

# US History

## Mista Bale

### Contact Info:

Email: Jeffrey\_bale@fuhsd.org

Office Hours: Periods #5 and #7, Tutorial (when in person), By Appointment (Room 503 when in person), office hours



*This class is a required course for graduation from Lynbrook High School*

### Class Synopsis:

This United States History class is a survey course of key events, cultural movements, political trends, demographic changes, geographic expansion, and societal norms of the period extending from the 1400s through the start of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### Textbooks: *The Americans*

#### USH Units:

- Prelude to America (1400s – 1789)
- The Road to the Civil War (1789 - 1860)
- The Start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> American Era (1861 - 1877)
- A Nation Changed (1860s - 1910s)
- An Emerging World Power (1890s - 1929)
- The Collapse of the 2<sup>nd</sup> American Era (1929 – 1945)
- The New World Order (1945 – 1979)
- America in the Cold War (1945 – 1991)
- A World Compacted (1991 – Current Events)

### Classroom Rules/Policies:

- Be Respectful. This covers your interactions with others in the class, your language, property, personal conduct, and cleaning up after yourself.
- Ask Permission. Before leaving to use the restroom, using your electronic devices (cell phones not allowed), or leaving class for any reason – please check with me first.
- Don't Cheat\*. Enough said.

\* For this class, students will be expected to abide by the FUHSD Academic Honesty Policy. A copy of the policy is available in the student planner or on the LHS website. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to, using unauthorized materials for assessments, copying material or answers from other students, plagiarism, and submitting work created/completed by others. Additionally, please note that you are held to the standards of the FUSHD technology usage standards – familiarize yourself with these so you keep yourself within proper regulations. When it comes to usages of Artificial Intelligence, you are free to use tools to check spelling and grammar for written assignments, but it is off limits to use AI to draft work, complete work, or provide the primary basis for the content and structure of work.

### Classwork/Projects:

Much of the work in this class will be done in-class. There may be times in which assignments will be started in class and

asked to be submitted at a later date. Late work may be accepted for partial credit. All work is individual work unless explicitly stated in class and/or written on the assignment.

### **Returning from Absences:**

It will be your job as a student to come to me requesting your makeup work when returning from excused absences. Assignments due while absent will be expected the first day back (see above) unless the assignment was assigned during an absence. Communication is vital and I expect that you come talk with me at the earliest time possible so you can get caught up on work missed. My website is a primary resource for materials when you return.

### **Test/Project Make-up:**

There may be large projects (as well as tests) that require your daily attendance in class. Missing these will set you back considerably. I reserve the right to give you additional assignments that can be completed individually if you miss too much time on a group project. Tests will be given on a date arranged by you and me, but you should be prepared to take a test as soon as you return to class.

### **Lectures:**

Most lectures are available online in an abbreviated format for your use in studying or if you are absent. Students are still expected to be engaged during lectures in class.

### **Participation/Discussion:**

I look kindly on attitude and work ethic. Students who slack off and rarely contribute can expect a grade that matches their performance. Participation/Discussion is gauged both by quality and quantity. Part of coming to class means being a contributor to our communal learning environment for the full-length of class.

### **Being Prepared:**

Students should always come to class with writing tools, paper, and additional materials/books when specifically specified in advance. Students should also check Schoology and/or Mistabale.com **daily** to make sure they are kept up to date on assignments and due dates. I do email the class through Schoology. Students can count on the fact that I will not make late-night changes to assignments and expect them to be viewed for the next day.

### **Cell Phones and Laptops:**

Due to security concerns as well as their extreme distraction potential, cell phones will not be allowed in class unless specifically noted for class usage. Phones should remain stored as directed and be turned off or set to a non-audible ring tone. You can hit up your partners later. Laptops/Chromebooks will be utilized in class from time to time, however, they should remain away unless specifically noted.

### **Grading:**

All grades are *automatically rounded* within my grading program to the nearest whole number and all grades fall into these pre-set weighted categories. Grade updates will be issued online at my discretion.

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Participation/Discussion – 20%</b> | <b>90-100% - A</b>      | <b>Note Regarding Tests/Quizzes:</b><br><i>Tests are available for student viewing, but will not be permanently returned. They remain on file for the duration of the semester. Some quizzes may be withheld from being returned but will be available for viewing as well.</i> |
| <b>Exams - 40%</b>                    | <b>80-89% - B</b>       |   |
| <b>Textbook Reading Quizzes – 20%</b> | <b>70-79% - C</b>       |   |
| <b>Classwork/Projects – 20%</b>       | <b>60-69% - D</b>       |   |
|                                       | <b>59% or lower – F</b> |   |