

**Mr. Lusch**  
**Course Outline and Objectives**  
**United States History**

**US History** is a two-semester course dedicated to the study of the United States from 1865 to the Present.

**The purpose of United States History** is to present the history of the United States from 1865 to Present in a survey course with a broad menu of detailed events. Students will use a variety of analytical, comparative and research skills. The students will examine topics in an effort to build their understanding of the people, challenges and events of these times in US History and the impact of those events. We will study the issues in the curriculum for this course using the complementing disciplines of civics, economics and geography.

This course is designed to further impact and develop the **DSTP** test-taking skills for students who are scheduled to take the Social Studies **DSTP** in May of this school year. College bound students, who do have an interest in pursuing a higher education career, should understand the gravity of the **DSTP**. The staff at WPHS does understand the importance of this test and we consequently strive to present and examine content in a **DSTP** style format.

**We will focus on the following skill sets:**

- Writing in the content area
- Establishing a base of knowledge in Criminal Justice to facilitate a future in that field.
- Develop research and referencing techniques
- Utilization of statistics and inference from that data
- Projects and performance focus activities

**The text materials we will use are:**

Textbook: America: Pathways to the Present  
Selected curriculum focused handouts on the related topics

**Semester I Topics:**

- |                                      |                                       |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1) Civil War & Reconstruction        | 2) The Beginning of Industrialism     |
| 3) Western Expansion                 | 4) Gilded Age                         |
| 5) Immigration to the US             | 6) Spanish American War / Imperialism |
| 7) Progressives & Social Reform      | 8) World War I                        |
| 9) Demobilizing and the Roaring 20's | 10) Stock Market Crash / Depression   |

**William Penn High School**

**Mr. Lusch**

**Room E-112**

**United States History**

**Introduction & Information Sheet**

The impact **United States History** can have on your academic future is notable. This course is one of the series of junior year classes colleges will use to evaluate you as you prepare to consider higher education. Also, we are aware that the **DSTP** has a required Social Studies component. This course will serve to help you achieve on the **DSTP** and may serve to help you achieve career goals after graduation. You are now going to be asked to demonstrate work on a higher academic level with greater expectations at a fast pace. **I will need your cooperation in this effort and I will ask you to meet some important expectations.**

**You will be asked to supply the following materials:**

- 1) Composition or Spiral copybook**
- 2) Your Text Book**
- 3) A 3-ring binder or folder for handouts and loose-leaf.**
- 4) A pen or pencil**

**Homework:**

You can safely expect to see homework two to three times a week. Each assignment will be relevant to the course. Homework will be both posted and expressed verbally at the beginning of the week. This will give you an opportunity to complete your homework on time and within the constrictions of your schedule.

**Late work: Late = Not there when I check or collect assignments.**

Late homework, for those without an excused absence, will not be accepted.

In the case of projects, specific late policies will be discussed at that time.

**08/09**

**Absences:**

Excused absences afford you the opportunity to make up your work. You will have one additional day for each period of absence. **The responsibility is yours** to gather your missed assignments. **All homework will be posted on the “homework board” located in class and on the class website at [www.mrluschismean.com](http://www.mrluschismean.com)**

**Grades:**

The quarterly grades will be determined by the following formula:

**15% Quizzes    20% Tests    25% Special Reports /Projects**

**25% Journals    15% Homework**

**\*\*\* You will not pass this class unless you have handed in all Special Reports and Projects and maintained at least a 60% successful completion on daily Journal Questions.**

**Scale: A: 100 – 93    B: 92 – 85    C: 84 – 77    D: 76 – 70    F: 69 or Below**

Please contact me through the school for any questions or concerns so we can work collaboratively to help your child achieve his or her goals.

Mr. Frank Lusch

email: [flusch@colonial.k12.de.us](mailto:flusch@colonial.k12.de.us)

**08/09**

(Please fill the bottom and return it with your child before Thursday, August 27, 2009)

Student’s Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ **8/09**