

U.S. History Syllabus

Spring 2011

AARON CRAWFORD
BOX ELDER HIGH

COURSE DESCRIPTION

U.S. History Section B focuses on the development of the United States from the Gilded Age to the present. The students will examine the political, economic, religious, social, intellectual, and artistic development of the United States. The course is designed to be a student's second major course on U.S. History that goes into greater detail and yields greater understanding than its juvenile counterpart. Students who take U.S. History Section B understand their basic rights, the interconnections between the major events of the period, and the basic socio-political forces that shaped our country in the modern age.

LEARNING METHODS

Learning will come from a variety of sources. Students will examine primary documents, historian's writings, documentaries, and visual data to acquire historical understanding. Knowing the basic vocabulary and events of American history will precede deeper intellectual thinking, and will be reinforced through study, discussion, and games. We will frankly discuss political forces from a variety of perspectives. Students are encouraged to share their own ideas.

COURSE POLICIES

Class Rules:

- Anything that interferes with my ability to teach, or any student's ability to learn, is unacceptable. This includes cell phones, make-up, gaming systems, novels, and any other distraction. The first offense yields a N, the second an U.
- Participation in activities/discussions during class is required.
- All other rules are as given by Box Elder High School and/or Box Elder School District.

Grading:

- Assignments and tests each constitute 50% of a student's grade.
- Late assignments will lose 25% of the point value earned. Students who are absent from a one-day assignment (assigned & due the same day) will have one calendar week to make up the assignment for full credit. If it is a multiday assignment, they will have the additional number of days they missed (if they were gone for two days, they have two more days to finish the assignment).
- There is no extra credit available.
- Students may retake tests within two weeks of when they are given and redo assignments within one week of the date they are returned. Test retakes must be redone with me before or after school under all circumstances.

Citizenship:

- A students' citizenship grade is tied to attitude, work ethic, attendance (including tardies/absences), preparation, ethical conduct, turning work in on time, and classroom etiquette.
- Failure to return the textbook on time will result in an “Unsatisfactory” citizenship grade.
- Hall pass policy: Students may use the hall pass three times per trimester. Leaving class after three will result in a tardy. Students may leave for a maximum of five minutes per pass. I reserve the right to refuse to allow a student to leave when it will result in a tardy or if past behavior warrants concern.
- FYI: I mark tardies based on whether you are in your desk when the tardy bell rings. It’s the only way I’ve found to avoid arguments about it.

Accommodations:

I will make every accommodation legally required by a student’s IEP or 504 plan. The school has a system of getting these accommodations to me, but please make sure that I have received them and that my understanding of the accommodation matches yours.

Communication:

E-mail (preferred): Aaron.Crawford@besd.net Please put the words “Box Elder” in both subject line & body.

Phone: (435) 734-4840

Web: www.historyofcrawford.com

I use my webpage for many things. Students may access notes, assignments from days missed, link to homework help, and other things there. There is also a class calendar, which I keep updated regularly.

I am required to notify parents before showing any videos rated TV-PG/PG/PG-13/TV-14 in class. I use 5 – 10 minute clips from many History Channel documentaries in class (most of these are rated TV-14). I will keep the videos updated on the class calendar. Let me know if you find one objectionable, and I will give your child an alternate assignment. Know in advance that I avoid scenes of excessive violence and all sexual content.

We have received a copy of the disclosure agreement for Mr. Crawford's World Civilizations class. We understand that it is our responsibility to abide by the class rules, policies, and procedures.

(Print Student Name)

(Student Signature)

(Parent Signature)