**

2023-2024 COURSE SYLLABUS

**U.S. HISTORY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Teachers: **James Sullivan** (he/him) & **Claudia Black** (she/her) | Period: **1-A** (Mon./Tues./Thurs.)  Time: 8:45am – 10:14am |
| Room Number: **C-223** | Emails: ***james.sullivan@atlanta.k12.ga.us & claudia.black@******atlanta.k12.ga.us*** |
| Semester: ***Fall 2023*** | Tutorial Days, Hours & Locations:  **Sullivan**: Thursdays (& By App’t.); 3:50pm-4:50pm; Location: C-223 **Black**: Tuesdays (& By App’t) 7:45am-8:30am; Location A-428 |
| Textbook(s): *A Nation Conceived in Liberty GA US History EOC* text (2019) (GA Milestones) | Website: <http://jhsgradysite.weebly.com> & <https://claudiablack8.wixsite.com/>claudia-black |
| Schoology & Google Classroom info provided in class. |  |

Zoom Link: (will post in Google Classroom/Schoology, if virtual learning is necessary)

**Course Description:**The purpose of this year-long course is to provide students with a background in the history of the United States. The high school United States History course provides students with a survey of major events and themes in United States history and seeks to establish a deeper understanding of and appreciation for the events, persons and themes that have helped (and hindered) the establishment and development of this nation for “WE the People.” Particular attention is given to making the course relevant and resonant in the lives of students today - - which is why we like to refer to this course as “You.S History”: we want to make sure every student gains insight into how the history of our nation was and is shaped by our own families. The course plays out over 400 years of history, beginning with colonization around 1600 and concludes with significant developments in our own time, the early 21st Century.

GA Milestones Exam: At the end of this Course, you will prove your mastery of course content and skills on the state-mandated Georgia Milestones U.S. History EOC and APS Benchmark tests. ***The state-mandated Milestones End of Course Assessment is required for all students and counts as 20% of the student’s second semester final grade.***

**Prerequisite**: None

**Course Content Standard**

Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) for Social Studies (U.S. History) may be found at: <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Social-Studies-United-States-History-Georgia-Standards.pdf>

**Course Outline:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Week 1: | Settlement and Colonization |
| Week 2: | Settlement and Colonization |
| Week 3: | Settlement and Colonization |
| Week 4: | Settlement and Colonization |
| Week 5: | American Revolution |
| Week 6: | American Revolution |
| Week 7: | American Revolution |
| Week 8: | Constitution/New Republic |
| Week 9: | Constitution/New Republic |
| Week 10: | Constitution/New Republic |
| Week 11: | Constitution/New Republic |
| Week 12: | 1800-1850 |
| Week 13: | 1800-1850 |
| Week 14: | 1800-1850 |
| Week 15: | 1800-1850 |
| Week 16: | Civil War and Reconstruction |
| Week 17: | Civil War and Reconstruction |
| Week 18: | Civil War and Reconstruction |

**Evaluation and Grading:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Course Components** | **Weights** | **Grading Scale** | |
| Classwork (grading floor of 50) | 40% | 100-90 | **A** |
| Summative (exams, projects) | 60% | 89-80 | **B** |
| **TOTAL** | **100%** | 79-70 | **C** |
|  |  | 69-0 | **F** |
| \*Not Evaluated | **\*NE** |

*\*NE (not evaluated): Tasks may be entered into the “Classwork” category as not evaluated/not graded/unweighted in order to record formative tasks included in instruction.*

* **Grading**:
  + **Classwork category** (daily classwork assignments): Grading floor of 50
    - “Missing” calculated as 50
    - Graded tasks with earned scores of 50 or below are entered as 50.
  + **Summative category** (exams, quizzes, projects):
    - Students’ grades are entered as earned.
    - Reassessment opportunities are required for all students on summative tasks (including tests and quizzes) when they score 69% or below. This reassessment will be a newly generated teacher assessment and the reassessment score will replace the original score if higher. Students have two opportunities for reassessment; if students do not demonstrate mastery after the second reassessment, the teacher will refer the student for additional support.
    - ***For classes with content on Edgenuity***: If the student has not demonstrated mastery of the content during the reassessment opportunities, the student may be assigned Edgenuity. If assigned Edgenuity, students must take the assessments in a teacher-proctored environment. Courses aligned with Edgenuity:
      * Social Studies: World History, **US History**, Economics, American Government
      * Language Arts: American Literature, Ninth Grade Literature, World Literature, British Literature
      * Math: Algebra, Geometry, Advanced Algebra, Pre-Calculus
      * Science: Biology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Physics
* **LATE ASSIGNMENTS:** A late assignment is defined as work submitted after the teacher collected the assignment. Students who submit late work by the late work deadlines (see below) will receive full credit for the late assignments. Teachers should enter an "M" into IC if an assignment is missing. If the student turns the assignment in prior to the late work deadline, the assignment will be scored based on mastery of the standard(s) and entered into the grade book.

Students with late assignments must submit work by the deadlines below:

**Makeup Work/Reassessment Deadlines 2023-2024 School Year**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **First semester**  August 1-December 15, 2023 | Midpoint: 10/6 | Deadline 9/25 for assignments 8/1—9/22 |
|  | Deadline 12/4 for assignments from 9/25-12/1 |
| **Second semester**  January 3-May 24, 2024 | Midpoint: 3/15 | Deadline 3/4 for assignments from 1/3-3/1 |
|  | Deadline 5/13 for assignments from 3/4-5/10 |

# **Campus Portal for Parents and Guardians (**class schedules, attendance records, grades):

# <https://ic.apsk12.org/campus/portal/atlanta.jsp>

# To activate your account/receive your login activation key, please contact Mr. Montero at [bmontero@atlanta.k12.ga.us](mailto:bmontero@atlanta.k12.ga.us).

**Schoology** is a K-12 educational learning management system and an all-in-one platform for teaching, learning, assessing, and reporting grades and data. The goal for an LMS is to allow a school to have a central piece of technology to be the platform for communicating with students, teachers, families, and administration. Students access Schoology through MyBackpack.

**Gifted/Honors addendum:**

The course will also follow the Georgia Program Standards for Gifted and High Ability Learners as outlined by the GA DOE Board Rule 160-4-2-.38 and listed below.

• *Advanced Communication Skills*: Learners will engage in diverse and authentic learning experiences which will allow them to develop and apply innovative oral, written, visual, and nonverbal communication skills across disciplines.

• *Advanced Research Skills*: Learners will gather, decipher, and determine credibility of information from a variety of sources and integrate information through analysis of content.

• *Creative Thinking & Problem Solving*: Learners will insightfully evaluate a variety of problems and arrive at innovative conclusions.

• *Higher Order & Critical Thinking Skills*: Learners will analytically critique a system or set of complex ideas, utilizing logic and reasoning skills in novel ways, to create and/or modify knowledge.

**PEC/Special Needs addendum:**

Students will receive modifications as per their Individual Education Plan (IEP) to help them be successful in this class. Multiple strategies will be utilized as well as tutorials, activities and pullouts. Students are expected to meet due dates for assignments (don’t wait until the assignment is due to start) and to pass content assessments throughout the semester. Students with special needs are held to the same End of Course Test (Milestone) standard as all other students by the state of Georgia and must pass it to graduate with a high school diploma. Students are responsible for putting their best foot forward, for doing their own work, and for seeking out assistance in class or after class if anything is unclear or needs reiteration or modeling.  Remember that you’re your parents/guardians, the school and your teachers are a team with the same goal--so let’s work together.

**Required Materials:**

**Notebook**: 3-prong binder with pockets one inch or similar binder. Bring your notebook to **every class** to take notes! (See below.)  
Paper   
Pencils/pens

Email address

Internet access for Schoology & Google Classroom

**Note-taking**:

Taking Notes is an Essential Skill to learning U.S. History! History is best learned as a Story, and your Job is to write that Story down in Note form. All Notes must be Hand-written, not typed, in class. The reason for this is that, aside from the fact that students might take advantage of computers, there is a scientific reason behind handwriting your notes. When one writes, one thinks about writing words, but when one types, one types letters. If you handwrite your notes, then go home and answer questions based on the notes you took in class that day, you are really learning and mastering the content using many of the senses: You’ve heard the story, written the notes, read your notes, and rewritten the story. This makes studying so much easier if you go through these steps on the front end, rather than waiting and cramming for a test on the back end.

**Online materials:**    
<http://www.icivics.org/>  
<https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs/constitution> - The National Archives

<https://www.ourdocuments.gov/index.php?flash=true&> - National Archives “Our Documents”

<https://www.pbs.org/search/?q=American+Experience> – PBS’ “American Experience” site, with access to wonderful shows about a wide variety of U.S. History topics and related documents

<http://www.nytimes.com/> newspaper

<http://www.washingtonpost.com>  newspaper

<http://www.npr.org/> nonprofit radio/print

<http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/domain/3104> Midtown H.S. Media Center (research)  
Constitutional: A Washington Post podcast  
More Perfect: An NPR Podcast  
Presidential: A Washington Post podcast  
Backstory: A History/Government podcast from the VA Foundation for the Humanities

**School-wide Behavioral Expectations:** Be present; be respectful; be responsible; be on task; be peaceful, productive problem solvers.

**Classroom Expectations**:

CLASS “CONTRACT”   
ROOM PROCEDURES AND CONDUCT RULES

EXPECTATIONS AND STANDARDS FOR STUDENT BEHAVIOR

1. Be on time to class. Be an active listener: in your seat, engaged and ready to learn.
2. Use the restroom **BEFORE** coming to class.
3. After the tardy bell rings, the door will be locked and you must bring an admit pass.
4. **IMPORTANT: There is a Zero Tolerance Policy for Electronic Devices**. **ALL** electronic devices (including phones, computers, ear buds, headphones, etc.) **MUST** be put away and out of sight (yours and mine). There will be a charging station at the rear of the classroom, and you can plug in your charger there. **Failure to comply with the no-phone rule will result in confiscation of the device(s). Failure to immediately surrender the device to the teacher upon request or repeated violations of the Policy will result in a Discipline Referral.** If you know that you are expecting a truly important call or message during our class period (i.e., parent, doctor, college), then you **MUST let us know BEFORE class** and we will work out a solution. On those occasions when phone/computers are to be used in a classroom assignment or research, then the electronic device should only be used for such directed research purposes.
5. **Classwork**: Throughout the course of this class, we will be using a mix of lectures, discussions, advocacy exercises (written and oral), debates, audio and visual presentations, guest speakers and other types of lessons. We think you’ll find it interesting and fun. As in college (and life), what you get out of the class mirrors the effort you put into the class. Therefore, you should take great notes and keep a well-organized notebook of these lessons. Your notebook/binder should be complete, updated and available for grading on a weekly basis. During class discussions, if you have a point to make but the time is not right for an interruption, then write down the point you want to discuss in your notebook while your classmate/teacher is speaking. This is excellent practice for your future career (whether as a lawyer in a courtroom or as part of any workplace meeting or anywhere else) and is a great active listening skill.
6. **Academic Integrity Pledge**: It is the responsibility of every student and employee to exhibit honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in academic work always to support a positive learning environment in the school. Cheating, plagiarism, and other acts of academic dishonesty are strictly prohibited.  Students who cheat on standardized testing or are repeatedly dishonest can face expulsion or increased consequences. Examples of violations of this rule include but are not limited to: copying or "borrowing" from another person or source and submitting it as one's own work; seeking or accepting unauthorized assistance on tests, projects or other assignments; fabricating data or resources; providing or receiving test questions in advance without permission; or working collaboratively with other students when individual work is expected. **In other words, your answers must be yours and yours alone.** Written assignments should be completely and independently written by you to reflect your thoughts and views on the topic. **Academic Dishonesty with a Device:**Use of a cellular phone without the consent of a school administrator or school staff during a test, quiz, or completion of a graded assignment is considered cheating and is strictly prohibited.  (See APS Student Handbook, pp. 40-41.)
7. **Atmosphere of Mutual Respect**: We promise to respect you and we ask that you provide the same respect to us. During Lectures, Class Presentations or Guest Speaker Presentations, please do not engage in conversations with classmates. (I am an old man, and I lose my train of thought easily during interruptions. ;) ). Please pay attention and be respectful! If you’d like to make a comment or ask a question, please raise your hand and wait to be called on to speak. When it’s your turn to speak, we promise to be equally respectful of your views or questions. We truly want us to engage in great discussions in this class, but we have to be able to hear each other in order to actually listen to and learn from each other.
8. You must request and be given a **Hall Pass** for bathroom/water/nurse/counselor/ teacher passes. To receive the Hall Pass, you need to **leave your cell phone with me**. (I’ll keep it on my desk during your absence.) **Violations of this privilege will result in loss of the privilege.** (Examples of violations include: excessive trips; taking too long to return; not being where you told me you were going; visiting friends or using your phone; etc.)**.**
9. Appropriate dress is expected in class. (See APS & MHS Student Handbook.)
10. Appropriate language is expected in class. (See same.)
11. Early dismissal is granted only by approved procedure.
12. No eating or drinking during class! (Water bottles (with lid) are allowed.)

**School-wide Expectations**:

**MASTERY LEARNING:** With mastery learning, a unit of material is taught, and student understanding is evaluated before students are able to move on to the next unit. Students who have not shown mastery for a particular unit will receive feedback and support in reaching mastery. They may be given practice exercises, study guides, group work or complementary resources to help them improve and achieve mastery.  Students who demonstrate mastery of the content for a particular unit are given enrichment exercises like special projects, tasks or academic games to further or broaden their knowledge of the material.

**For additional help, Tutor ATL info:** [**https://tutoratl.org**](https://tutoratl.org)

**PROGRESS REPORTS:** Parents and guardians are informed when students are making unsatisfactory progress in classes.  Poor performance will be reported to parents and guardians as soon as problems are evident.  Progress reports with plans for remediation will be provided for all students making unsatisfactory progress, and parent-guardians conferences must be scheduled.  Unsatisfactory grades should never come as a surprise to parents, guardians, or students.  Also, see Board Policy Administrative Regulation IHA-R(1) under “Students in danger of not meeting academic expectations” for further information.  Teachers will:

* Contact parents/guardians early in the semester if academic, attendance, or behavioral difficulties are apparent.
* Notify the counselor, Student Support Team (SST)/Response to Intervention (RTI) Chair, and/or an assistant principal of serious problems that are affecting classroom performance.
* Set up parent conferences as necessary.

**ATHLETIC ELIGIBILITY:**  Students wanting to participate in athletic programs governed by the GHSA and extracurricular activities must meet eligibility requirements to participate.  The Athletic Director (and the Extracurricular Activities sponsors) will collaborate with teachers to monitor and to identify students in danger of failing courses.  A master list of students participating in extracurricular activities and athletics under the auspices of the GHSA will be available to all staff.

**Our Vision**: A high-performing school where educators inspire, families engage and students love to learn.

**Our Mission**: Every student will graduate college and career ready with a dedication to community involvement and service.

**Midtown Graduate Profile (5 Cs)**: Creative, collaborative, critical thinker, communicative, and a good citizen.

[Midtown Community Resource Guide](https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/cms/lib/GA01000924/Centricity/domain/11155/2022/Midtown%20Resource%20Guide.pdf): https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/domain/11155

**For Mental Health Crisis you may call the Georgia Crisis & Access Line at 1-800-715-4225.**

**Resources:**

**https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/**

**https://namiga.org/georgia-crisis-and-access-line/**

**https://www.crisistextline.org**

**See Something Say Something Anonymous Line: 1-844-5-SAYNOW**

**School Counseling Site for Resources/Documents:** [**https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/46013**](https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/Page/46013)



**Receipt of Syllabus**

**Course Name:** U.S. History

**Teacher Name:**  Sullivan & Black – 1-A

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_                   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*Student Signature**Parent/Guardian Signature*

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_                   \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*Date**Date*