

## Melrose High School Syllabus

**Department:** Social Studies

**Course Title:** 315-316

United States History 2

**Course Description:** Curriculum for this course examines the United States from the late 1800s to the present. Topics include, the American West, the Industrial Revolution, Imperialism, the Progressive Era, World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, Vietnam, America in the 1980's and 1990's, and our role in the 21st century. Emphasis will be placed on critical reading and writing, as well as the use of primary source documents. Students are expected to complete four document-based questions as well as a 5-7 page research paper and 2-3 hours per week of independent practice such as homework, reading and projects in college prep. Students are expected to complete four document-based questions as well as a 6-8 page research paper and 3-5 hours per week of independent practice such as homework, reading and projects in honors.

### **MHS Learning Expectations:**

- Write effectively using standard written English.
- Demonstrate the ability to read effectively.
- Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively.
- Demonstrate good citizenship.
- Demonstrate an understanding of tolerance and diversity, and respect for themselves, others and their school.

### **Essential Questions:**

- What is the American dream and is it attainable?
- What is the role and responsibility of the government?
- What is America's place in the world

<p><b><u>Students will know:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Rise of America as industrial and global power in the late 19th c. and 20th c.</li><li>● Causes of the World Wars</li><li>● Impact of improved technologies</li><li>● Evolution of an active presidency</li><li>● Influence of the Cold War on globalization</li></ul>	<p><b><u>Students will be able to:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Analyze primary and secondary sources</li><li>● Evaluate foreign and domestic policies in the late 19th c. and early 20th c.</li><li>● Evaluate changing role of the government</li><li>● Analyze increasing Civil Rights legislation</li><li>● Complete and synthesize original research</li></ul>
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**Course Outline:**

<b>Quarter I</b>	<b>Quarter II</b>
The American West The Industrial Revolution The Progressive Era American Imperialism	World War I Roaring '20s The Great Depression & New Deal
<b>Quarter III</b>	<b>Quarter IV</b>
World War II The Cold War, 1950-60s	Civil Rights Era The Vietnam Era America 1970-Today

**Primary Course Materials:**

**Textbook:** *The Americans*. 2007 McDougal Littell. Students may sign out a copy of the textbook to use at home, in addition to the class set provided for use in school. All students will receive access to an online textbook. All borrowed textbooks are due back in school on the day of the final exam.

Other materials: various primary source documents, videos clips, and historical sources.

**Student Materials:** notebook dedicated solely to U.S. History, with a folder or three-ring binder to save classwork/homework/handouts.

**Grade Determination:** The grades for each term will be determined using the weighted point system. Categories include: projects, tests, quizzes, essays, homework, classwork/class participation.

**Major Assignments:** The major assignments for this course include : 4 document-based questions, as well as a research paper, midyear exam, and final exam.

**Midyear & Final Exams:** Midyear and Final Exams will be given. These exams count as 10% of the respective semester grade. The average of the first and second quarter grades will count 90% in determining the first semester average. Similarly, the second semester average will include the average of third and fourth quarter grades at 90% and final exam at 10%. The average for the entire year will be the average of both semesters. Midyear and Final Exams will be included in determining placement for the coming year.

Q1 = 22.5%    Q2 = 22.5%    Midterm = 5%    Q3 = 22.5%    Q4 = 22.5%    Final = 5%