



U.S. History (B), 17-18, 2nd Trimester

Grand Ledge High School Main Office: (517) 925 - 5815

Mr. John Mark Ellsworth, Social Studies Teacher

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Room 108, available before school 7:40 - 7:55 and after school 2:45 - 3:10

Ms. Beth Boyd, Academic Coach & Teacher

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Room 107

Purpose / Course Description:

From Course Description Book: Students must complete one of these: (option 1) both U.S. History A and U.S. History B -OR- (option 2) both American Studies A and American Studies B -OR- (option 3) all A.P. U.S. History courses (A, B, and C). Students will learn about the American experience over time and space in this survey course. While learning about the facts, events, and significant developments, students must also learn to read critically, analyze and evaluate arguments, decide which positions, given the evidence, are more or less plausible, better or worse.

U.S. History A focuses on the following eras from Michigan High School Social Studies Content Expectations for United States History and Geography: Review of earlier study of United States History (Era 1, Beginnings to 1620; Era 2, Colonization and Settlement, 1585-1763; Era 3, Revolution and the New Nation, 1754-1800s; Era 4, Expansion and Reform, 1792-1861; and Era 5, Civil War and Reconstruction, 1850-1877); Era 6, the Development of an Industrial, Urban, and Global United States, 1870-1930; and the first portion of Era 7, The Great Depression and World War II, 1920-1945.

U.S. History B focuses on the following eras from Michigan High School Social Studies Content Expectations for United States History and Geography: The second portion of Era 7, The Great Depression and World War II (1920-1945); Era 8, Post-World War II United States, 1945-1989; and Era 9, America in a New Global Age.

Mr. Ellsworth's Course Philosophy: This course will be conducted in a **safe atmosphere; harassment and bullying are NOT acceptable; encouragement and compliments are acceptable!** You and I will endeavor to maintain a **social contract**, an agreement of behavior. You and I will work together to **learn more about U.S. History**. We will strive to **improve** ourselves, we will work to **build a better community** and, we will act in accordance with **Comet PRIDE** (positive, responsible, integrity, determined, engaged).

Topics, Concepts, or Units of Study:

U.S. History A's key concepts:

Time period between **1877-1917, Bridge to the 20th Century**: Changes on the Western Frontier, A New Industrial Age, Immigrants and Urbanization, and Life at the Turn of the 20th Century.

Time period between **1890-1920, Modern America Emerges**: The Progressive Era, America Claims an Empire, and The First World War.

Time period between **1919-1940, 1920s & Great Depression**: Politics of the Roaring Twenties, The Roaring Life of the 1920s, The Great Depression Begins, and The New Deal.

U.S. History B's key concepts:

Time period between **1931-1960, WW II & Its Aftermath**: World War Looms, The United States in World War II, Cold War Conflicts, and The Postwar Boom.

Time period between **1954-1975, Living with Great Turmoil**: The New Frontier and the Great Society, Civil Rights, The Vietnam War Years, and An Era of Social Change.

Time period between **1968-now, Passage to a New Century**: An Age of Limits, The Conservative Tide, and The United States in Today's World

Textbooks Used and Other Sources:

The main text you will be studying is McDougal Littlell's *The Americans: Reconstruction to the 21st Century* by Gerald A. Danzer, J. Jorge Klor de Alva, Larry S. Krieger, Louis E. Wilson, and Nancy Woloch. We will be using this text and more sources, some of which are video, handouts, and my lectures.

The textbook chapters can be found online on my website: <http://icomets.org/u-s-history-textbook-resources>.

Materials Needed & Supplies Suggested:

Be ready to learn and show me you are learning. Please bring a writing utensil and paper to class everyday. Please keep a folder for this class. (I can provide you with a manila folder.) In that folder, keep materials (notes, handouts, and whatnot) for this class.

Methods of Instruction:

You will be studying the history of the United States, and you will read the textbook, listen to me talk, take notes, participate in discussions, and do instructional activities. During the course, you will complete instructional activities (in-class assignments, writing prompts, online assignments, quizzes, tests, and/or other activities) by yourself, with a partner, in small groups, or as a class (as directed by me).

Evaluation / Grade Calculations -AND- Types of Evaluation and Assessment:

I will assign point values to instructional activities. The trimester grade will be determined by figuring a percentage based on the points you earn compared to the total possible points possible. Also note that the **trimester exam is worth 20%** of the final trimester grade.

During the course, you will complete instructional activities (in-class assignments, writing prompts, online assignments, quizzes, tests, and/or other activities) by yourself, with a partner, in small groups, or as a class (as directed by me). **Typically each week, you will be asked to read a chapter from the textbook and to take notes on it (as homework). During the week, we will do a variety of instructional activities in the classroom. By the end of a typical week, you will need to have completed an online assignment for the chapter (as homework), and on most Fridays, you will be given a quiz that covers both the chapter from the textbook and the material covered in class from that week.** Finally, there will be a cumulative final exam at the end of the trimester.

Grading Scale:

93-100	A	73-76	C
90-92	A-	70-72	C-
87-89	B+	67-69	D+
83-86	B	63-66	D
80-82	B-	60-62	D-
77-79	C+	0-59	F

Points earned will be divided by points possible to determine a percentage that is translated to a letter grade using the table on the left. Also note that the **trimester exam is worth 20%** of the final trimester grade.

Assignment Expectations:

Near the top of anything turned in for points, you need to have your name and the class period you have this course. All work must be legible. Specifically, I want you to strive to learn more about U.S. history and show me you are learning. **You also are expected to follow my standards of academic integrity (see below).**

Late Assignments:

Practice good time management and plan ahead! **Primarily, I want you to learn and show me you are learning.** Secondly, I want you to turn things in on time.

Classroom Procedures:

Student Responsibilities & Expectations: Maintain our social contract. Learn, and show me you are learning. Improve and build a better community. Demonstrate Comet PRIDE.

Consequences: Failing to meet these expectations may result in teacher warnings, parental involvement, and involvement of the school administration.

Passes:

At my discretion, you may use a hall pass during class, and only one student at a time. **Limit your use of the hall pass to only when it is absolutely necessary.** (Instead of using the hall pass, you should make good choices before school, during passing periods, at lunchtime, and after school.) You must have my permission to use the hall pass; you may not just take my hall pass and use it.

Cheating:

The act of obtaining answers or completing assignments in a fraudulent or deceitful manner. Disciplinary action will be determined by staff and administrators. Possible zero grade for assignment and possible in-school suspension (1 hour - 3 days).

You also are expected to follow my standards of academic integrity (see below).

Attendance -AND- Tardy Policy:

The complete attendance/tardy policy is available online in the Grand Ledge High School Handbook: <http://www.glcomets.net/parentcommunityresources/studenthandbooks/>.

Pages 24-26 of the Grand Ledge High School Student Handbook are about the attendance and tardy policy.

Additional Operational Information:

Mr. Ellsworth's Standards of Academic Integrity:

- I will strive to learn, maintain our social contract, and demonstrate Comet PRIDE.
- I will do my work following the instructions given for it and using only the appropriate resources for it.
- I will do my own work. I will not copy what someone else has down.
- I have not received any information about instructional activities, assignments, quizzes, tests, or exams from a source other than directly from Mr. Ellsworth, and I will not provide any information about instructional activities, assignments, quizzes, tests, or exams.

You may consume FOOD & DRINK in my classroom so long as you are responsible with it and it is not a distraction. You may not have food or drink in my classroom if you are tardy to class.

The difference between QUIZZES and TESTS/EXAMS in Mr. Ellsworth's course:

Notes that you have created may be used on **quizzes** in my class. Notes may not be used on tests or exams in my class. You may not use the textbook for quizzes, tests, or exams.

Mr. Ellsworth's SPECIAL RULES for quizzes & tests:

SPECIAL RULE #1: You may take quizzes and tests when you are ready, but I only schedule one time during class time to take quizzes and tests. So, you do NOT have to take quizzes or tests when the rest of class is doing so, BUT you will have to schedule a time to make them up. The rescheduled quiz or test must happen **before school** (arrive in my room before 7:20 A.M.), per Mr. Ellsworth's availability -or- **after school** (arrive in my room before 2:52 P.M.), per Mr. Ellsworth's availability -or- **during class on the next quiz or test day**. Do not abuse this rule... it should be used rarely. However, if you're absent Thursday or multiple times, consider waiting to take the quiz. Also, if you forgot your notes, you may want to reschedule. **LIMIT: You may not delay a quiz or test if you are already missing one (regardless of the reason it is missing; it doesn't matter if it is missing because of an absence or your choice to delay it).**

SPECIAL RULE #2: NO RETAKES! Since I allow you to take quizzes and tests when you are ready, I do not allow retakes.

SPECIAL RULE #3: Once you start a quiz, test, or exam, you must finish it all in one sitting. I am happy to write passes if you need extra time, but you must complete quizzes and tests once you begin them. This means, for example, you may not start a quiz during class and then finish it after school.

SPECIAL RULE #4: You are responsible for everything that went on in class, EVEN IF YOU WERE GONE. This includes videos we watched in class. (I am happy to arrange viewings before or after school, but videos will NOT be lent to students to view at home.) So you may want to pick a classmate you trust to help fill you in on what you miss when you are gone. You must be proactive to learn what you missed.

<http://iComets.org>

I have a website for my courses at Grand Ledge High School. Lots of information can be found on the website including this syllabus and lots more. Please visit **<http://iComets.org>** and bookmark the page.

Mr. Ellsworth's TECHNOLOGY POLICY: Use openly and appropriately.

I support and allow you to use technology (such as smart phones, iPods, etc.) **openly** and **appropriately**.

All use of devices must be done openly. If a device is being used while also being concealed, I will enforce the student handbook and confiscate the device. For example, I will confiscate your device if you attempt to use it while trying to hide it under the table or in your lap or in your pocket. I would also confiscate your device if use your device while trying to conceal it behind or in a backpack or purse. Switching from an inappropriate use back to something appropriate when I walk by will result in your device being confiscated. If you want to use your device, you must do so openly. I want to see what you are doing... otherwise it will be confiscated.

All use of devices must be academically appropriate. You might use your device to add due dates, take a picture of notes on the dry erase board, look up your grades, or do an online assignment. Inappropriate uses include (but are not limited to) texting, social media, gaming, and selfies.

The following is from the student handbook.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT – FULL TEXT	
UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR	DISCIPLINARY ACTION
<p>26. Possession of Cell Phones, Hand-Held Computers, Pagers Camera-Like Devices, and Other Communication Devices</p> <p>Students are prohibited from using cell phones or other electronic communication devices (ECD) while in the classrooms unless it is for learning purposes. "Using" refers to making/receiving calls, text messaging, videotaping, picture taking, audio recording or using the ECD for any other purpose. Cell phones and ECDs shall be turned off and stored away out of sight during class time. Use of these devices shall be limited to periods before and after school, passing times and lunch periods.</p> <p>Students are strictly prohibited from using cell phones and other ECDs in locker rooms or restrooms. Cell phones and ECDs may not be "ON" or otherwise used in locker rooms or restrooms whether here or at another school district where a school activity or athletic event is taking place. The use of cell phones or ECDs in an unauthorized manner or in violation of this policy may result in disciplinary action, depending on the nature of the prohibited activity and/or whether it is a repeat offense by that student. The administration reserves the right to modify the consequences, as appropriate.</p> <p>Note: The school is NOT responsible for items lost or stolen. Please leave all valuables at home.</p>	<p>1st Offense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Device confiscated and returned to student at end of day. <p>2nd Offense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Device confiscated, parent to pick up. <p>3rd Offense:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Device confiscated, parent to pick up.• Parent meeting with administrator• Possible In/Out School Suspension 1hr–10 Days.• Possible loss of privileges

MR. ELLSWORTH'S U.S. HISTORY (B) TENTATIVE DATES:

Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – **Quiz 16 on World War Looms**

Friday, December 15, 2017 – **Quiz 17 on U.S. in World War II**

Friday, December 22, 2017 – **Quiz 18 on Cold War Conflicts**

Friday, January 12, 2018 – **Quiz 19 on Postwar Boom**

Wednesday, January 17, 2018 – **TEST on World War II & Its Aftermath (chapters 16-19)**

Monday, January 22, 2018 – **Mandatory Make-Up Monday!**

Friday, January 26, 2018 – **Quiz 20 on New Frontier & Great Society**

Friday, February 2, 2018 – **Quiz 21 on Civil Rights**

Friday, February 9, 2018 – **Quiz 22 on Vietnam War Years**

Friday, February 16, 2018 – **Quiz 23 on Era of Social Change**

Wednesday, February 21, 2018 – **TEST on Living with Great Turmoil (chapters 20-23)**

Monday, February 26, 2018 – **Mandatory Make-Up Monday!**

Friday, March 2, 2018 – **Quiz 24 on Age of Limits**

Monday, March 5, 2018 – **Mandatory Make-Up Monday!**

Thursday & Friday, March 8 & 9, 2018 – **TRIMESTER EXAM, 20% of overall grade**

Comet PRIDE Keys To Success

- **BE POSITIVE**
 - Bring a positive attitude to school.
 - Be respectful and friendly to fellow Comets and guests.
 - Keep language and behavior G-Rated.
- **BE RESPONSIBLE**
 - Attend school daily.
 - Attending school daily has been shown to improve test scores, raise grades, improve enjoyment level of school and help with on-time graduation.
 - Attendance is a **JOB SKILL** that employers require.
- **HAVE INTEGRITY**
 - Dress for academic success.
 - Keep your apparel and accessories G-Rated.
 - Grand Ledge High School is a professional environment.
- **BE DETERMINED**
 - Ask teachers and other staff members for help and support.
 - Utilize resources, including help rooms and Student Services.
- **BE ENGAGED**
 - Limit phones and devices to appropriate times and locations.
 - Check with your teachers regarding use of electronics in their classroom.

