

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

American Christian Academy

2008-2009

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Objectives:

- Become acquainted with American History from the Age of Discovery through the Age of Reagan.
- Understand the major conflicts and events of U.S. history.
- Know the distinct periods of U.S. history and the pertinent geography of the United States.
- List the 43 U.S. Presidents from Washington to G.W. Bush and the significant events of their administrations.
- Learn the major events and personalities of Alabama.

Textbook: American History: A Survey, 12th edition by Alan Brinkley. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2007. (ISBN 0073255041) and study guides I & II.

Internet Resources: www.mhhe.com/brinkley12, www.conklan.us, www.renweb.com/ParentsWebold.htm

Required Course Materials: Textbook, ringed binder, ruled paper, and pens.

Course of Study:

- The Meeting of Cultures and early European Settlement (1492 – 1606)
- The Colonial Period (1607 – 1775)
- The Revolutionary Period (1775 – 1789)
- The Federalist Vision (Washington and Adams)
- The Republican Ascendancy (Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, and J.Q. Adams)
- The Age of Jackson (Jackson, Van Buren, W.H. Harrison, Tyler, and Polk)
- Slavery and the Sectional Crisis (Taylor, Fillmore, Pierce, and Buchanan)
- The War Between the States (Lincoln and Davis)
- Reconstruction (A. Johnson and Grant)
- The Gilded Age (Hayes, Garfield, B. Harrison, Cleveland, and McKinley)
- The Progressive Period (T. Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson)
- World War I (Wilson)
- The Return to “Normalcy” (Harding and Coolidge)
- The Great Depression and the New Deal (Hoover and FDR)
- World War II (FDR and Truman)
- Cold War and Containment (Truman, Eisenhower, and Kennedy)
- Cold War and Disillusionment (LBJ, Nixon, Ford, and Carter)
- The Reagan Era (Reagan, G.H.W. Bush, Clinton, and G.W. Bush)

Instructional Procedures:

- After assigned readings, material is presented in class by lecture, worksheet, or discussion. Student preparation and understanding are checked through recitation, reading, questions, and contests.
- Numerous review exercises and quizzes provide students additional opportunities to master facts. Maps, films, videos, and charts help them visualize geography and comprehend timelines.

Testing and Marking:

- Classwork consists of *daily activities, quizzes, and homework*. Homework is checked daily. Class work accounts for 25% of the period grade. Identification and vocabulary quizzes may be unannounced.
- Unit examinations count 50% of the period grade and the quarterly exam makes up 25% of the period grade. One major test may be a written book report (includes an oral presentation).

Course Grade:

- *The course grade is the average of the two semesters weighted 40% each and the final examination weighted 20%.* The ten-point grading scale is used to determine letter grades of A, B, C, D, or F.

Attendance Policy/Make-up Work:

- It is the student's responsibility to be in class, on time, and prepared.
- Students who have been absent are expected to have their homework and to be ready for quizzes and tests upon their return to class. Exceptions may be made only for extended illnesses.
- For excused absences, make-up tests are given by appointment. It is the student's responsibility to ask for a make-up test. **It is strongly recommended that students not miss major tests!**
- A student may receive a zero for homework if he is tardy to class.

Textbook Reading Schedule:

- *First Quarter* (Exploration to War of 1812) Chapters 1-7
- *Second Quarter* (Jackson to Reconstruction) Chapters 8-15
- *Third Quarter* (Gilded Age to World War II) Chapters 16-25
- *Fourth Quarter* (Cold War and Contemporary Period) Chapters 26-34