

United States History

Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord. – Psalm 33:12

2023/2024 Syllabus

General Objectives

My main overall goal is to see the students become conversant in U.S. History *from a biblical perspective* so that they can learn to appreciate the blessings of being an American as well as being able to call out past (and present) abuses and injustice in a way that is consistent with the Gospel Narrative and God's Word.

Homework

Students are expected to stay current on chapter reading (CRITICAL), Section Quizzes, and Student Activity assignments.

Homework should be completed with minimal parental input.

Student Activities available via Canvas & Section Reviews are in the textbook.

Testing

There are 27-chapter tests in the BJU curriculum (we will only use 13 or 14), but no mid-term or final test. Tests consist of multiple choice, short answer, true/false, and 1-3 essay questions. ALL tests will be taken AT HOME and will be open book. I have decided to promote students *engaging* in the material rather than just *cramming* to pass a test.

Grades

- Chapter Tests = 60% of the final grade
- Section Quizzes & Student Activities = 30% of the final grade
- Class Participation = 10% of the final grade

I will probably give 3-5 extra-credit assignments throughout the school year. Some examples are:

- Write a short paper critiquing Critical Race Theory
- Attend a fieldtrip to a historical location
- Watch a fact-based historical movie and write a review
- Engage with a breaking news story (written paper) that pertains to U.S. History or a current event that has historical significance (like Covid, for example)

I usually give anywhere from 10-20 extra-credit points per assignment which get added to the overall test scores.

Textbook: United States History (5th Edition) by Joseph Jarrell, BJU Press, Greenville SC.

Detailed Class Schedule

Week of 8/14 INTRO + Chapter 1: New and Old Worlds Meet

Homework due before class:

- ✓ Read Chapter 1

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Start Ch. 1 Section Quizzes
- ✓ Start Activity: Map Study (Explorations)

Week of 8/21 Chapter 1 (cont'd)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Student Activity
- ✓ Test (OPEN BOOK)
- ✓ Read Chapter 2

Week of 8/28 Chapter 2: Thirteen Colonies

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Start Ch. 2 Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Read Mayflower Compact & Preamble (Fundamental Orders of Connecticut)
- ✓ PRINT and bring both to class!

Week of 9/4 Chapter 2 (cont'd)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: One paragraph on each reading—Your reactions!
- ✓ Read Chapter 3

Week of 9/11 Chapter 3: Colonial Life

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Activity: The Middle Passage
- ✓ Test (OPEN BOOK)
- ✓ Begin reading Ch. 4

Week of 9/18 Chapter 4: Religion in the American Colonies

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Complete reading of Ch. 4
- ✓ Start Ch. 4 Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Read “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God”

Week of 9/25 Chapter 4 (cont'd)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Reactions to the reading (positives and negatives); 2 paragraphs.
- ✓ Read Ch. 5

Week of 10/2 Chapter 5: The Rising Storm (1689-1770)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Eyewitnesses to the Boston Massacre
- ✓ Test (OPEN BOOK)
- ✓ Begin reading Ch. 6

Week of 10/9 Chapter 6: Independence (1770-1783)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Start Section Quizzes
- ✓ Finish reading Ch. 6
- ✓ Begin Activity: Patrick Henry (Liberty or Death), Common Sense (excerpts), Declaration of Independence

Week of 10/16 FALL BREAK

Week of 10/23 Chapter 6 (cont'd)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: 1 paragraph on each document
- ✓ Read Ch. 7

Week of 10/30 Chapter 7: The Critical Period (1781-1789)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Map Study - Northwest Territory
- ✓ Test (OPEN BOOK)
- ✓ Read Ch. 8

Week of 11/6 Chapter 8: The Federalist Years (1789-1801)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Washington's Farewell Address
- ✓ Test (OPEN BOOK)
- ✓ Read Ch. 9

Week of 11/13 Chapter 9: The Jeffersonian Era (1801-1825)

Homework due NEXT week (after Thanksgiving):

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Judicial Review
- ✓ Read Ch. 10

Week of 11/20 THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week of 11/27 Chapter 10: The Age of Jackson (1820-1840)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Crossword Puzzle
- ✓ Read Ch. 11

Week of 12/4 Chapter 11: The Growth of American Society (1789-1861)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Section Quizzes
- ✓ Activity: Several on Canvas

Week of 12/11 Chapter 12: Manifest Destiny

Homework due DURING OR AFTER Christmas Break:

- ✓ Read Ch. 13
- ✓ Ch. 12 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 12 Activity 4

Weeks of 12/18 - 1/7 CHRISTMAS BREAK!

Week of 1/8 Chapter 13: A House Dividing

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Start Reading Ch. 14 (2 classes)
- ✓ Ch. 13 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 13 Activity 3

Week of 1/15 Chapter 14: The Civil War (Part 1)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Complete Reading of Ch. 14
- ✓ Work on Ch. 14 Section Reviews
- ✓ Work on Ch. 14 Activities (3 & 6)

Week of 1/22 Chapter 14: The Civil War (Part 2)

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 15
- ✓ Ch. 14 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 14 Activities (3 & 6)
- ✓ Ch. 14 Test (Open Book)

Week of 1/29 Chapter 15: Reconstruction

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 16
- ✓ Ch. 15 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 15 Activities (4 & 5)

Week of 2/5 Chapter 16: The Gilded Age

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 17
- ✓ Ch. 16 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 16 Test (Open Book)

Week of 2/12 Chapter 17: America Expands

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read. Ch. 18
- ✓ Ch. 17 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 17 Activities 2 & 3

Week of 2/19 Chapter 18: The Progressive Era

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 19
- ✓ Ch. 18 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 18 Test (Open Book)
- ✓ Bring to class AFTER Spring Break!

Week of 2/26 Chapter 19: The Great War

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 20
- ✓ Ch. 19 Activities 2, 3, 4
- ✓ NO Section Reviews Due

Week of 3/4 SPRING BREAK

Week of 3/11 Chapter 20: The Twenties

Homework Due NEXT Week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 21
- ✓ Ch. 20 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 20 Activity 3

Week of 3/18 Chapter 21: The Thirties

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 22
- ✓ Ch. 21 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 21 Activity 4
- ✓ Ch. 21 Test (Open Book)

Week of 3/25 Chapter 22: The World at War

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 23
- ✓ Ch. 22 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 22 Activities 1, 3, 4

Week of 4/1 Chapter 23: The Postwar Era

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 24
- ✓ Ch. 23 Activity 4
- ✓ Ch. 23 Test (Open Book)

Week of 4/8 Chapter 24: The Shattered Society

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 25
- ✓ Ch. 24 Activities 1, 3, 5

Week of 4/15 Chapter 25: A Nation with Challenges

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 26
- ✓ Ch. 25 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 25 Test (Open Book)

Week of 4/22 Chapter 26: Resurgence and Conservatism

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Read Ch. 27
- ✓ Ch. 26 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 26 Activities 1, 2

Week of 4/29 Chapter 27: Facing a New Millennium

Homework due NEXT week:

- ✓ Ch. 27 Section Reviews
- ✓ Ch. 27 Activities 1, 3

Week of 5/6 **FINAL CLASS: Your Place in History**

- ✓ Looking back What have you learned?
- ✓ Considering today What is America to you?
- ✓ Forging ahead What does the future hold? What is your place in it?