**Corbin High School**

**Social Studies Department**

**United States History A**

**2014-2015 School Year**



INSTRUCTOR: Mrs. Sarah Watkins

CLASS ROOM: D202

PLANNING PERIOD: 4th period

SCHOOL PHONE: 606.528.3902 x. 4202

WEBSITE: [www.corbinhistory.weebly.com](http://www.corbinhistory.weebly.com)

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PINTEREST: CHShistory

INSTAGRAM: CHSHISTORY

Welcome back to Corbin High School and to my US History course. I am excited about this school year and I hope you are as well. I know you are probably unsure about the class and you don’t know what to expect, but as long as you participate and try hard, you will do well. Here is a look at my class:

**I. Course Description**

US History is a course focused on the political, economic, and social events that have shaped the United States from various perspectives, including historical, geographic, political, economic, and cultural. These perspectives can help you to understand how the past has led to our present and to appreciate your role in shaping the future.

**II. Course Information and Requirements**

1. Class Procedures: I like to be fairly scheduled so I thought I would brief you on how a typical day in my class looks. Sometimes we will deviate from our routine, but this is what you can normally expect.
   1. Daily Spark Question as you enter the classroom
   2. History Automaticity
   3. Lesson (PowerPoint, activity, etc.)
   4. Activity/assignment to reinforce what we learned
   5. A Review to assess what you learned
2. Attendance: You are expected to attend this class every day. It is very easy to fall behind in this class when you have poor attendance. Therefore, regular attendance is absolutely expected. Students who are absent *with an excuse* have **three days** (or the number of days that have been missed if over two) after they return to school to make up missed exams, quizzes, and assignments. Students who are absent *without an excuse* may not make up missed work.

Procedure for Absences:

1. Get notes from a classmate.
2. Get missed handouts from the box by my desk.
3. All missed tests/quizzes are to be made up afterschool. I will not remind you make up an exam.

The best rule of thumb to remember when you are absent is that **you are responsible.** You must take care of making up the missed day(s) as soon as you return to school.

1. Tardiness: Tardiness in my classroom is not tolerated. Not only do you miss out on class time, but you interrupt the class time of everyone else. Tardiness at CHS is defined as arriving to class anytime after the tardy bell has rung. Being more than five minutes tardy constitutes as skipping class and you will be reported to the assistant principal. *We begin class as soon as you enter the classroom*. There will be an assignment for you to work on, so you must not be tardy. The door will be locked, so come to class on time.
2. Class Materials: I require all of my students to come prepared to class. You must have a pencil/pen, course textbook, and your class notebook. There is extra paper, pencils, etc. in the back of the classroom, so there is no reason to not have your class materials.

What you will need:

1. A three-ring binder (1 inch)
2. Loose leaf paper
3. 3 packs of index cards (300)
4. An index card box with your name on it
5. A pencil and pen
6. A highlighter
7. Restroom Policy: I don’t like it when people leave class. It hurts my feelings. The school allots breaks between classes, so I expect you to use the restroom during this time. But I do understand there are emergencies. Each student will be given two bathroom passes for the term. If you need to use the bathroom or leave the room, ask for permission and turn in one pass. Do not be gone longer than five minutes. If you do not use your bathroom passes, you may turn them in for 5 bonus points at the end of the term.
8. Grading: I will use the standard grading policy as listed in your Student Handbook. You must maintain a minimum average of 70% or better on all course work. Our department has adopted a new rule this year to ensure you are ready to take the EOC exam. This rule is department wide and has been approved by SBDM and the principal. If you make a D or lower, you cannot take the EOC exam and you must retake the course during the summer or next year.

Grading Percentages (1500 points possible)

1. 40% Exams and Quizzes (600 points)

4 Unit Exams (100 points each)

2 Quizzes (50 points each)

1 Accelerated Reader Test/Project (100 points)

1. 30% Classroom Assignments (450 points)

5 Units of Vocabulary Index Cards (25 points each)

2 Projects (100 points each)

Classroom Activities (125 points total)

1. 10% Class Discussions (150 points)

5 Discussions (30 points each)

1. 20% EOC Exam (300 points)

1 Final EOC Exam (300 points)

1. Bonus Point Opportunities: There will be a limited amount of bonus point opportunities throughout the term. These will be the only opportunities provided.

Opportunities:

* + - 1. Movie Nights +10 points each
      2. Homework Passes +5 points each
      3. Bathroom Passes +5 points each

1. Study Sessions: Before every exam, I try to always have a study session. Afterschool from 3:30 on, I will go over the test, answer any questions, and show you how to write a good essay. You can come and go as you can- the study session is for your benefit and I want to help you as much as possible. Typically these sessions are the day before the exam. I also try to have a morning session at 7:30 the morning of the exam.

1. Text Alerts: If you would like to receive text reminders about upcoming assignments, exams, or activities, simply text @CHSHISTORYA to the number 23559. You will receive a confirmation message when you have successfully enrolled.

1. Behavioral Expectations: You all know how to act in class. Show respect. Work hard. Do your best. Don’t pack until the bell rings. No phones. You know what is appropriate and what is not. I do expect a lot out of you and you can expect a lot from me. If there is a problem, it will most definitely be dealt with and done so in an expedient manner.
2. Course Units of Study:

Unit 1: The Reconstruction Era (1865-1877)

*Chapters 12, 13, 15*

Unit 2: The Gilded Age (1865-1914)

*Chapters 14, 16*

Unit 3: Progressivism (1890-1920)

*Chapter 17*

Unit 4: Imperialism (1890-1917)

*Chapter 18*

Unit 5: The Great War: World War I and Beyond (1914-1920)

*Chapter 19*

Know that I am here for you and I want to help. My job is to make sure you get this and you do well. Enjoy this class, take it serious, and come every day with an open mind and I’m sure we will have an awesome year.

**III. Communication with Parents**: I like to stay in contact with the parents of all my students to not only let them know how you are progressing, but to keep them up-to-date with what we are studying each week and what exams/assignments are upcoming. I am sure you are thrilled about this, but it really does benefit you, I promise. Because of this, I would like for you to let your parent or guardian to read over this syllabus and bring this part back to me on or before Friday, November 8th.

Parent,

I look forward to speaking with you this year. Please know I value your time and I appreciate your efforts to help me teach your student. It always reflects so well on your character when I have parents who are interested and really care about their student’s education. I want to make myself available to you at your convenience. You may contact me via email or school phone, or we can schedule to conference if you would like. I would also like to contact you on a regular basis, whether it is upcoming assignments or just to let you know how your student is progressing thus far.

Also, if you would like, you can receive **text reminders** about homework assignments in the course. These are automatically sent to students, but if you would like to get the same messages as well, simply text @CHSHISTORYA to the number 23559. You will receive a confirmation message when you have successfully enrolled.

Thank you,

Mrs. Sarah Watkins

CHS Social Studies Dept.

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NOTICE OF NEW GRADING POLICY:

I understand that I must receive at least a 70% (C or higher) average from this course in order to take the EOC US History Final Exam. I know that this is a department rule at CHS approved by SBDM and that I must abide by it. If I make a 69% (D or lower) I understand I must retake the course next year or during the summer.

Initial of Student:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Initial of Parent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the syllabus for this course and

agree to abide by the rules defined above.

Student Name (Printed): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you as a parent enroll in text alerts? YES NO

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| --- | --- |
| Bathroom Pass  [http://t1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSKtabiZr42ZfUa-qh4zR36llFTSZgLR65SGbwxtRm-cPNyxUPw](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=ia_t2fuxyb1XeM&tbnid=-6ptXIwogzOY7M&ved=0CAgQjRw&url=http://www.madhauscreative.com/pr-weblog.html&ei=FsoPU7jbNs-dkAf6pYDABw&psig=AFQjCNHI7uWcYaIC4OIeZ0-0N1EcufYqaA&ust=1393630103000337)  *Even though Mrs. Watkins’ HATES it when you leave class, you may use this to go to the bathroom or leave the room with teacher approval. You still must still ask permission to leave and you may only ask to leave when the teacher is not teaching.*  REDEEMABLE FOR  5 BONUS POINTS  AT THE END OF THE TERM | Bathroom Pass  [http://t1.gstatic.com/images?q=tbn:ANd9GcSKtabiZr42ZfUa-qh4zR36llFTSZgLR65SGbwxtRm-cPNyxUPw](http://www.google.com/url?sa=i&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=ia_t2fuxyb1XeM&tbnid=-6ptXIwogzOY7M&ved=0CAgQjRw&url=http://www.madhauscreative.com/pr-weblog.html&ei=FsoPU7jbNs-dkAf6pYDABw&psig=AFQjCNHI7uWcYaIC4OIeZ0-0N1EcufYqaA&ust=1393630103000337)  *Even though Mrs. Watkins’ HATES it when you leave class, you may use this to go to the bathroom or leave the room with teacher approval. You still must still ask permission to leave and you may only ask to leave when the teacher is not teaching.*  REDEEMABLE FOR  5 BONUS POINTS  AT THE END OF THE TERM |