



U.S. History

2014-2015

Ms. Warsaw

Room #B221



Welcome to U.S. History! During this course, we will cover topics ranging from the Reconstruction period to the Cold War and beyond. Not only will we cover the domestic history of this country, but also the United States as part of the international community. One essential question we will be focusing on throughout the school year is: *How has the United States of America lived up to the five fundamental promises of the Declaration of Independence (equality, rights, liberty, opportunity, and democracy)?*

During this course you will be working individually, taking notes, doing research projects, working in groups, participating in class discussions, writing papers, reflecting on and discussing current news, and listening to class lectures while taking notes. We will be discussing a variety of interesting and, sometimes, controversial subjects, so it is **essential** we all agree to the following guidelines:

Be courteous! You may find yourself in a discussion with a person who does not share the same views as you. By being respectful and courteous, we can actually learn from each other!

- You will treat your fellow students and teacher with respect, and they will do the same for you
- You will listen courteously and thoughtfully when others are speaking
- You will wait to be recognized before speaking
- You will be respectful of the property and personal space of students and the teacher

Be responsible! The following tips will help you succeed in this course:

- You will be in your seat, ready to begin work when the tardy bell rings.
- You will bring supplies to class every day:
 - Pen or pencil
 - **iPad--Make sure it's CHARGED!**
 - Notebook or other lined paper

*Textbooks are digital so you only need to remember your iPad!

Important: Each student will need to bring your iPad to class. Almost every assignment and activity you complete will be turned into me on Google Drive. We will set this system up in the first weeks of class!

All tests missed due to EXCUSED absences will be made up within one week, on your own time. It is your responsibility to arrange for a make-up time.

★ **Attendance Counts!** The more you are in class the better your opportunity to learn.

Tests will cover material from the textbooks, but also a lot of material from class work, group discussions, and lectures. It will *behoove* you to come to class!

○ If you **MUST** miss my class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed on the day(s) you were absent---Check the website!

★ **Ask questions** if you don't understand something or need some clarification! I'm here to help.

★ **Late work** will only be accepted the next school day for **50%** credit. After one day late, I will not accept it. If you have an excused absence, you have one day plus the amount of days your were absent to turn in late work.

Cell Phone (/iPod/ mp3/ device of any kind) Policy:

We will be using cell phones and devices for learning in the classroom **HOWEVER**, if we are currently NOT using those items and I see one out, you will be asked, kindly, to put that item away. The **second time** I see it out, I get to keep it for the rest of the class period. If this happens too often, more dire consequences (call home, detention, etc.) will follow. Same goes with iPads. *If you continually use your iPad inappropriately, I will send it to get locked down (That means, all but school apps will be deleted and your iPad will be locked to any further App downloads.)*

Parent Communication:

Grades will be accessible through Parent Vue on **Synergy**. If you have any questions on how to access Synergy, please look at the Bend/La Pine School District website.

- I maintain an online website. Please check it periodically to see what your child is up to in class: **mswarsaw1415.weebly.com**
- Students will be turning in assignments, essays, etc. through Google Drive. Most of my corrections will be done through this medium. I will work with the students in the first weeks to make sure everybody feels comfortable and able to do this.

This will be a great year, and a very fun and interesting class! I am available by email at: sarah.warsaw@bend.k12.or.us.

I have read, understand, and agree to the preceding behavioral guidelines and requirements for U.S. History. Also, I'm totally jazzed about this class.

Date: _____

Student: _____

Printed

Signature

Parent/Guardian: _____

Printed

Signature