expectations:

*BE RESPECTFUL*

*BE PREPARED*

*BE READY TO LEARN*

*BE PATIENT*

*EXERCISE OPENMINDEDNESS-* We are all here to learn from each other and grow intellectually. No one in this classroom is any better than anyone else. You may respectfully disagree with someone's opinion and engage in respectful dialogue at designated times; however, you may never belittle anyone.

*PARTICIPATE*- You will learn more and do better in class if you actively participate. Participation is not only speaking out loud in class, but also completing homework assignments on time, taking notes during lectures, coming to class on time, actively studying outside of class, seeking the teacher's assistance when you do not understand something, helping others who may have difficulty, following the expectations of the class, and actively participating in cooperative groups.

*ELECTRONIC DEVICES*- I know most of you have cell phones. Keep them in your bags during class-this means absolutely NO TEXTING. Earphones are not to be in your ears during class time, even if your musical device is turned off, unless otherwise stated.

### **Assessment:**

Your grade throughout the year may be determined by the following: tests/quizzes, homework, class work, projects, portfolios, self-/peer-assessment, debates, mock trials, role-playing, research, scenarios/simulations, writing assignments, team assignments, presentations, speeches, graded discussions, notebooks, behavior, and class participation.

All assignments are to be done INDIVIDUALLY unless otherwise indicated on the assignment guidelines. Assessments will tend to be comprehensive in nature so it is ill-advised to discard information from past units. Your success in this course will directly correspond to the effort you put forth.

### **Late Assignments:**

Late homework assignments will generally not be accepted, as the homework will be reviewed the day it is due. Do not ask to print out an assignment at the beginning of class. You will be told no and the assignment will be late—we all experience printing problems so manage your time efficiently. Some assignments (projects, etc.) will be accepted late with a **10% reduction for each day late**. All late work must be given DIRECTLY TO THE TEACHER, not left on a desk or placed under a door. Copying homework will result in a zero for both students. Plagiarism will result in a zero and disciplinary action.

### **Absenteeism:**

Upon your return to school after an excused absence, you will have the number of days absent plus one to make up all missed work, *including exams*. It is **YOUR** responsibility to get all handouts and missed notes, etc. If you do not understand any missed assignments or material, it is your responsibility to schedule a time to work with me. Failure to make up missed work will result in a ZERO for the work. Work cannot be made up for unexcused absences.

### **Notebook:**

You must have a dedicated three-ring binder that is 1.5 inches. Your notebook will be collected at the end of each unit and you will receive a grade for your notebook. Your notebook must be organized into separate sections for each unit. Your notebook is worth a significant number of points each nine week grading period.

**Contract:**

By reading and signing this contract, you and your parents understand the rules and expectations of U.S. History IV. Please sign below and return to Mrs. Hollis.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature                      Student Name                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature                      Parent Name                      Date

Parents, you may phone me at 412-655-8610 x6276  
or email me at [khollis@wjhsd.net](mailto:khollis@wjhsd.net).