

# **MR. DICKINSON -- ROOM 708**

## **UNITED STATES / NEVADA HISTORY**

### **COURSE EXPECTATIONS OUTLINE**

#### **Course Scope:**

This one year course is a study of American history from the Constitutional Convention to contemporary issues. The history of Nevada will be an integral part of this study. This is a required course for all seventh-graders.

#### **Course Goals:**

1. To understand the significant social, cultural, economic, and political changes in the United States since the late 1700s.
2. To appreciate the contributions made by diverse cultures to the United States and the state of Nevada.
3. To understand the unique features of the state of Nevada within the context of United States history.
4. To become familiar with the technological advances of the twentieth century and their impact on the United States.
5. To demonstrate the values of responsible citizenship.
6. To practice skills for analyzing statistical data.
7. To practice skills utilizing map, chart and graph interpretation.

#### **Course Structure:**

First Semester

\* BUILDING A NATION - The Revolutionary War, Constitutional Convention, The Jefferson Era, The War of 1812, The Jackson Era, The Alamo, The Mexican War, Slavery, The Civil War.

Second Semester

\* EMERGING AS A WORLD LEADER - Later Westward Expansion, Immigration, WWI and the Twenties, The Great Depression, WWII, The Cold War, The Vietnam War, the Seventies, The Reagan Years, The Nineties.

## **Evaluation:**

Grading Scale:

<b>A</b>	90% - up	Excellent
<b>B</b>	80 - 89 %	Above Average
<b>C</b>	70 - 79 %	Average
<b>D</b>	60 - 69 %	Below Average
<b>F</b>	0 - 59 %	Failure to meet acceptable standards

Quarterly Grading Procedure:	Homework/Classwork	50%
	Tests and Quizzes	30%
	Bell Work	20%

All work must be in a neat, legible form. Correct grammar and spelling are essential elements in all work.

**Homework** - All assigned homework is due at the time designated by the teacher. Late work is unacceptable and may result in a zero.

**Make-up work - Students are responsible to see the teacher about missed work.** An allowance of three days will be given for each day of absence. In case of a lengthy absence, a parent may request work to be completed at home.

<b>Basis for Semester Grade:</b>	First Quarter	<b>45%</b>
	Second Quarter	<b>45%</b>
	Semester Exam	<b>10%</b>

**NOTE:** This will be repeated for the second semester.

## **Media:**

**Textbook:** AMERICAN JOURNEY, Glencoe, 1998, or DISCOVERING AMERICA, McDougal Littell, 2005. You are **fully** expected to take very good care of your textbook. Consequently, your textbook **MUST** have a cover on it. Any lost books will cost you \$57.

**Textbook:** DISCOVERING NEVADA, Gibbs-Smith, 2005. There will be only a class set of these textbooks utilized.

Lectures, audiovisual presentations, and resource handouts will supplemental texts.

### **Classroom Rules:**

I believe that **all** of my students can behave appropriately. I will not tolerate ANY student interrupting the teaching or learning process. The following rules are for the purpose of making this class an effective and pleasant place in which to learn.

- \* Arrive to class on time, fully prepared, with paper, pencils, book and assignment.
- \* Be in the room when the bell rings. Violation of this policy **WILL** result in a tardy.
- \* Be respectful, courteous and kind to each other and the teacher. **THIS ALSO INCLUDES ANY AND/OR ALL GUEST (SUBSTITUTE) TEACHERS.**
- \* Listen carefully and follow directions.
- \* NO FOOD, GUM, OR CANDY IS TO BE EATEN IN THE CLASSROOM. THIS ALSO INCLUDES ANY KIND OF DRINKS. This **WILL** result in an automatic detention.
- \* Emergency passes will be issued at the teacher's discretion. **No Locker Passes Will Be Issued.**
- \* Do not mark on or destroy desks, books or bulletin displays.
- \* Leave the class **ONLY** when dismissed by the teacher.

### **Citizenship:**

Good citizenship includes good behavior, positive attitude, willing cooperation, and fulfilling the responsibilities in classroom. Promptness, class preparation, work habits, care and regard for book and equipment, willingness to participate in class discussions and activities, and respect and courtesy toward classmates and teacher are all taken into consideration. Excellent marks in citizenship are reserved for students who are exemplary in terms of behavior, honesty, cooperation, and leadership in the classroom.

### **Discipline Procedures:**

This year, I have decided to implement the following discipline policy: **1st offense** = verbal warning; **2nd offense** = teacher detention and phone call home; **3rd offense** = Dean's referral. I will also adhere by the tardy policy which is prescribed in the student handbook.

**NOTE:** In situations of severe disruptions by inappropriate behavior (**fighting, insubordination of staff member, swearing, etc.**), the student will be sent directly to the office.

**Supplies:**

1. A separate notebook for this class
2. Pencils with erasers (**this also includes colored pencils w/ own hand sharpener**)
3. Blue or black ball point pens or fine point pens
4. Cobra Planners (**Students will be expected to keep each day's objective along with the weekly agenda (homework, readings, tests, etc.) which is given each Monday. The planners, which account for one-quarter or 25% of the course grade, cost \$5 and can be purchased in the Student Store**)

Please read and discuss the course expectations with your child. Encourage him/her to always do his/her best.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature  
Date

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

Please return this document to school signed by parent and student indicating that the course expectations have been read and discussed at home.

Thank you,  
Mr. Dickinson