

Magnet Extended Learning Program – United States History

Course Disclosure 2017 - 2018

Clayton Middle School
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Course Description

The Magnet Extended Learning Program (MELP) United States History is designed for students enrolled for their high academic ability. In addition to the state curriculum and district performance requirements, extended learning and enrichment activities will be explored. Using reading, writing, and inquiry students work to identify the patterns of change and compromise throughout United States history from exploration through Reconstruction.

Course Goals and Objectives

- Our students will improve their practice of communications which includes reading skills, the writing process, literary excerpts, listening and speaking skills.
- Our students will learn and practice reading and writing strategies, particularly as they apply in Historical writing.
- Our students will study the history of our United States and through historical perspective understand how our past events influence today and our future.
- MELP students are required to participate in the Utah History Day Fair in January.
- Utah State Office of Education has developed a Core Curriculum which outlines specific standards for student learning. The Core curriculum includes ideas, concepts, and skills which provide a foundation on which subsequent learning may be built. For additional information in content areas see: State Core link United States History at: <http://www.slcschools.org/>

Course Materials

- *Call To Freedom*; Sterling Stuckey, Linda Kerrigan Salvucci; ISBN 0-03-052457-1
- Various reading materials – novels. MELP students are enrolled in an accelerated 8th grade Language Arts class which has assigned readings as well as student selected choices. Students should always have a reading book to access if time permits during class.
- Various reading materials – extensions. We will be using various texts from American History to enrich our understanding of themes, concepts, patterns, and expand the depth and breadth of units instructed.
- If books are lent to student, they are responsible for returning novels and textbooks with the numbers assigned to them. Returning a book of a different number will not be accepted. All lost books will be paid for in the office before a student can be assigned another book. Students may also purchase another copy of the lost book and bring it to class as a replacement. Special arrangements can be made through communicating with the teacher.

Format and Procedures

- Our class work will regularly use small and large group discussions, questioning methods, inquiry, presentations and the like.
- It is our expectation that students will keep up with assignments and homework. It is the student's responsibility to record assignments and homework in their planner each day. There will be some homework each day. It is the student's responsibility to finish class work at home when necessary. Completing class work and homework will help the students to improve their readiness for subsequent learning. This is integral for building student success.
- Often students will have reading assignments to complete at home. These assignments are connected to classroom content and instruction.
- Vocabulary quizzes on _____.
- Current events assignments will be due every _____.
- Students are required to have the following supplies in class everyday:
 - Lined paper
 - One Subject Notebook
 - Student planner
 - Pencils, pens, highlighters
 - Student selected novel (independent reading book) and/or class novel
 - Atlas – returning 8th graders should have one, new students will receive one from teacher
 - Flash drive or access to an email account

Course Requirements

- All class members shall work to create a positive learning environment. Appropriate classroom behavior is critical to effective learning. Any behavior that prevents learning is considered inappropriate.
- Daily attendance is most helpful to successful learning. Due to the interactive nature of the class, there are some tasks that cannot be made up. Regular attendance, therefore, is strongly encouraged. When that is not possible each student should have a student from their class they can confer with to keep up with the lessons from the period of their absence. For long absences please contact the counselors to have assignment make-up and late testing arranged.
- Work submitted by each student should reflect their best individual work efforts. While parental guidance is appreciated, the best assessment of growth in content, processes, and skills can be seen in the student’s own efforts.
- Homework happens often in MELP. It is expected to be turned in promptly.
- Plagiarism is not allowed. Those who plagiarize will receive a zero and an opportunity to resubmit another edit, receiving late credit. Second offenders of plagiarism will not be allowed resubmission, the assignment will have a final score of zero, and a meeting with parents and administration will be scheduled.
- Students who cheat will receive a zero on the assignment. If a student is caught cheating a second time, a meeting with parents will be scheduled. Any subsequent cheating will include student, parent, teacher, and school administration.

Grading

- Assignments past their due date will have a zero in the computer grading program (Power School). Assignments with zeros but marked ‘missing’ may be made up for partial credit, not exceeding a B.
- Late work will be due every midterm and end-of-term. Assignments past the due date, with a score of zero, can’t be made up.
- Some assignments will not be accepted late. Such assignments will be written in ALL CAPITALS in Power School, clearly stated to the students, and written in the student planner.
- Citizenship is evaluated against the expectations stated in class, the student planner and school policies. The citizenship grade may not be the same in both classes.
- Power School is the district grade access system. Please use your pin number, when it becomes available, to frequently monitor the progress of your student. Grades for your student in this class will be recorded in the **United States History 5th period**.

Tentative Course Schedule

We will follow the chronology of United States history. Please see the school calendar for grading periods.

Disclosure Signatures

- Please sign the last page. Keep this document for home and only return the signature page to your MELP teacher.

Notes

Mrs. Perry, MELP US History, Disclosure Document

Printed Name of Parent

Email address of Parent

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Printed Name of Student

Student Signature

Date

Student Email Address (needed for cmsmelp.wikispaces.com)

Questions

Tell me something about your student that I don't yet know and would be helpful to both of us.

