

SDC Honors US History Syllabus

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Course overview

- Statewide Dual Credit (SDC) American History is a one-credit, semester-long survey course focusing on the social, cultural, political, economic and military history of America from Post Civil War (1865) to the present (2018).
- **The course fulfills the US History high school graduation requirement**
- **SDC courses are high school courses, created by TN secondary and postsecondary educators, which incorporate college-level learning objectives and have an aligned challenge exam. Students who meet the cut score on the culminating challenge exam earn credit that can be applied to any public postsecondary institution in the state. Students enrolled in the SDC American History course will not take the U.S. History End of Course assessment administered as part of TNReady.**
- **This course is structured to resemble a college class, providing students with a glimpse into how college courses operate. As a result, a significant amount of responsibility falls on you to stay on top of assignments and come to class prepared each day. Due to time constraints, we cannot cover every possible topic that might appear on the challenge exam during class. You are responsible for completing the reading assignments to gain knowledge on topics not covered in class that may appear on the challenge exam or other tests throughout the semester. Class time will focus on exploring broader topics, examining how all the information connects, and understanding how historical eras and events influence future periods.**
- Students in SDC courses will receive 4 points added to their semester averages if they take the Dual Credit Challenge Exam at the end of the semester
- As required by TN law the challenge exam score will be printed on student transcripts.

Honors Courses and National Industry Certification Courses

Local education agencies may choose to offer honors and National Industry Certification (NIC) courses. Honors courses must exceed State Board of Education standards in content, learning expectations, and performance indicators. These courses should incorporate rigorous instruction, encourage independent research, and utilize technology. **We will move at a rapid pace to cover all the material required for the challenge exam**

Honors courses must include multiple forms of assessment, such as essays, portfolios, and performance-based tasks, and at least five of the following:

1. Extended reading assignments linked to the curriculum.
2. Research-based writing assignments that expand on course content.
3. Real-world projects, including community connections.
4. Open-ended investigations designed by students.

5. Writing in various modes, purposes, and styles.
6. Technology integration into coursework.
7. Exploration of the discipline's culture, values, and history.
8. Problem-solving through critical analysis and creativity.
9. Job shadowing with presentations connecting coursework to careers.

Materials needed for class

[online textbook](#)

Computer or Chromebook

Paper

Pencil or pen

Google Classroom

We will also be using Google Classroom this year for assignments and other activities. You must use your school email addresses to access this program. I have provide links to Google Classroom on my teacher website at

<https://bchs.bledsoecountyschools.org/derek-harvey>

We will talk more about Google Classroom in class.

Class Expectations (Non-negotiable)

All expectations and procedures outlined in the BCHS Student Handbook apply to this class.

Respect

- Show respect for ourselves, others, and our classroom.

Curiosity

- Be curious about the world around us and ask questions.

Collaboration

- Work with others to develop our knowledge and understand group roles.

Communication

- Speak to others respectfully and communicate learning and needs.

Open-Mindedness

- Be open-minded to other people's ideas, perspectives, cultures, and beliefs. You don't have to agree, just be respectful of others' opinions.

Class Procedures

- Be in your seat ready to begin class with all supplies, textbook, and school device when the bell rings. The school tardy policy will apply for all tardies. You must begin your BELLRINGER assignment when you enter the classroom.
- **The Tennessee Legislature has adopted a new law prohibiting students from using cell phones during instructional time. Students will be permitted to possess their phones, but they must be put away during the school day except in limited circumstances, all cell phones should be powered off and placed in the holder in the front of the room or in your backpack. (See disciplinary actions section for consequences for violating this procedure)**
- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to complete all missed assignments within 5 days starting the day you return to school.
- Respect others. Bullying and inappropriate language are not allowed.

- Dispose of garbage in a trash can before leaving the classroom.
- Wait until the teacher dismisses you before leaving class.
- Cheating on any test, quiz, or assignment will result in an automatic zero.
- Follow all school rules and the Golden Rule: do unto others (including the teacher) as you would have them do unto you.

Disciplinary Actions

Tardies:

1. Document in Skyward
2. Document in Skyward
3. Document in Skyward, Assign 1 day LD, Parent notified
- 4+. Document in Skyward, Office Referral, Parent notified

Cell Phones:

1. Take up the device and return it at the end of class
2. Lunch Detention, Parent notified
 - Take up the device and send to the office
3. 2 days Lunch Detention, Parent notified
 - Take up the device and send to the office
4. Office referral through Skyward, Parent notified
 - Take up the device and send to the office

Most Other Issues:

1. Warning
2. One day of lunch detention; inform parent their child is on step 2
3. Two days of lunch detention; inform parent their child is on step 3
4. Office referral through Skyward

School Devices

You will need your school-provided Chromebook each day. Please bring it daily as we will do much of our work electronically. Your participation grade will be based on bringing your device to class every day, charged and ready to use. Devices must be used according to the school's Acceptable Use Policy, and all devices must be returned at the end of the year. Students may be responsible for any damage to the devices.

Statewide Dual Credit

Statewide dual credit (SDC) classes are college-level courses taught at the high-school level by trained high-school teachers. All SDC courses culminate in a challenge exam which is used to assess mastery of the postsecondary-level learning objectives. Students who meet or exceed the exam 'cut score' receive college credit that can be applied to any Tennessee public postsecondary institution.

Online Textbook

The SDC American History II text contains Chapters 15 through 30 of *The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U. S. History Textbook* (CC-by SA 4.0) and additional resources to cover the time periods from Reconstruction through the recent past. This is the foundational text for the SDC American History II course. Except where otherwise noted, Statewide Dual Credit American History II is licensed CC-BY SA 4.0.

Link to textbook

<https://www.oercommons.org/courseware/unit/8855/student/362800>

(This link as well as a PDF copy will be available on the Google Classroom for this course)

Daily Reading Assignments

You will be given reading assignments for the upcoming week every Friday. These will also be posted in Google Classroom along with focus questions to help you know what to look for as you read. Be sure to complete the reading before class on the day it is assigned. You will turn in your completed focus questions at the end of each week for a grade. On some days, there will be a short quiz over the reading. You may use your focus questions during these quizzes.

Key Terms

Students will create one note card for each of the 100 key terms and concepts for the class. Students will be given a list of the 100 key terms along with their historical significance. The front of each card should list the term, and the back should include two key facts: a clear definition and why the term is historically important. Beginning Friday, January 16, there will be a weekly quiz over 10 terms. The first 50 note cards are due Friday, January 16, and the final 50 note cards are due Friday, February 13. Students should bring their note cards to class regularly for review and quiz preparation.

Attendance

You can only miss 5 unexcused days and still receive credit for the class. Anyone who arrives to class 10 minutes late or leaves with less than 10 minutes remaining will be counted absent for that class period.

Late Work/Makeup Work

Late work will only be accepted at the discretion of the teacher. You have five days from the day you return to school to make up work if you are absent. You can only make a maximum of a 60 on any work turned in after the five days.

Post Secondary Challenge Exam

The Challenge Exam will consist of two parts (100 points total):

- A. 75 question Multiple Choice portion worth 75 points (1pt. each)
- B. Essay portion. consisting of one essay worth 25 points.

Click of the link to see the possible essay questions prompts for the exam

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eOOgyFy6rUxIMDcGgtLwyy9qNvlyvTUf/view?usp=sharing>

- C. **Cut-Off score:** To receive Dual Credit, a student must obtain a cumulative score of 75/100 points on the Challenge Exam.

The challenge exam will be given sometime in April. Please make plans to be present at school on that day. The test on a converted scale will also count as three assignment grades for the second nine weeks.

Testing Materials: Students will take the Challenge Exam through the Learning Management System D2L. No book, notes, or other written materials are allowed during the Exam. Students must have access to a reliable computer and internet access.

Time Limit: Students will have a total of two (2) hours to complete the entire exam. Students will not be limited in time as to each Part and will be able to access both Parts at the same time. However, once the student exits the Challenge Exam, they will not be allowed to re-enter.

Essays Workshops

Throughout the year we will be working on how to answer history essay questions in class. Each 4 weeks we will have an essay workshop in class that day to practice how to answer history essay questions.

Binders/Notebooks:

You are required to maintain a binder or notebook for this class. It should include the following clearly labeled and organized sections:

1. **Class Syllabus**
2. **Reading Notes**
3. **Bellwork**
4. **Class Notes**
5. **Handouts**
6. **Returned Assignments/Tests** (if completed on paper)

Tests:

After each unit you will have a test. The tests will consist of multiple choice and short answers (identification section). The questions will come from your reading assignment questions and classwork over that unit. The questions will be returned to you before each test with the correct answers indicated so you should study them before each test.

Discussion Board Assignments:

For each unit in this course, there will be a discussion board assignment designed to deepen your understanding of the material through the analysis of primary sources. These assignments will be posted on Google Classroom.

Requirements:

- **Primary Source Analysis:** Each discussion board will include a prompt or question related to a primary source tied to the current unit of study.
- **Comment:** Every student is required to create one detailed and thoughtful comment responding to the prompt.
- **Replies:** Each student must also reply to at least two comments made by their classmates. Replies should be respectful, constructive, and contribute meaningfully to the discussion.

Grading:

- Comments and replies will be assessed based on the depth of analysis, engagement with the material, and adherence to respectful communication guidelines.
- Late participation in the discussion board will not be accepted unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor.

Projects:

There will be one individual research project each semester. The first nine weeks you will conduct an Oral History project where you will interview an individual about their life and their personal memories of a historic era or event. The second nine weeks will be a film review (three to four pages) over a movie that deals with a historical topic or era we cover in class. You will also have a few smaller individual and group projects during the semester. (More details to come)

Grading Scale

Classwork/Homework 30%

Tests 25%

Discussion Boards/Projects 15%

Reading Questions/Quizzes/Key Terms 15% ***Midterm/Final 15%**

*To be exempt from the final exam, a student must have an average of 90% or higher in the class with no more than 5 excused or unexcused absences or no more than 4 unexcused tardies for the class

Tentative Class Schedule

Week One: Introduction to Class, Begin Reconstructing America: 1863-1900 South, West, North

Week Two: Finish Reconstructing America: 1863-1900 South, West, North

Week Three: Industrial Capitalism, Organized Labor, Populism

Week Four: Imperialism and the Progressives
Week Six: America and the World (WWI, 1920s)
Week Seven: 1930s and The Crisis of Capitalism
Week Eight: World War to Cold War (World War II)
Week Nine: Midterm Exams
Week Ten: World War to Cold War (Cold War)
Week Eleven: Second Reconstruction (The Civil Rights Movement)
Week Twelve: 1960s War at Home and Abroad
Weeks Thirteen and Fourteen: SDC Exam Review
Week Fifteen: SDC Exam
Weeks Sixteen and Seventeen: Modern America (1970-present)
Week Eighteen: Final Exam

Please note that this schedule is tentative and therefore is subject to change. Although every effort has been made to ensure that it is as accurate as possible, certain events may force slight changes to the course's schedule. Should a class session be missed [due to inclement weather, sickness, et al] the student is responsible for reading the material assigned for that day.

Tennessee Standards/Course Description Hyperlink

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1iIbi0G1VRgPWHRyJoHF1U2_Is-VnDFna/view

For additional information about the SDC program, please visit the TN Department of Education website link at <https://www.tn.gov/education/early-postsecondary/dual-credit.html>

For additional information about Tennessee's high school policies please see https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/stateboardofeducation/documents/2.103_High_School_Policy_10-20-17.pdf

This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor or as a result of changes to school or system policies.

!! PLEASE RETURN BY FRIDAY JANUARY 9 FOR A 100 GRADE !!

Bledsoe County High School

Mr. Harvey – Class Syllabus Acknowledgment, Cell Phone Policy Agreement & Parent Contact Form

Course: HONORS STATEWIDE DUAL CREDIT US HISTORY

School Year: 2025–2026

Syllabus Acknowledgment

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Please review the class syllabus and the classroom cell phone policy below with your student. Once you have read and discussed these expectations, fill out and sign this form to acknowledge your understanding and provide updated contact information.

I have read and understand the syllabus for Mr. Harvey’s class. I am aware of the classroom expectations, grading policies, and required materials for this course. I understand that if I have any questions or concerns, I may contact Mr. Harvey using the information provided in the syllabus or on this form.

Cell Phone Policy Agreement (NEW Tennessee Law)

Per new legislation from the Tennessee General Assembly, students are prohibited from using cell phones during instructional time. Students may possess their phones, but they must be powered off and stored either:

In the designated classroom holder at the front of the room or inside their backpack (not in pockets or on desks).

Failure to follow this policy will result in the following disciplinary steps:

First Offense:

- Phone is taken and returned at the end of class.

Second Offense:

- Phone is taken and sent to the office.
- Parent notified.
- Lunch detention assigned.

Third Offense:

- Phone is taken and sent to the office.
- Parent notified.
- 2 days lunch detention assigned.

Fourth Offense:

- Phone is taken and sent to the office.
- Parent notified.
- Office referral submitted in Skyward.

By signing below, both the parent/guardian and student acknowledge that they understand and will follow this classroom policy.

Signatures

Student Name (printed): _____

Class Period: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Primary Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: Phone Call Text Message Email Other: _____

Secondary Contact (optional):

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone or Email: _____

Preferred Method of Contact: Phone Call Text Message Email Other: _____