**Course Description:** United States History is a yearlong, junior-level course that explores important persons, events, relationships, and themes in the history of the US, starting with the period of European colonization and extending through the modern era. Upon completion of the course students should understand America's role in history and how she, as a nation, impacted other nations and world politics.

**Textbook:** United States History and Geography, McGraw Hill

**Classroom Procedures:**

* Attendance – Attend class every day. If you have to miss class for an extenuating circumstance, it is your responsibility to check Google Classroom, confer with a classmate, or see Mr. Rude to get caught up. This should take place outside of our normal class time.
* Tardiness – Be seated in the room when class starts, or you will be counted tardy. After three tardies, you will be required to serve a lunch detention with Mr. Rude.
* Materials – Bring a writing utensil, paper, a laptop, and your class textbook every day.
* Late-Work – Turn in all assignments time to ensure that you are prepared for discussions and other class activities and to establish habits that will support your future success.
* Evaluation *–* Grades will be assigned according to the scale adopted by the International School of Sosúa with assignments, projects, quizzes, papers, and exams all factoring in to the calculation of your final course grade.
* Reassessment – Reassessment is conditional, must be completed outside of normal class time, and is not allowed during the final week of the quarter. The reassessment form must be completed and approved by Mr. Rude prior to each reassessment opportunity.

**Classroom Code of Conduct:**

* Treat others with kindness and respect.
* Drinks with a sealable lid and small snacks are ok. I will ask you to put all other food or drink away that I feel is disruptive. Please respect our classroom by keeping your work space clean.
* You will receive clear instructions when cell phones and laptops can be used for academic purposes. If electronic devices are not being used for an academic purpose they should be put away. Please communicate with me if you need to use your cell phone for an emergency situation.

**Academic Honor Code:**

* As a university preparatory school, ISS students must learn proper research methods and accepted practices. The integrity of the both the student and our school requires complete academic honesty on all assignments, papers, and presentations. Cheating, plagiarism, and test dishonesty are serious violations of school rules and community values. Such dishonest behavior will not be tolerated. Parents will be notified and a copy of communication will be kept on file in the student’s academic record.

***\*All course policies are designed to help students cultivate the ISS Work Habits. Infractions will be dealt with according to the International School of Sosúa discipline matrix.***

**Curriculum Overview:** ISS has adopted the American Education Reaches Out (AERO) Standards and Performance Indicators for Social Studies. These standards were designed by the US State Department for implementation in American international schools to ensure vertical alignment of skills and content delivered in Social Studies courses. The AERO framework is aligned with research-based trends in the development of curriculum worldwide, and particularly with the Common Core initiative in the United States. Social Studies classes at ISS will require students to develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in the context of relevant, “real world,” engaging issues. In addition, these classes will prepare students to be effective, contributing members of their local community and to be informed, active citizens of their country and of the world.

**Learning Objectives:** Project AERO has taken the position that the above-described ends can be achieved in a k-12 program by focusing on eight standards (big ideas) for learning:

**Standard 1 (**Time, Continuity, and Change) Students will understand patterns of change and continuity, relationships between people and events through time, and various interpretations of these relationships.

**Standard 2** (Connections and Conflict) Students will understand causes and effects of interaction among societies, including trade, systems of international exchange, war, and diplomacy.

**Standard 3 (**Geography) Students will understand the interactions and relationship between human societies and their physical environment.

**Standard 4 (**Culture) Students will understand cultural and intellectual developments and interactions among societies.

**Standard 5 (**Society and Identity) Students will understand social systems and structures and how these influence individual.

**Standard 6 (**Government) Students will understand why societies create and adopt systems of governance and how they address human needs, rights, responsibilities and citizenship.

**Standard 7 (**Production, Distribution, and Consumption) Students will understand fundamental economic principles and ways in which economies are shaped by geographic and human factors.

**Standard 8 (**Science, Technology, and Society) Students will understand how societies have influenced and been influenced by scientific developments and technological developments.

**Google Classroom Code for US History:** 56pha0

**Communication:** My goal is that you find this course challenging but not to the point where it becomes overwhelming. I believe that the best way to ensure success is to take responsibility for your actions and advocate for your learning needs. If you feel like you are struggling, please find a time to see me so that we can make a plan together to help you succeed. In addition to study hall and reinforcement, I am available to meet before and after school by appointment.

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*The instructor reserves the right to modify policies/consequences when the situation requires.*

I have read the text above, and I have had an opportunity to ask questions about the content. I agree to follow the policies set forth in this US History class syllabus.

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Student Signature Date

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date