**Ms. Kramer**

**American History**

**Montford Middle School**

**2011-2012**

[kramers@leonschools.net](mailto:kramers@leonschools.net) **Syllabus**

**Overview:**

This class is a survey course of the beginning of history of the United States. This class will present a prominent focus on early pre-historic America leading up to Reconstruction. Various reading and writing skills will be acquired to prepare the student for the FCAT content reading/writing.

**Text**:

Davidson, James West and Michael B. Stoff. The American Nation. Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, 2005.

* CDs will be assigned as the take home book. (Replacement fee- $5)
* If a book needs to be taken home for a night, students are welcome to come after

6th period to borrow a class set book and return 1st thing in the morning before school.

**Rules:**

1. Be on time.
2. Be prepared: come with paper, pencils, and notebook every day.
3. Bring an open mind. (Be willing to LISTEN and consider the ideas of others)
4. No gum, candy, food, or drink is allowed in the classroom.
5. Respect people and property.
6. Cheating will not be tolerated. (this includes plagiarism and not citing used sources)

**Procedures:**

1. Passes will be issued for emergencies only. Please use your SIX minutes between class for your restroom and locker needs.
2. Projects will be accepted with one letter grade off for each day it is late. Homework will not be accepted late. (see next page)
3. If missed class, look on Edline (class wikispace) website calendar prior to return to class.
4. Look at board each day for plan for the day, start working on bellringer/ warmup upon arrival before the bell, copy down any homework or important dates in a planner.

**Consequences:**

1. Warning
2. Call home, parent signed detention, and/or writing sentences
3. Sent to office/ Referral
4. Suspension

**Materials:**

3 subject spiral notebook (warm ups/notes/history fair), colored pencils, pen, pencil, highlighters.

**Grading:** The percentage scale reflects the districts scale:

90-100- A Unit tests: 100 points

80-89- B Notebook checks: 100 points

70-79- C Mini projects: 20-50 points

60-69- D Chapter quizzes: 50 points

0-59- F Homework: 10 points (can’t turn in late!!)

Classwork collected: 10 points

History Fair (final product): 200 points

\*\*Assessments are weighted 70% of the total grade.

If a grade is entered as ‘**mi**’ in the gradebook, students can make it up for a penalty (see below for details). If a grade is entered in as a ‘**0**’ a student cannot make it up. If the grade is ‘**ab**’ they were absent and students have the same amount of days absent to make up the work (district policy)

**Late Work**:

Homework is ***not*** accepted late. Projects will be taken late, but everyday a project is late is a letter grade off. Tests will be made up Mondays before school. You have to come the next Monday after you have been absent. If you need to arrange another time to make up work or test, you have to approach me at a reasonable time (or email me). If the test is not made up 2 Mondays after the absence, it will become a zero.

**History Fair:**

It is mandatory to do history fair. Topics/groups can be chosen by the student, with approval from the teacher. This is a huge research activity that will encourage the students to research an area/aspect of history that the student is interested in. Proper citing techniques (MLA Style) will be used as well as productive researching methods. Initial grades will be given, but student will be given a chance to improve their grade by correcting mistakes and overall improvement until Wednesday January 25th, when the project is due in its entirety. Certain chosen students will be entered into the Montford School History Fair to compete with other Montford students to advance to Leon County District History Fair. This year’s theme is: ***Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History***. This will be a thesis that the time period in history will have to connect to. More information regarding History Fair will be handed out at a later date.

Important History Fair dates:

1 primary source and 1 secondary source due- Friday 10/28

2 primary sources and 2 secondary sources due - Thursday 11/10

3x3 due- Tuesday 11/22

4x4 due- Friday 12/2

5x5 due- Friday 12/16

Final Sources due- Tuesday 1/10

Process Paper and Title Page due- Wed 1/18

**FINAL project due- Wednesday 1/25 (this will NOT be accepted after this date)**

Montford School Fair- Thursday 2/2

Leon County District Fair- Tuesday 3/6

[www.easybib.com](http://www.easybib.com): This site assists students with achieving correct MLA citations.

[www.nationalhistoryday.org](http://www.nationalhistoryday.org): This site is the national site for history fair if you have any general questions.

*If you have any questions about anything, the best way to reach me is email (*[*kramers@mail.leon.k12.fl.us*](mailto:kramers@mail.leon.k12.fl.us)*).*

*I look forward to this year together!!*

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(get this paper signed by **Friday 8/26**, but keep in your notebook for future reference)

I have read the syllabus and agree with the above conditions:

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_