

United States History *and* Government

Mrs. Clemens & Ms. Rowland

What is US History?

This a survey course in American history beginning with Pre Columbian times to the present. You will be required to take and pass a Regents examination in June in order to be eligible to graduate.

Since this course is very far reaching and requires an important exam, we will be expecting a lot from you as students. You will need to do all of the work assigned to you as well as putting in additional time studying your class notes to be successful.

Goals you will achieve in this course:

To be a better student	To be a better writer	To be a better citizen
Organization	Finding evidence	Understanding causes and effects
Study skills & habits	Engaging in analysis	Learning how our government functions
Test taking strategies	Essay outlining	Putting history in perspective
21st Century Skills- specifically focusing on technology	Vocabulary	
	Using and understanding primary sources	



Materials Required:

- ★ Blue or Black ink pens only (assignments completed in pencil will not be accepted)
- ★ 1-2 Inch 3 Ring Binder with 5 dividers and loose leaf paper
- (Sections are: notes, vocabulary, handouts, essays, tests/quizzes)
- ★ OR 3 Subject Notebook with a folder

Materials Recommended:

- ★ 3x5 Index Cards
- ★ Headphones

Websites to make you happy and successful:

My website: MrsClemens.com

My YouTube Channel: youtube.com/user/crimsonaurora7

Regents Review: castlelearning.com, shmoop.com

History: ushistory.org, besthistorysites.net



What to expect in this class:

- * **Homework:** Types of assignments will vary. We will occasionally be “flipping” our lessons and thus watching a video might be required. Be prepared for homework throughout the school week.
- * **Vocabulary**
 - o Define- we will be completing 32 vocabulary lists this year based on common terms from the
 - o Regents Exam.
 - o Multiple Choice Questions- These will accompany each week’s vocabulary list.
 - o Quizzes- We will be having 2 types of vocabulary quizzes: matching and paragraph.
- * **Thematic and DBQ Essays:** They’re required for the Regents and thus they’re required for class. We will be working together to improve your comfort level and skill with essay writing.
- * **Quizzes and Tests:** Exams will include a variety of question types such as matching, multiple choice, short answer and essays. Most frequently tests will be created using questions from previous Regents Exams. Additionally, there will be a large test at the conclusion of each 5 week period. There will be a two day in-class midterm which will be a significant part of your 2nd marking quarter grade.

CONTACT INFO:

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[Classroom.google.com](https://classroom.google.com)

remind



Grading:

We use a cumulative point system for each quarter. Each assignment is given a point value. You will accumulate points based on your completion and quality of work. This grade is written as a fraction. At the end of the quarter the total points that you accumulate is added up and is divided by the total possible points you could have earned and is multiplied by 100.

Assignment	Points Earned	Points Possible
Homework	8	10
Essay	38	50
Quiz	27	30
Test	78	100
Total	151	190

Example:
Points earned/points possible=
 $151/190=.79$
 $.79*100=79$
The student’s average is 79

Class Participation: How to earn points

- ✓ Be present
- ✓ Be on time
- ✓ Pay attention
- ✓ Take notes
- ✓ Be respectful

How points are taken away:

- Being absent without an excuse
- Being tardy
- Not paying attention (head down or sleeping)
- Not taking notes
- Having your cell phone (or any other electronic device) visible without permission

***Each class period you have the opportunity to earn 5 points. At the end of the week we total your points. This is a SIGNIFICANT portion of your class average!

***If we see an electronic device being used without permission, you will lose all participation points for the class period and will face school level discipline

Rules to Live By in Class:

1. Come to class on time - when you are late you miss important information
2. Bring ALL materials to class everyday
3. Homework is due at the beginning of the period - NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED ***If you are legally absent you will have 1 day for each day absent to turn in your assignment(s). If you are illegally absent you will receive a zero***
4. No foul language is allowed, do not use demeaning comments
5. Try your hardest and you will succeed!