

# Syllabus: PSO US History

Mansfield Christian High School

2013-2014

Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Col. 2:3

**Teacher:** Mr. Peyton

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**Texts:** *The American Promise* by Roark, et. al.; supplementary readings, books, and articles; and the Holy Bible.

## Course Summary:

From the NCSC Master Syllabus: "This American Studies course is an introductory survey course covering the development of American politics, law, religion, philosophy, art and literature from [1600 to the present]. The goal of the course is to help students understand the cultural maturity of the United States especially in relation to its religion, art, philosophy, law, and political system."

## Expectations:

The 2013-2014 MCS Academic Handbook states, "taking PSO classes is a privilege that is earned and requires hard work to maintain." There will be a substantial amount of reading involved, for which students will be held accountable by way of quizzes, study questions, and lists of key terms to be expanded on. Additionally, there are increased responsibilities for the parent. For a detailed explanation of the PSO program and its requirements, rules, and procedures, please refer to the Academic Handbook available via the school website.

## Grades:

There are only two grading periods (two semesters) for this course, as it corresponds to the North Central State College academic calendar. Grades for each semester will consist of:

- Exams: 45% (3 total, worth 15% each, about every 5 chapters)
- Quizzes: 25% (around 15, usually unannounced, to incentivize keeping up with the reading)
- A Short Paper: 15% (from a list of topics, or one of your own interest with my permission)
- Participation: 15% (usually during class discussions of material)

### NCSC Grading Scale

A	100-95	(4.0)	➤	C*	79-77	(2.0)
A-	94-92	(3.67)		C-	76-74	(1.67)
B+	91-89	(3.33)		D+	73-71	(1.33)
B	88-86	(3.00)		D	70-68	(1.0)
B-	85-83	(2.67)		D-	67-65	(0.67)
C+	82-80	(2.33)		F	64-Below	(0.00)

- Per the MCS Academic Handbook, "Students in the PSO program must maintain a 2.0 (C) cumulative average in all college (PSO) classes to continue in the program. If a student's cumulative average drops below 2.0, the student will be dropped from the program. This rule is made by the college. Parents are asked to support this policy and not challenge these college administrative policies."

**Topics:** Students will study American History within a topic outline set forth by NCSC:

*First Semester*

- Diverse historical interpretations.
- Historical concepts, methodologies and approaches.
- The European exploration of America.
- The influence of English culture on the colonies.
- The influence of religion and philosophy on the colonies.
- The philosophical foundation of the American Revolution.
- The essential elements of the U.S. Constitution
- The development of American art, literature, and religion in the 19th century.
- The influence of Manifest Destiny and the Monroe Doctrine.
- The impact of Unitarianism, transcendentalism, and abolitionism on the advent of the Civil War.
- The causes, course, and results of the Civil War.
- The cultural and political influence of the Civil War on American Life.

*Second Semester*

- The cultural, political, and economic results of the Civil War.
- The cultural, political, and economic aspects of the Progressive Era and the Roaring Twenties.
- The causes and the results of the Great Depression.
- The causes and the results of America's entry into the Second World War.
- The philosophical, cultural, literary, political, artistic, and legal events during the Cold War.
- The philosophical, literary, political, and artistic influence of the counter-culture on American life.
- The philosophical, cultural, literary, political, artistic, and legal events during the post-Cold War Era.

***"Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish my purpose.'" - Isaiah 46:8-10***