**U.S. History**

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**Course Description**

This course will cover US history from the discovery of the New World to contemporary times. We will look at history from a humanistic perspective, what were these great men and women of history really like? How were they different from the historical accounts? We will also work on reading and writing skills, as well as note taking and projects, in order to better prepare you for life after high school.

**Course Goals**

**Upon completion of this course students will…**

- understand the relationship between the United States and Britain.

- understand the significance of America’s independence and Constitution.

- understand America’s Sphere of influence and Manifest Destiny as it applies to growth of the United States power and territory.

- document the reasons of civil conflict and its consequences.

- analyze the institution of slavery and its effect upon African Americans

- understand the causes and effects of the Populist and Progressive movements

- examine the goals of nationalism and imperialism in the U.S.

- understand the causes, courses, and effects of World War I and World War II

- understand the causes and consequences of the Great Depression

- understand the influence of the Cold War and the breakup of the Soviet Union

**Course Expectations**

- Daily journal/spark assignments

- Participation in class assignments, projects, debates, etc.

- Completion of different projects, both in groups and independently

- Completion of quizzes, tests and final

**Grading Policy**

A 90 – 100%

B 80 – 89%

C 70 – 79%

D 60 – 69%

F 59% and below

**Grading Assessment**

Journals/Sparks 20%

Participation 20%

Tests/Projects 25%

Activities/Assignments 35%

**Class Rules**

1. Follow Rainshadow’s TERMs (Trust, Equality, Respect, Maturity).
2. All school rules apply in the classroom.
3. If someone causes a problem I will ask them to fix it. If they are unable to do this, I will help them find a solution.
4. Rainshadow supplies your classroom materials. Please treat them with respect (don’t waste paper, take pens/pencils outside of the classroom, etc).
5. If you are absent you must see me to receive your make up work within one day of your absence.