



20th Century History Syllabus
Grand Haven High School
Social Studies Department



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The twentieth century was a time of momentous change. This course will chart the great changes and subsequent conflicts that were a result of a much quicker world pace. The focus will be on key concepts that created a historical pattern for this century. You will become familiar with the cause and effect relationships of significant world events in this time period. You will also have the opportunity to analyze history and the perspective with which it was recorded.

High expectations are set for your academic achievement. Special projects and writing assignments will be the primary methods used for learning.

What will you need for this class?

1. A writing utensil (pen, pencil, etc.)
2. A 3-ring binder. This will organize all of your notes, in-class assignments, homework, and handouts. This is critical to your success in this class, and is strongly recommended.

What will we Study?

The 20th Century course is divided up as follows. The A section will end just as the United States enters World War II. The B section will take it from there.

ACT I

The Emergence of Modern America

Reconstruction and Westward Expansion
Industrialization, Immigration, and Urbanization
Imperialism
The Progressive Era

ACT II

*The Great War, The Good War,
and the 20 Year Halftime Show*

World War I
The Russian Revolution
The Roaring 20s
The Great Depression and the New Deal
The Holocaust
World War II

ACT III

Postwar America

The Cold War
The Civil Rights Movement
The Middle East
American Culture

What will you be graded on?

Your grade will come from tests, projects, papers, quizzes, homework, and perhaps class participation, if the class seems to need that.

What if you turn an assignment in late?

You will not receive any credit. Please try to be on time. If you have computer issues, I can accept papers on a flash drive, or emailed to howardk@ghaps.org (Meijer is open 24 hours) ☺

What if you are absent the day of a test, or a project due date?

You will take the test or turn in the project the day you return. If your absence is excused, you will receive credit. If it is unexcused, you will receive a zero.

What if you are late for class?

The school's tardy policy can be found in the handbook section of the school's website. It will be followed. Excessive tardiness may get in the way of class participation points as well.

What if you need to use the hall pass?

Your presence here is important. Therefore, I will be stingy with the hall pass regardless of race, creed, religion, or gender. You have 6 minutes between classes: Use them wisely.

What are the rules of this class?

My rules are simple and easy. Treat others the way you would like to be treated and we'll get along famously.

1. Respect. Yourself, your classmates, me. We will approach this class in a mature fashion. I will treat you like adults, and I expect you will act accordingly. Your mature behavior is important if we are going to have a great time in this class.
2. Follow instructions
3. Be in your seat, on time, and ready to go.
4. All school rules apply (No food or drinks, no coats, no hats, etc.)
5. Don't use your phone when someone is trying to talk to you. It's rude, at the very least. If you make me confiscate your phone, you'll get it back either after a lunch detention, or after a parent or guardian talks me into giving it back to you.

What if you need extra help, or have an issue with something we are doing in class?

I am here almost every day after school. Don't hesitate to stop by whenever, or feel free to set up a specific time. I am aware that complications may arise which are beyond your control. If you are honest with me and willing to put in the effort, I promise that I will do my best to accommodate you.

Keep in mind that this class is important and enjoyable. If you come in with the right mindset, we should have a lot of fun☺

