

UNITED STATES HISTORY I
Danvers DRIVE
2013-2014

INSTRUCTOR:

Patrick Haigh
978.777.8925 x2451
patrickhaigh@danvers.org
Office Hours are by appointment Mon-Thu

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will survey American history from the period of European colonization through the period of reconstruction after the Civil War; students will be engaged with multiple forms of media and examine competing frames of reference regarding historical truth and accuracy.

OBJECTIVES:

Students will be able to:

- A. Analyze primary and secondary sources
- B. Understand how historical conflicts shaped the nation
- C. Deconstruct the rhetoric of historical figures
- D. Utilize available data to further understanding
- E. Write a persuasive essay regarding historical truth

COURSE STRUCTURE:

This course will consist of a series of short lectures throughout the year providing a survey of colonial and early-industrial American history, group research and discussion of primary and secondary sources, analysis of historical literature and film, and document-based question response writing.

ASSESSMENTS/GRADES:

Grades are based on the amount of points earned out of the total number of points available each quarter. Points will be awarded for successful completion of an assessment. Students will be made aware of the number of points each assessment is worth in advance, and will be provided a rubric for how each assessment will be scored. Assessments may include but are not limited to the following:

- A. Class participation (listening and taking notes, contributing to discussions)
- B. Unit reviews (concepts, events, locations, figures, vocabulary)
- C. Literary analysis (open response questions, personal reactions to text)
- D. Research projects (methods, quality of sources, creativity)
- E. Cumulative tests (open response questions, short answer questions)

OVERVIEW OF TOPICS:

1. Colonies Come of Age
2. The War for Independence
3. Shaping a New Nation
4. Launching the New Nation
5. Balancing Nationalism and Sectionalism
6. Reforming American Society
7. Expanding Markets and Moving West
8. Union in Peril
9. The Civil War
10. Reconstruction