

United States Foreign Policy Since World War II

Mr. Roberts

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Office Hours: During lunch or by appointment

Course Description:

This is a one semester course on U.S. foreign policy since the end of World War II. A prerequisite to take this course is successful completion of 11th grade U.S. history.

The development of critical thinking skills and class participation will be important elements of this course. Graded work will include tests, essays, and quizzes. The principal resource used by students in this course will be the required textbooks, but other resources will include primary sources, supplemental reading materials, maps, and documentaries.

Required textbooks and Required Materials:

The required textbooks for this course are:

1. *American Foreign Policy Since World War II* (Eighteenth Edition) by Steven Hook and John Spanier
2. The 9/11 Commission Report – Final Report of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks upon the United States

Other required materials are the following:

1. A notebook in which to take class notes, the larger the better.
2. A binder or other type of folder in which to save supplemental reading materials and other written materials handed out in class.

Grading Policy and General Classroom Expectations and Rules:

1. Your grade for this class will be based on tests, quizzes, essays, projects, class work, class participation, and your Final Exam. I reserve the right to raise your grade in the course for class participation or to lower your grade in the course for a lack of class participation.
2. Come to class prepared to work and having completed any required reading. During class, remain focused on this class, and do not do work for other classes.
3. When you first arrive in the classroom each day, get your notebook out and prepare to take class notes so that you will be prepared to begin work as soon as class begins.

4. In deciding whether to increase your quarter or semester grade for class participation, I may take a number of factors into account in addition to class participation, such as overall classroom behavior, attendance, how well you did on the final exam, and how close your percentage average is to the next higher letter grade.

5. Absences and tardiness will definitely affect your grade. If you are absent, you need to make arrangements with a classmate to find out about assignments and to copy class notes. Any homework not turned in on the day it was due because you were absent will be due the first day you return to class.

6. Make-up tests will be given during regular class periods or during the lunch hour, at the teacher's discretion. A make-up test may not be the same test as was given to the class as a whole. Make-up tests must be taken the first day your return to school after being absent.

7. Make-up quizzes will not be given. At the end of the semester, you will be given a grade on any missed quiz your average grade on all graded work during the semester.

8. Late work will be accepted at half credit the day after it is due. Otherwise, late work will not be accepted.

9. All essays must be typed double-spaced with the proper heading. The heading goes in the right hand corner of all papers. The heading should include your name, period, and the date.

10. I reserve the right to deduct points from your grade for violation of these rules or other poor classroom behavior.

11. I reserve the right to modify or supplement this syllabus at any time, including by oral or written instructions given in the classroom.

Course Goals and Benchmarks

Expectations for student performance will include the following:

1. Acquire detailed factual knowledge about the time period we are studying;
2. Synthesize and analyze historical facts and evidence and produce a cogent written historical analysis;
3. Present formal, oral presentations, which are organized and articulate; and
4. Participate in classroom discussions and activities and take detailed notes during classroom discussions.