

**CAPITAL H.S.**  
**U.S. HISTORY**  
**Syllabus**  
**Johnson/Vandiver**

**Course Scope:**

This course reviews U.S. history from colonial times to the present. The first semester moves from colonial times through World War I. The second semester goes from WWI to the present. Emphasis throughout is on how present situations, policies, and conditions have been shaped by past events and contributions from diverse racial, social, cultural, and economic groups. Students will complete the state required Curriculum Based Assessment.

**Materials Needed:**

1. Spiral Notebook
2. Black/Blue Pens
3. 1" Three Ring Binder (Journal)

Students need to have a spiral notebook in order to organize their notes. Taking notes is a required participation for this class. The three ring binders will be used to organize daily assignments and homework.

**Rules:**

1. **No cell phone use during class**
2. **No iPod use during class**
3. **Turn in all assignments completed on time**
4. **Be on time to class, no excuses**
5. **To get respect, you must give respect**

**Grading Scale:** Based on a total accumulation of points throughout the semester.

**A= 90-100**

**B= 80-89**

**C= 70-79**

**D= 60-69**

**F= 59-0%**

## **Essentials for Learning:**

### **Goals:**

1. ***Reading:*** Reading for information demands attention and a desire to understand. The class will develop ways to use the textbook effectively. We'll also spend some more time reading other interesting works that apply to the topics we're studying.
2. ***Writing:*** Writing provides an opportunity for you to show what you've learned and the amount of work you've done. Good writing depends on the presence of accurate evidence, distinctive ideas, multiple perspectives, and purposeful thought. Students can expect some type of writing assignments throughout the school year.
3. ***Thinking:*** Here are some examples of thinking: being able to summarize an argument, enriching the argument by relating it to your own ideas, being able to understand how people from different backgrounds might think about an issue, being able to question things you read and hear.
4. ***Speaking:*** Class discussions are an important part of this class. Participation gives you a chance to try and clarify your own interpretations. It's always good to come to class prepared with questions or comments about things you've read, learned, or experienced.
5. ***Listening:*** effective listening requires practice. It's always a good decision to listen to each other and the instructor so that you can evaluate critically what is being said. For most people, taking notes is a way to gain full advantage of discussions, lectures, and presentations.

### **Objectives:**

1. **Increase knowledge of the history of America through critical thinking skills.**
2. **Improve ability to access, process and communicate information accurately.**
3. **Improve ability to analyze and evaluate events and concepts.**
4. **Improve ability to understand cause and affect relationships in history.**
5. **Improve ability to be an active and effective citizen.**

**Attendance**

1. Be in class----every day.
2. You are responsible for getting make-up work upon your return from any absence.
3. Being excused from school does not excuse you from work that is done in class or assigned outside of class.
4. Attendance and class participation is 25% of your grade.
5. Take advantage of your opportunity to learn and become an intentional learner.

**Participation**

1. Much of what we do in class will involve interacting cooperatively with others.
2. We will also do many things that require you or your group to present to the class.
3. Sleeping in class is not permitted.
4. No talking when I am lecturing or another student is speaking for the sake of learning.
5. Your ability to participate in large group discussions and to be an “active listener” is evaluated tasks in class.

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Phone** \_\_\_\_\_