

American History  
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### **Course Description:**

The American History team has narrowed down the course into 9 major enduring understandings that we believe each Nicolet student should possess upon completing the course next June.

Students of American History will understand that...

1. The geographical characteristics of North America have had an on-going influence in the development and evolution of the United States.
2. The distribution of power is a product of existing documents and laws combined with contemporary values and beliefs.
3. The migration of diverse peoples has and will continue to transform American society.
4. The interaction of values, resources, and technology drives economic activity.
5. Religious and philosophical forces as well intellectual ideas not only shape moral and ethical standards, but also attempt to influence behavior.
6. The application of historical thinking skills is necessary to analyze data in understanding events from multiple perspectives.
7. America's international role impacts and is impacted by foreign relations and domestic actions.
8. Competing beliefs and values have led to conflict.
9. Civic engagement is a critical component of democratic society.

### **Class Etiquette**

The classroom is a learning environment. It is a space for all of us to cultivate a deeper understanding of American history. Therefore, we all must follow certain behavioral guidelines to ensure a safe (both physically and mentally) place to learn.

A guideline is:

**\*Be good to each other.** we are taking this journey through time together and need to support each other for various reasons. Here are a few examples of supporting: listening while others speak; staying engaged during lessons; staying awake and alert; leave others belongings alone; & encouraging each other. A key word is respect (even when we disagree).

### **Nicolet Code of Conduct**

**BE ON TIME**

- Take start and end times seriously
- Be considerate of others by arriving on time
- Turn in all assignments on time
- Plan ahead for unforeseen circumstances
- SHOW UP READY TO LEARN!

**BE RESPECTFUL**

- Treat everyone with dignity and respect
- Use appropriate language
- Be kind, not hurtful
- Be open-minded
- Take care of our environment, including personal property and school property

**BE RESPONSIBLE**

- Follow through on commitments
- Come prepared
- Be accountable for choices and actions and understand the consequences
- Use planning tools to organize time and obligations
- Plan to succeed

**BE SAFE**

- Act in a manner that does not endanger self or others
- Resolve conflicts peacefully
- Establish and maintain an environment that is free from harassment, violence, and bullying
- Be aware of surroundings at all times
- Report unsafe situations and conditions

**Grading System**

All Nicolet faculty use a common grading scale for all student work. The following are the lowest scores possible for each particular grade level:

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
97	93	90	87	83	80	77	73	70	67	63	60	0

Your grade for the course will be based on tests and projects throughout the course of the semester (summative assessment). We will work on forming our knowledge prior to the tests and projects (formative assessment).

**Communication**

Communication between student and teacher is critical. Despite the many technological advances of the modern era, nothing is better than face-to-face communication. Students are highly encouraged to see the teacher in person if questions arise or if help is needed with any assignment.

Communication via email is acceptable. As teachers, we tend to check our email during the work day. Emails received after 5:00 PM may not be viewed until the next school day. In addition, documents shared via google documents should be sent after 5 PM. If assignments are due electronically, it must be in the teacher's inbox prior to the start of class it is due.

Finally, if a hard copy of an assignment is to be turned in, you must print it. Please do not send it to a teacher with the expectation that he / she print it for you. The library is available before and after school and during lunch/study hall hours for students' printing needs.

**Attendance Policy:** (Please refer to pages 12 & 13 of the Student Handbook for detailed information on absences)

Academic success and confidence comes from being physically present in the classroom. Any days of school you miss put you at a disadvantage to being the best you can possibly be in school. Should you miss a day of class, it is critical that you come see your teacher to get any work you have missed. We are fully aware that people get sick and unexpected circumstances arise, it is important that despite this you do your best to keep up with school work.

### **The use of teacher "help"**

It is important to understand the work for the course is to be completed by students. Teachers are here to guide and facilitate learning; work is best done by allowing you the chance to take ownership of and responsibility for your own work. The teacher is happy to assist you as you work by meeting with you, commenting on your work, and sharing exemplars. If you want assistance you must let him / her know well before a deadline, and certainly no later than 48 hours before that deadline, not counting weekends or days off.

### **Turning in work / late work**

Missing exam / summative assessment: When you miss an exam / summative assessment it must be made up within 4 days of your return.

Missing classwork / formative assessment

- plan to see your teacher during resource or after school to make up missed class work
- if you know you will miss a day of class, you are expected to meet with your teacher before you leave in order to get any work you'll need to make up

### **Materials**

Everybody needs their own materials, and they should bring them everyday.

This includes:

\*Writing Utensil (pencil, pen)

\*Notebook- this is for you to take notes, complete assignments etc. It does not have to be a three ring binder but most of you would find this helpful

\*Assignments/Readings/Packets

\*Textbook- *The Americans* While you may not need your text everyday- it is important to have it when you need it.

### **Passes/Leaving Class**

Students may not leave the class during summative assessments/presentations. Passes are located in your assignment notebook, there are only a few so use wisely.

### **Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the use, intentional or otherwise, of someone else's work without giving that source proper credit. This applies whether you have downloaded a paper off the Internet, copied a sentence and changed only a word or two, rephrased or paraphrased other's work, or slipped someone else's sentence into your paragraph. Plagiarism also includes copying someone else's homework; the teacher will assume that any homework assignment matching a classmate's word for word has been plagiarized. Plagiarism will result in an immediate zero. Three instances of plagiarism will result in a failing grade for that class. Please review the Academic Integrity policy in the Student Handbook for further details. Plagiarism can be avoided if you remember to cite all sources.

### **Skyward**

Graded work will be posted to Skyward for parents and students to view at home within a reasonable time after being collected. Students are generally given 4-5 days to complete work, and the teacher will likely need the same amount of time to grade the work. If there are any questions about grades or assignments the student is to approach the teacher before parent contact. If confusion remains the parent should contact the teacher via email (brian.weisse@nicolet.us).

**All rules contained in the student handbook will be enforced. You are urged to read carefully the student handbook, paying particular attention to the Nicolet academic integrity policy.**