



## US Civil Rights and Current Events Syllabus CHS Social Studies Department

Contact Information: Parents may contact either of us by phone, email, or scheduling an appointment and visiting CHS.

Teachers: Mrs. Barbara Coulter and Mr. Travis Keirns

Email Addresses: barbara.coulter@ccsd.us or travis.keirns@ccsd.us

Phone Number: (740) 702-2287 ext.16256 (Mrs. Coulter) or 16259 (Mr. Keirns)

CHS Online: <http://www.ccsd.us/1/Home>

### Digital Connections:

- A variety of options exist for staying connected with your instructors and informed about your course: this course is unique because you will have two instructors.
  - Google Classroom: mpjrw
  - REMIND: text @USCRCE1920 to 81010
  - If you have trouble using 81010? Try texting @USCRCE1920 to (440) 328-4562.
    - Make sure to ASK for help if you cannot get this to work!
    - Parents are also encouraged to join REMIND
    - Signing up via email is also an option:
    - Send an email to: [USCRCE1920@mail.remind.com](mailto:USCRCE1920@mail.remind.com)

**CCSD Vision Statement:** The Chillicothe City School District will provide tomorrow's leaders with a high-quality education by developing high expectations and positive personal relationships among students, staff, and community members.

**CCSD Mission Statement:** The Chillicothe City School District empowers students to learn, to lead, and to serve.

### **Course Description and Prerequisite(s) from Course Handbook:**

**The History of US Civil Rights/Current Events - 235**

**State Course #:** 159999

**Prerequisite:** None

**Elective Course**

**Grade:** 9-12

**Graded Conventionally**

**Credit:** ½

**Course Description:**

This course has two components – The History of U.S. Civil Rights and U.S. Current Events – each of which will meet for nine weeks.

**Civil Rights History:** This class will examine Civil Rights History in the United States from the beginning of settlement through the 21st Century. It will study a variety of groups who have fought for civil rights in the US and will cover major events of this period. The course will include a variety of active learning activities and selected reading and research projects will be required. This will be combined with US Current Events.

**Current Events:** The goal of a current events course is for the student to become aware of the major issues of the day and to have an in depth understanding and appreciation of current events. Students will utilize the skills of Thinking and Writing Like Historians; and the focus of the class will be issues that affect the students lives today and as adults. The class will follow daily news events and will be expected to understand the social, political and economic issues on a daily basis. Each week, the class will focus on the historical development of a current issue. Students will identify and discuss the connections between current events and history, enhance the student's understanding of world events, and become informed citizens. This Current Events course focuses on US events.

**Learning Targets:** The Big Ideas and Essential Questions allow you to know the expectations for demonstrating your understanding of content and concepts.

Students will switch instructors at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

- 1<sup>st</sup> Half of Quarter or 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Quarter

- Unit 1: Think and Read Like an Historian and The Founding Documents
- Big Idea #1: I can think, read, and write like an historian (REVIEW)
  - Essential Question #1: How do historians read, write, and think?
  - Essential Question #2: What are the historical thinking skills (HTS) that historians must develop and use?
  - Essential Question #3: What are important civil rights topics in the US?
  - Essential Question #4: On what people and events will this course focus?  
(may change each quarter)
- Unit 2: What are Civil Rights?
- Big Idea #1: Big Idea #3: I can create/identify when Americans started being concerned about Civil Rights and create a timeline of important civil rights events
  - Essential Question #1: What are "civil rights"?
  - Essential Question #2: When did Americans start to develop an awareness of human rights and the expectation for civil rights?
  - Essential Question #3: What events are demonstrations of a lack of civil rights and a development of movements that worked to insure civil rights for all?
- Big Idea #2: I can discuss the importance of the struggle and people who worked to gain Civil Rights
  - Essential Question #1: Who were important civil rights activists and for which movement and/or group did they strive to increase rights?
  - Essential Question #2: What are the causes and effects of the continuities and change(s) in civil rights over time?
  - Essential Question #3: Identify a civil rights movement about which you have a

connection and want to learn more.

- Big Idea #3: I can conduct research, create a presentation, and share information with peers
  - Essential Question #1: About which periodization and topic would you like to know more?
  - Essential Question #2: What is your focus question?
  - Essential Question #3: What strategies can you use to evaluate your progress on the topic of your choice?
  - Essential Question #4: How will you present and evaluate your finished product?

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Half of Quarter or 1<sup>st</sup> Half of Quarter

- Unit 3: U.S. Foreign and Domestic Policy
  - Big Idea #1: I can think, read, and write like an informed citizen
    - Essential Question #1: What are the methods to evaluate credibility of news
    - Essential Question #2: What news sources should citizens use (teen focused resources?)
    - Essential Question #3: What are the topics on which this course will focus?  
(may change each quarter)
  - Big Idea #2: I can identify and explain major domestic policy issues in the U.S. today.
    - Essential Question #1: What current issues involve racism or discrimination policies. How is the U.S. addressing these issues?
    - Essential Question #2: What current issues involve LGBTQ issues? How is the U.S. addressing these issues?
    - Essential Question #3: What current issues involve other domestic issues in the U.S.? How is the U.S. addressing these issues?
  - Big Idea #3: I can identify and explain major foreign policy issues in the U.S. today.
    - Essential Question #1: What current issues involve our military or military interventions around the world? How is the U.S. addressing these issues?
    - Essential Question #2: What current issues involve immigration policies? How is the U.S. addressing these issues?
    - Essential Question #3: What other foreign policy issues currently exist? How is the U.S. addressing these issues?
- Unit 4 Title: U.S. Role in the World
  - Big Idea #1: I can explain the current issues involved in U.S. immigration policy.
    - Essential Question #1: What factors lead people to immigrate to the U.S.? What positives and negatives come from that immigration?
    - Essential Question #2: How does immigration and U.S. immigration policy affect the economy?
    - Essential Question #3: How is the U.S. trying to balance security and its history of immigration?
  - Big Idea #2: I can describe the U.S. response to terrorism.
    - Essential Question #1: What steps has the U.S. taken to prevent terrorism?
    - Essential Question #2: What current threats does the U.S. face today?
    - Essential Question #3: How is the U.S. attempting to balance the protections of citizens and the rights of citizens?
  - Big Idea #3: I can identify a current U.S. policy issue, propose appropriate solutions and assess the positive and negative results of the proposed plan.
    - Essential Question #1: What is a U.S. policy issue that needs to be addressed?

- ❑ Essential Question #2: How has civil debate been used or unused to address this issue?
- ❑ Essential Question #3: How could this issue be addressed? What are the possible outcomes, both positive and negative?
- END OF COURSE EXAM

This end of course exam will be a reflective, student directed research project. Details will be provided two weeks prior to the end of the semester.

#### Course Materials:

- Google Chromebook
- There is not a textbook for this course: readings will be conducted online or via printed copies of articles.

#### Electronic Resources:

- There are multiple websites and digital resources that will be utilized in this course: those linked here are just a beginning point.
- Google Classroom will serve as a launch point for this course
- [Introduction - A brief history of Civil Rights](#)
- [A Timeline for the Struggle for Equal Rights](#)
- [Indivisible](#)

As new opportunities/resources are added to the internet this list will be edited.

- Digital Review:      KAHOOT!                      Quizlet                      GimKit  
                                    Quizizz

#### Course Expectations:

- Google Chromebook you were issued one at the beginning of the school year: you are to utilize this for educational purposes: complete your assignments and recharge it daily. We use the chromebook daily in this course.
- Technology: a variety of technology apps/resources will be utilized: be sure to store your login/password information in a variety of locations for easy access.
- Successful completion of American History requires approximately one-two hours of individual study time per week.
- Homework may be assigned on holidays, long-weekends, snow days {if they become numerous}, and breaks (COTA Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, or Winter Break).
- Students will Check grades on Progressbook often to ensure that all assignments have been submitted, graded, and recorded accurately.

If you do not know your user name/password for Progressbook, email Mrs. Smith [Kathy.Smith@ccsd.us](mailto:Kathy.Smith@ccsd.us) and politely ask her to reset your account.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR PROGRESSBOOK PASSWORD?

DO YOUR PARENTS KNOW THAT THEIR PASSWORD IS DIFFERENT?

- Students will complete all assignments on time and participate in

classroom activities and discussions as outlined on the course syllabus and as assigned by the course instructors.

◆ If you do not keep up with assignments and collect more than five missing assignments SHARP will be assigned.

→ Students will maintain a course notebook/folder, to better facilitate learning experiences in the classroom and your ability to prepare for the end of course exam. Organization is a key tool to success in high school and in this course.

★ My responsibilities, as your teacher, include teaching and enforcing the rules; instruction of the course objectives; assessment of the course objectives; evaluation of daily work; and providing a positive learning environment. The course instructors may adjust pacing and content as necessary for students within their course.

★ All student rules and regulations in our [student handbook](#) will be enforced daily: this includes but isn't limited to dress-code, attendance, hall passes, etc.

In addition, these are the classroom rules:

- ★ You are to be in the room, your phone in the phone caddy, and in your assigned seat ready to begin the class activities when the bell rings. Pencils should be sharpened prior to class. Begin your class bellringer immediately by writing/typing in the BI/EQ of focus, the type of activity, and type in the prompt.  
{We will explain it and then you will have time to answer}
- ★ BRING your notebook, class supplies (i.e. pencils, pens, etc.), Chromebook, and homework to class **each day**.
- ★ Add the Civil Rights and Current Issues Google Calendar to your calendars (I will show you how) so that you know when assignments are due and when tests will be administered.
- ★ Electronic Devices [Cell Phones, iPads, Kindles, etc.] are to be turned off, placed in the phone caddy, and out of sight when class begins. Phones must be in the phone caddy: electronic devices may be used ONLY with teacher permission. Use of electronic devices is at the discretion of the instructor: do not utilize your Chromebook during non-authorized times: only use it as an educational tool.
- ★ Always charge your Chromebook overnight to arrive at school prepared to use it during all daily coursework.
- ★ To keep the aisles clear, book bags will be stored under your table/desk, out of the aisles. During testing all personal items (backpacks, purses, etc) will be placed on the front wall of the classroom.
- ★ **When you miss class, find out what we did!** A study partner is a good idea!
  - You are responsible for your missed assignments! Locate and use a student planner (digital) or add a Google Calendar on which you can keep track of tasks. The big assignments will be posted on our course's Google Calendar.
- ★ Only clear bottled water is permitted: unless the purchase is from the Cavalier Cafe. Cavalier Cafe may not be ordered on testing days
- ★ Profanity, obscenities, gestures, or unkind words will not be tolerated.
  - Act polite, mature, and respectful to all in our classroom: it will avoid many problems!
- ★ Listen when others are talking: talk when it is your turn

- ★ Passes out of class will only be given to students who do not abuse this privilege: in cases of an emergency you may ask to use the restroom: except on days when we have a Guest Teacher. No passes will be permitted on those days.
- ★ Class will not be dismissed early: do not line up at the door: wait for your instructor to dismiss the class – this will follow the dismissal bell.
- ★ If a Guest Teacher is present, your cooperation is expected.  
Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.

### **Grading:**

Unit Exams	50%
Assessments (Including: Quizzes, Essays, Labs, and Projects)	30%
Class work/Homework	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Each nine week's grade comprises 40% of a student's final grade.</li> <li>● The End of Course Exam comprises 20% of a student's final grade.</li> </ul>	

### **Grading Scale:**

The grading scale for Chillicothe High School can be found in the student handbook or online at [CHS Student Handbook](#).

**Late Work:** All late work will be subject to the CCSD Board of Education's adopted policy on assignments that are submitted late (to be reviewed in class).

- Regardless of the absence type (excused, unexcused, OSS, etc.), students are expected to make up work and to be held accountable for learning all material they missed. (saying, "I was gone" isn't excusing the completion of the assignment)
- Any student who is absent from school will receive one (1) additional day for every day he/she missed to make up his/her work for full credit (100%).
- Any student who exceeds the allotted time to turn in an assignment for full credit may still submit work late for partial credit.
  - Any student who turns in work up to 1 week late must at least be given the opportunity to earn 75% on that assignment.
  - Any student who turns in work between 1 and 2 weeks late must at least be given the opportunity to earn 60% on that assignment.
- The end of the 9 weeks is the cut off point for teachers to accept late work from students for full or partial credit unless the teacher decides to give the student an incomplete for the 9 weeks due to extenuating circumstances.

## CHS Civil Rights/Current Issues in the United States Course Syllabus

After you have reviewed the preceding information/packet of information with your parent(s) or guardian(s), please sign this sheet and return it to me so that I can verify you understand what I expect out of each and every one of my students by **Friday, August 23, 2019**

Student Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number and time for contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Best email to use for parent contact: \_\_\_\_\_

It is expected that you will follow CHS Building Rules at all times...many of those are included in the following set of behavior guidelines. Students will adhere to the classroom teacher's rules that include:

All student rules and regulations in our student handbook will be enforced daily: this includes but isn't limited to dress-code, attendance, hall passes, etc. In addition, these are the classroom rules:

- ⇒ You are to be in the room, your phone in the phone caddy, and in your assigned seat ready to begin the class activities when the bell rings. Pencils should be sharpened prior to class. Begin your class bellringer immediately by writing/typing in the BI/EQ of focus, the type of activity, and type in the prompt. (I will explain it and then you will have time to answer)
- ⇒ BRING your notebook, class supplies (i.e. pencils, pens, etc.), Chromebook, and homework to class each day.
- ⇒ Add the United States History Google Calendar to your calendars (I will show you how) so that you know when assignments are due and when tests will be administered.
- ⇒ Electronic Devices [Cell Phones, iPads, Kindles, etc.] are to be turned off, placed in the phone caddy, and out of sight when class begins. Phones must be in the phone caddy: electronic devices may be used **ONLY** with teacher permission. Use of electronic devices is at the discretion of the instructor: do not utilize your Chromebook during non-authorized times: only use it as an educational tool.
- ⇒ Always charge your Chromebook overnight to arrive at school prepared to use it during all daily coursework.
- ⇒ To keep the aisles clear, book bags will be stored under your table, out of the aisles. During testing all personal items (backpacks, purses, etc) will be placed on the front wall of the classroom.
- ⇒ When you miss class, find out what we did! A study partner is a good idea!
  - You are responsible for your missed assignments! Locate and use a student planner (digital) or add a Google Calendar on which you can keep track of tasks. The big assignments will be posted on our course's Google Calendar.
- ⇒ Only clear bottled water is permitted: unless the purchase is from the Cavalier Cafe.  
Cavalier Cafe **may not be ordered on testing days**
- ⇒ Profanity, obscenities, gestures, or unkind words will not be tolerated.
- ⇒ Act polite, mature, and respectful to all in our classroom: it will avoid many problems!
- ⇒ Listen when others are talking: talk when it is your turn
- ⇒ Passes out of class will only be given to students who do not abuse this privilege: in cases of an emergency you may ask to use the restroom: except on days when we have a Guest Teacher. No passes will be permitted on those days.
- ⇒ Class will not be dismissed early: do not line up at the door: wait for your instructor to dismiss the class – this will follow the dismissal bell.
- ⇒ If a Guest Teacher is present, your cooperation is expected. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.  
Course Supplies: please check supply levels and replenish as needed throughout the year.
- ⇒ 1 – 2 pocket folder or 3 ring binder      ⇒ two - black or blue ink pens      ⇒ a box of Kleenex
- ⇒ loose-leaf notebook paper              ⇒ highlighters (optional)              ⇒ ten (10) - #2 pencils
- ⇒ Earbuds to use with Chromebook (bluetooth work)