

**FIORIELLO H. LAGUARDIA HIGH SCHOOL OF  
MUSIC AND ART & PERFORMING ARTS**

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**Mrs. Hatlen**

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**Class Website:** <http://mrshatlenhistoryclasses.weebly.com>

**United States History & Government Syllabus and Course Expectations**

**Description:**

*“United States History is the history of a great experiment in representative democracy. Students should understand the basic principles and the cultural heritage that support our democracy so that they can become informed, committed participants in our democracy. This curriculum is designed to describe how individuals and groups throughout history have challenged and influenced public policy and constitutional change. These examples and this course of study should help students understand how ordinary citizens and groups of people interacted with lawmakers and policy makers and made a difference.”*

Source: NY State Standards for US History and Government

The class will be discussion, group work, and literacy (reading and writing, argumentative essays, analytical compositions) based. There will be a written component in almost every class. Grades will be determined by myriad assessments, such as: exams, essays, papers, projects, **your notebook and homework**, class participation, attendance, and behavior. Success in this class is very much YOUR responsibility. Take charge of your studies and do your best!

**Requirements:**

Upon completing the course of study in June of their junior year, all students must take the United States History and Government Regents Examination. Passing the Regents exam is required for graduation. Thus, all students are required to purchase or obtain a Regents review book for this course, if you do not own one already (I encourage you to ask former students for their review books – to borrow or purchase).

**COURSE OUTLINE**

The following is a broad outline of what we will be covering in the class:

**Fall Semester**

US Geography  
The Colonial Period  
The Declaration of Independence  
The American Revolution  
The Articles of Confederation  
The Constitution: The Foundation of American Society  
Domestic and Foreign Problems of the Early Presidents  
Nationalism and Expansion  
The Mexican American War  
Sectionalism  
The US Civil War  
Reconstruction  
Immigration  
Industrialization/Growth of Big Business  
Labor Movements and Populist Movement

**Spring Semester**

Progressive Movement  
US Imperialism  
US Involvement in WWI  
The “Roaring Twenties”  
Harlem Renaissance  
The Great Depression  
US Involvement in WWII  
The Cold War  
Domestic Changes in Postwar America  
The Civil Rights Movement  
The Vietnam War  
Domestic and Foreign Policies of Reagan  
Persian Gulf War  
Economy of the 1990’s  
Issues and Progress in the New Century

## **I - ATTENDANCE POLICY (included in Classwork grade)**

- a. All students are expected to attend every class unless they are seriously ill. All absences require a note that includes the reason for the absence(s) and parent/guardian contact information.
- b. All students must arrive PROMPTLY to class. That means BEFORE the bell. Do NOT be late.
- c. All students are to sign the late book whenever entering class after the bell has rung.
- d. Excessive lateness, excessive use of the pass, and unexcused absences will severely impact a student's overall grade.

## **II - MAKEUP POLICY**

- a. It is YOUR responsibility to see me for any makeup work or exams.
- b. A note explaining your absence must be given to me immediately upon return.
- c. An email (send to: [jhatlen@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:jhatlen@schools.nyc.gov)) must be sent by your parent or guardian if you are absent on a test date or project due date as per the Social Studies Department Expectations.
- d. NO MAKEUPS WILL BE GRANTED WITHOUT AN ABSENCE NOTE and the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment/test/project.
- e. If you miss class or assignments, check the website and ask a friend. Then, you may come to me if you still have further questions.

## **III - GRADING POLICY: EACH REPORT CARD GRADE WILL BE CUMMULATIVE**

**I will be using the online grade book called Skedula. You should receive log-in instructions and setup codes for parents and students during your first OP. If you are not sure how to log-on please see Dr. Stricklin in the Guidance office for specific information.**

### **1. Major Assessments - 60 %**

- a. Includes quizzes, exams, posters, and projects (group or individual projects).
- b. Includes essays and papers, etc.

### **2. Classwork - 20 %**

- a. ATTENDANCE - No excessive absences. Note submitted for all absences. Unexcused absences will severely lower one's grade.
- b. PUNCTUALITY - No excessive lateness.
- c. PARTICIPATION - Daily participation in class discussion and group work.
- d. CLASSWORK - Prepared in class with loose-leaf in notebook & dated notes.
- e. CITIZENSHIP - Respectful attitude in class towards teacher and students.
- f. NOTEBOOK - See SECTION V, below, for details

**Being immature, irresponsible, and undisciplined will seriously impact your final grade.  
Citizenship is an integral aspect of your grade in this class.**

### **3. Homework 20 %**

- a. Homework prepares you for the next day's class. If you do not have it, then you are unprepared for class.
- b. I will accept a homework assignment one day late for half credit. I don't always check homework everyday so when I do check it, if you don't have it then it will be marked late. Please come to class prepared EVERY day with the assignments that are due.

- c. Each assignment must have a full heading which includes your full name, date, class and homework number and title of the assignment. Homework, collected or checked at random, will be graded using homework rubrics available to you on our class website. Each assignment should be on its own piece of paper since homework is collected or checked at random.
- d. Homework can be hand written or typed (not mandatory). Just be sure to follow the format!

\*\*\*\*\* NO WORK IS ACCEPTED VIA EMAIL \*\*\*\*\*

#### IV- NECESSARY SUPPLIES AND SEATING POLICY

Seating arrangements are at my discretion and will change during the year.

##### Supplies:

1. Pencil(s) and blue or black ink pen(s)
2. Binder (3-rings)
3. Dividers (3)
4. Hole puncher
5. Stapler
6. Loose leaf/lined paper

#### V – NOTEBOOK

##### Binder Requirements:

Every student is required to have a binder (preferably only for this class, if you share a binder with another class be sure you have enough room for history notes, homework, and assessments). You will need a binder that is at least 1.5 inches in width. We will empty out the binder at the end of the fall semester.

Using dividers, you must create the following sections in your binder:

1. **Class Work** (this is where you will place all class notes and handouts in chronological order)
2. **Homework** (this is where you will place all homework assignments in chronological order. I recommend that each assignment is on its one piece of paper because they will be randomly collected or checked)
3. **Assessments** (this is where you will place all assessments in chronological order)

Note about use of personalized electronics in class:

- a. Cell phone use is NOT allowed at anytime. It is not allowed at the start of class, end of class, or in the hallway outside the room - NOT EVER. If you need to call your parent or guardian you may do so from one of the school offices. If you are caught with a cell phone during an exam your test will be invalidated and you will receive a grade of zero.
- b. Tablets or laptops may be used in class but you MUST ask for Mrs. Hatlen's permission and be prepared to explain how and when it will be used in the classroom. Any browsing of internet sites, game playing, or reading of other materials will not be tolerated and you will lose your privilege to use your tablet/laptop in class.
- c. I am a STRONG advocate for taking class notes by hand as there are studies that show better recollection of facts taken by hand versus being typed on a keyboard. I am encouraging all students to take notes by hand (I am more open to students using electronics for homework, essays, and projects). If a student who consistently uses electronics for note taking shows poor results on exams I will likely intervene and have the student take notes by hand.

If you are interested in the studies about note taking:

<http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2014/05/to-remember-a-lecture-better-take-notes-by-hand/361478/>

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052748704631504575531932754922518>  
[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/03/science/whats-lost-as-handwriting-fades.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/03/science/whats-lost-as-handwriting-fades.html?_r=0)  
<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/a-learning-secret-don-t-take-notes-with-a-laptop/>

**Enjoy your semester and don't hesitate to see me if you have any questions or need any extra help!!! I teach periods 1-9 but will often be available during 10<sup>th</sup> period or after 10<sup>th</sup> period if you need to speak with me – I will likely be in the Social Studies office, room 647.**

**There will be tutoring available at school! Take advantage of the extra help if you need it! Go to the Library tutoring center for peer tutoring or help from the teachers that are stationed there.**

**Please read the Student Handbook (found on the LaGuardia Arts webpage) and make yourself aware of the school Academic Honesty Policy. We will also review this in class. Integrity is one of the most important things that will define you! Be proud of the work that you do and DO NOT share it with others or take another person's work and claim it as your own! Plagiarism will NOT be tolerated!**

*Homework #1:* You have just completed reading the syllabus and course expectations with your parent or guardian. You and your parent or guardian will now sign the second side of the Student Contact sheet you received in class. This piece of paper will be collected as your first homework assignment.