**U.S. History 1 STS Syllabus**

**2016-2017**

**Instructor Information:**

Margaret Kerr-Vanderslice (Ms. KV)

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Class number: 719-253-6506

**Class website:**

This website is updated weekly with course assignments.

<www.kvclass.weebly.com>

**Course Description:**

This course will cover the history of the United States from European colonization through the Civil War and will include exploration of political, social, economic, and cultural themes. Some topics covered will be: imperialism and colonization, religion in the Americas, the American Revolution, the founding and writing of the Constitution­, Native/white relations, slavery and abolitionism, U.S. territorial expansion and the Mexican American War, women’s rights, development of U.S. foreign policy, and the Civil War. This is a college-level course and is meant to prepare you for college-level rigor.

**Course Work:**

-Regular reading and text outlines

-Papers

-Discussions – all students will participate in and lead discussions over the course of the year.

-Other coursework will include some smaller in-class assignments and presentations.

-This course will include a cumulative essay-based midterm and final

**Grading:**

Discussion – 30% - this includes reading prep checks, verbal participation in discussion, and periodic reading quizzes

Papers and Assessments– 50% - this includes papers, the midterm and the final

Other coursework: 20% - this includes primary source document analysis, news articles, debates, etc.

Grading is at the discretion of the instructor. The grading scale will be comparable to the honors scale at South High School.

92-100 = A, 82-91 = B, 72-81 = C, 65-71 = D, 0-64 = F

No extra credit is offered for this class, so please don’t ask for it.

**Attendance and Punctuality:**

Students are expected to be present and on time. Any tardiness or truancy issues will be dealt with according to South High School policy. This is a college course, so please behave like college students and be in class unless it is absolutely necessary for you not to be. If you miss course discussion due to an excused absence, you will be expected to write a section summary as a makeup. If you miss an assignment you have two days to complete that assignment and turn it in. If your absence is unexcused you will receive a zero and will not be allowed to make up any missed work. If you are absent on the day a paper is due, you still need to submit your paper on that day.

**Homework:**

You will have almost nightly reading HW. You should get the contact information for another student in this class so you can ensure you are able to get your reading done even when you are absent, otherwise you are assigned a writing assignment as a makeup

**Papers:**

You will write 4 papers over the course of this semester. All papers will utilize the resources of this course. Each paper should be 4-6 pages and contain citations in MLA or Turabian format. Papers should be typed, double spaced, Times New Roman 12 pt font, 1” margins, and can be submitted via Google Docs or in printed copy. All papers should have a clear thesis statement and be well-organized and contain no major typos or grammatical errors. All papers will be submitted to the CSU-P Online Writing Lab ([www.csupueblo.edu/owl](http://www.csupueblo.edu/owl)) before they are submitted to the instructor for grading.

**Required Texts:**

1. *Visions of America Volume 1* by Jennifer D. Keene, Saul T. Cornell, & Edward T. O’Donnell,

2. Supplemental compilation of primary texts to be provided by instructor

*Some additional readings will be required over the course of the class.*

ACQUIRING TEXTS: I HIGHLY RECOMMEND you purchase your own copy of this textbook, a standard practice for college classes. I do not have enough copies of the textbook for all students, therefore you will not be given a copy of the text to have as your own. Pieces of the text will be posted online for your reference as we cover them, and I have books in the classroom that cannot leave class due to their tendency to go missing. The text is inexpensive – you can easily find copies for ~$20 on Amazon.com. If the text is yours, you can do whatever you need, highlight, underline, mark pages, etc. for your future use in your papers. I won’t **require** you purchase the text, but again, I am going to very highly recommend it.

**Plagiarism and Cheating**

Any instances of plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment. Plagiarism includes any copying from fellow students. If a student allows others to cheat off their work, they will also receive a zero. Copying and pasting from the internet is absolutely never an acceptable practice.

**Students with Special Accommodations**

The University abides by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which stipulates that no student shall be denied the benefits of an education "solely by reason of a handicap."  If you have a documented disability that may impact your work in this class and for which you may require accommodations, please see the Disability Resource Coordinator as soon as possible to arrange accommodations.  In order to receive accommodations, you must be registered with and provide documentation of your disability to:  the Disability Resource Office, which is located in the Library and Academic Resources Center, Suite 169.