

Mrs. Rebecca C. Kidwell
Email: kidwellclass@gmail.com
Office hours: 9:15 am-10:05 am
and by appointment

<http://kidwellclass.yolasite.com>
Twitter feed: rckteacher
Homework forum: <http://kidwellclass.aimoo.com/>



US History

Course Description: This course provides a survey of US History from the foundations to World War II. Special emphasis is given to major social, cultural, and political movements and figures. Students will examine the various religious movements in the US and how they affected the country's beliefs.

Textbook: *American Voices: A History of the United States* by Carol Berkin and Alan Brinkley

Supplies:

Black/blue pens or pencils

Colored markers or pencils for map work and creative projects

Notebook paper

Three-ring binder divided into the following sections: Assignment Instructions, Notes, Homework, Classwork
(There will be notebook checks)

Optional: Laptop

Grading Policy: Letters grades are based on the policy set forth in the Caritas Academy Student Handbook.

Grades for the class will be broken down by the following percentages:

Quarter Grades

Tests/Projects: 45%

Quizzes: 30%

Homework & Participation: 25%

Midterm Grade

Average of Quarters I & II: 100%

Final Grade

Average of Quarters I-IV : 85%

Final Exam: 15%

Expectations:

Preparation: Students are expected to come to class on time prepared for the daily lesson with the appropriate text, homework, notebook, and pens.

Participation: Participation consists of listening, asking questions, being a part of class discussions, being prepared for class, and doing class assignments.

Homework: Various assignments will be given on a regular basis. Homework will be graded on completeness

and effort. Most homework will receive a √ + (3 points), √ (2 points), √ - (1 point) or a zero. All homework (unless specified in the instructions) will be worth a total of 3 points each. All homework must be turned in at the BEGINNING of class. Late homework will not be accepted unless it is the product of an excused absence.

Reading: Textbooks do not lend themselves towards casual reading. It is important to keep up with the assigned readings and not fall behind.

Tests/Quizzes: Several tests and quizzes are given during the course of a unit.

Projects: Projects will be given as an alternative or supplemental assessment for some units. Projects are worth one test grade unless otherwise specified.

Late Assignments/Make-up Work: In the event of an absence it is the student's responsibility to find out what occurred in class that day, and to be prepared for the next day. Consult your homework calendar and/or visit <http://kidwellclass.yolasite.com>. Students are required to take all quizzes on the day assigned unless the student has been absent for three or more consecutive days prior to the quiz. Tests and quizzes must be made up within two weeks after the test has been originally given. Tests not made up within this period will receive a 0. In emergency/ long-term illness situations, accommodations will be made for the student to be made on a student-by-student basis. **Late long-term assignments (essays, projects, longer papers) will lose 10 points each day they are late.** Long term assignments may be emailed to Mrs. Kidwell or delivered to the school office on the day they are due to avoid penalties. If it is emailed, the physical rough draft still needs to be turned in when the student returns to school.

Plagiarism: Cheating and/or plagiarism are regarded as serious offenses. Copying or paraphrasing material/text from the work of another student, from published sources (i.e. books, websites, magazines, newspapers, etc.) and/or from the Internet without proper documentation constitutes academic theft. A student found cheating or plagiarizing will receive a "0" for the assignment and appropriate disciplinary measures will be taken as set forth in the Caritas Academy student handbook.

Classroom Procedures:

1. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12:30-31)
2. Be responsible.
3. Be on time to class and turn assignments in on time.
4. Be neat and honest with your work.

If you follow the above guidelines, the rest should fall into place. But, here are a few specific rules:

1. Only one person should be talking at any given time.
2. No cellphones, pdas, or other communication devices shall be seen or heard in class.
3. No hats or hoods shall be worn in class.
4. MP3 players may be used during quiet study times.
5. Any drinks in the classroom need to be in bottles; snacks may be brought if they do not cause a distraction for the student or his/her fellow classmates.
6. Please clean up after yourself.

Consequences for failure to follow classroom procedures:

In the unlikely event that classroom procedures are not followed, discipline may include, but is not limited to, the following: warning, reprimand, call home, meeting with parents, or office referral.