



**Desert Edge 2021-2022  
American/Arizona History Syllabus**

**Welcome Parents & Students,**

Welcome! We are very happy to have all of you for the 2021-2022 school year and hope to give you a great overview of American history. Below is a course description for the complete school year from August to May. At Desert Edge High School we want to focus on Rigor, Relevance, and Relationships. We know that last year was an unusual school year, but we are committed to developing relationships with our students and providing lessons that are relevant and rigorous as we start a new year. We “R” DE!

**American/Arizona History Description**

This course is designed to challenge your ability to analyze primary source material, enhance your understanding of causation and chronology, and augment your comprehension of the political, cultural, and economic themes that run throughout American/Arizona History. This course will not only serve to further your understanding of historical content, but also develop sharper reading and writing skills.

We will examine the scope of history through an American lens and you will often serve as the historian as you interpret historical evidence, determine its relevance, identify point of view, and recognize the strengths and weaknesses that exist within the document. Critical thinking skills will be vital as the goal of this class is not to have you simply recount historical facts. We will be exploring topics from Early American Colonization to 21st Century Human Rights. The course is rigorous, but fulfilling as you will witness the growth and development of study skills, your ability to read and write critically, and your ability to evaluate primary and secondary source material.

**Student Materials Needed**

- Chromebook
- Spiral notebook (needed for bellwork, notes, and classwork)
- Pen/Pencil/Highlighter
  - 1 inch Binder for worksheets/guided notes
  - **Project materials (optional):** colored pencils, markers, scissors, glue sticks, paper, and possibly poster boards, as needed. (communal supplies may not be available)

### **District Technology Expectations:**

- Students will use the computers/technology as instructed to do so by the teacher. Students are permitted to use the device at home. Students are responsible for bringing it to class every day, fully charged.
- Students will secure the device when it is out of their sight. The device should not be left in an unlocked locker, a desk, or other location where someone else might take it. Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of the device.
- Students will treat the computers/technology with respect. Do not write or draw on the device or apply any stickers or labels. Handle the device carefully and ensure others do the same.. Students will keep the device out of places with extreme temperature or limited ventilation (e.g., in a car) for an extended period of time.
- No Right to Privacy. The devices are District property; therefore, the District may examine the devices and search their contents at any time for any reason. Neither students nor parents/guardians have any right to privacy of any data saved on the device or in a cloud-based account to which the device connects.
- Devices are actively monitored by GOGuardian for inappropriate websites, language, material, etc. Students can lose their technology privileges and receive disciplinary consequences if the District Technology Agreement is violated
- **Broken technology needs to be immediately communicated to the teachers and district technology teams. No students should have broken technology for more than 24 hours.**

### **Attendance Expectation:**

- Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. Students not in the room when the bell rings will be sent to Sweep. See student handbook for Sweep policies.
- Students who acquire 10 absences in a class will lose credit for that course (AFUHS District Attendance policy). Students will then be required to complete the attendance appeal process to get approval for credit(s) loss.

### **Classroom Expectations:**

- No Food and Drink in Classrooms (except during Power Hour).
- No Cell Phones/Electronic Devices unless given permission by the teacher.
- No Earbuds

### **Homework**

- The expectation is for all students to utilize time in class to complete assignments and work collaboratively with their peers. Homework will not be assigned on a regular basis, but all practice and assignments are expected to be completed on or before the due dates.

- Late Work- Students will have 1 week from the date the assignment was due to turn in late work for credit. All assignments in a tested unit must be turned in prior to the unit exam. Ex. Colonial assignments must be turned in before the test over that unit.
- Make-up work- for every day missed in class per **verified** absence, students will be given 2 days to complete and submit missed assignments or assessments.

### **Assessments**

- Students will be assessed through a variety of formative assessments throughout the course of the year. Students will be assessed formatively through checks for understanding as well as common formative assessments and writing benchmark evaluations. Summative assessments such as midterm examinations, unit projects, and end of course assessments will be recorded and reflect students' educational growth.
- \*\*\*All summative assessments can be re-taken by students if a higher grade is desired, under two conditions. First, ALL coursework and projects/essays from the assessed unit must be finished. Secondly, the student must schedule a time with their instructor for the test to be taken. Make ups can not be more than 10 school days after the original assessment.\*\*\*

### **Grading System:**

- A- 90-100
- B- 80-89
- C- 70-79
- D- 60-69
- F- 0-59

- \* Students' grades will be rounded to the next letter grade ONLY IF their final grade at the end of a semester is a .5 or higher. Example: 79.5 rounds to 80%, 89.2, does not round to 90%.

### **Grades will be based on the weighted scale below:**

#### **1st Semester:**

- Projects/Essays - 30%
- Assessments - 35%
- Coursework - 25%
- Benchmarks- 10% (2 first semester)

#### **2nd semester:**

- Projects/Essays - 25%
- Assessments - 35%
- Coursework - 25%
- Benchmarks- 5%
- Final Assessment/Project- 10%

**Academic Overtime:** Academic overtime is a great opportunity to get extra help as well as make up any missed work. Students whose grades are below 70% will be assigned AOT. See the chart below for teacher AOT availability.

Hallways A&B, Collins, Washington, Randels, Tiongson	Hallways C&D, Behnke, Hoth, Lowe Traugott, Royal
M,T,Th,F – 11:03-11:33	M,T,Th,F – 11:36-12:06
W – B lunch, no office hours	W – A lunch, no office hours

### **Cell Phone Use**

- With the one-to-one ratio of students to computers at Desert Edge, there is very little need for the use of other electronic devices (cell phones, smart watches, etc.) during class time. However, device usage will be at the discretion of each individual teacher.

### **Order of Consequences (for less than desirable behavior)**

- Teacher/Student conference
- Phone call or email to guardian
- Referral

### **Movie List**

- Here is a list of possible movies, clips, music, or shows that will be shown in this course, as part of the signature below you will be giving permission that your child will be able to be present for all of these clips: The movies below all have historical relevance, and though sometimes dramatized, it can be valuable to be able to give students a visual aid in the learning process. Violence and adult language may be present in some of the movies listed below. The ratings vary due to violence and language from G to R.
- History Channel, American Military Network, PBS, and other credible academic sources
- America the Story of Us, Turn: Washington's Spies, Last of the Mohicans, The Patriot, Hamilton, The Constitution, Glory, How the West was Made, Into the West, Far and Away, Open Range, Anthropoid, WWII in Color, Vietnam in Color, The Pacific, Band of Brothers, Saving Private Ryan, Pearl Harbor, Saints and Soldiers, American Sniper, 13 hours of Benghazi, Lone Survivor, Forrest Gump, We Were Soldiers, The Boy in Striped Pajamas, Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure, Memphis Belle, Black Hawk Down, Hacksaw Ridge, Apollo 13, 42 (Story of Jackie Robinson), Remember the Titans, Glory Road, Hoosiers, We are Marshall, 11.22.63., Dunkirk, Siege of Jadotville, '71, Hell on Wheels, Frontier, Sons of Liberty, John Adams, Master & Commander, French Revolution, The Untold History of the United States, Empires: Japan, Valkyrie, Defiance, Engineering an Empire, History's Turning Points I, II. Desperate Crossing, The Revolution, 10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America, Mississippi Burning, Ghosts of the Mississippi, The States, Marshall, Weird U.S., The Outpost, 1917, Greyhound, The Last Post, Lincoln, Hidden Figures, Cinderella Man, Seabiscuit

### **Acknowledgement Form**

- All students and one guardian must acknowledge the statement on the Google Form that will be shared in Classroom on 8/03/2021, no later than August 6th, 2021.
- Hardcopies of the syllabus will be available at Meet the Teacher Night

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