

# Expectations

## United States History and Government 2019-20

Please read the standards and expectations carefully with your 11<sup>th</sup> grader. They should be able to answer any questions you may have, but if they can't, please e-mail me at [burdb@prattsburghcsd.org](mailto:burdb@prattsburghcsd.org) or feel free to contact me at 522-3795. If I cannot come to the phone, please leave me a message and I will return your call as soon as possible.

I look forward to working with you and your student this year.

### Primary Goals:

- Develop an appreciation and understanding of American History and how it affects us now both as a nation and personally
- Develop a working knowledge of American geography and its inherent effects on historical events (*Geographical Determinism*)
- Pass the regents exam with a satisfactory score
- To learn and apply basic research techniques
- To read, write and discuss higher level concepts clearly

### Resources:

- Textbook and resources (as provided)
- Video/movies
- Primary sources (i.e. contemporary art forms as music, architecture, literature etc.)
- Secondary sources- as provided
- Class discussion
- Internet/Library

### Evaluation:

Students will have both reading and writing assignments supportive of the revised New York State social studies and language arts standards. It is imperative that these assignments are read or written in a timely fashion. The grading system will be based on the following:

Tests/quizzes	45%
Homework/Projects	40%
Attendance/Class participation	15%

- Homework-when collected and graded (at the instructor's discretion) will count from one to three times depending on amount of work assigned
- Homework- when not done or done to a minimum level will count as a zero for grading purposes equal to the weight if graded
- Special projects weighted as announced
- Class participation: You are expected to actively participate in class discussions, to ask questions as needed and be part of class interaction.
- I am open to extra credit work *only if agreed to in advance*. **No such credit will be accepted within three days of the end of a marking period and students cannot receive extra credit if they are not turning their assignments in regularly. Do not ask for exceptions.**

## **Behavioral Expectations:**

-You will come prepared with your computer, notebook, appropriate text, completed homework, writing utensil, and you will be on time. Failure to meet these basic demands will result in a grade recorded of *zero* for that day's work. Further lack of preparation will demand parent involvement and possible detention at teacher's discretion.

-No cell phones during scheduled class times unless approved by the instructor.

-Clothing will be appropriate and in good taste. This includes wording, graphics and allusions to any subject or action in bad taste, profane or disruptive to the learning process.

### **(Behavioral Expectations Continues)**

**\*\*\*Ethical Issues/Plagiarism: Taking credit for someone else's work is a serious breach of academics and Federal Law. Each student will be taught the exact meaning of Plagiarism and any violation of that expectation will mean an immediate zero in the assignment This includes homework, tests and any papers handed in for any assignment**

*-Behavioral expectations in this class can be summed up in one word.... **RESPECT**.. Respect for the room, its contents, the teacher, and each other, and, most of all, -yourself..*

We all want a classroom that runs smoothly and safely and which promotes learning. That is why we will be following these basic rules...

1. We will follow the rules found in the student handbook.
2. We will treat everyone and everything with respect.
3. We will **take responsibility** for our learning and behavior.
4. We will come to class prepared.
5. We will make sure not to disturb the class or classmates by inappropriate talking or actions.
6. Make certain that the work that you hand in is your own. *Cheating will not be tolerated!!!*

We will be following the discipline code procedure in handling the breaking of any of these rules.

## **Academic Assistance:\*\*\***

It is my personal goal to insure the success of every one of my students in this class. To this end, I am available a number of times during the school day. I usually arrive between 7-7:30 a.m. and I am willing to stay after school most days. I also have a few scheduled periods where I can be available during the regular school day (4th and 7th) as well as lunch 5th.

Contact me with any difficulties that may hinder your chances for success in this class. But remember, it is your responsibility to arrange such extra help and to communicate your needs with me in a timely fashion. The night before a major test is not going to be effective. Without a consistent effort on your part, there is little I can do.

Sincerely,  
Mr. Burd