##### Course Overview

*David W. Butler High School*

##### Mr. Wessler ([http://wessler.weebly.com](http://wessler.weebly.com" \t "_blank))

**AMERICAN HISTORY I:**

***United States History - Part 1***

### **Introduction**

Welcome to an exciting year at Butler High School. I am looking forward to working with you to make this a successful year. Please read the following information regarding curriculum, behavioral expectations, classroom procedures, grading policies, honor policy, and conferencing information. Parents and students are to read and sign the bottom of this page.

### **Skills and Content**

**American History I:**

**Founding Principles**

**8 Essential Standards (SKILLS)**

1. **Apply** historical thinking in order to understand the creation and development of the United States
2. **Analyze** key political, economic, and social turning points in U.S. History
3. **Understand** the factors that led to exploration, settlement, movement, and expansion, and their impact on United States History.
4. **Analyze** how conflict and compromise have shaped politics, economics, and culture in the United States
5. **Understand** the tensions between freedom, equality, and power have shaped the political, economic, and social development of the United States.
6. **Understand** how and why the role of the U.S. in the world has changed.
7. **Understand** the impact of war on the politics, economics, society, and culture of the United States.
8. **Analyze** the relationship between progress, crisis, and the “American Dream” within the United States.



**Content Overview**

* + **Unit 1 - The Foundation of European Colonies (1492-1733) -** Examine the historical and intellectual origins of the U.S. from European exploration and colonial settlement to the Revolutionary and Constitutional eras.
  + **Unit 2 - Colonial Conflict and Revolutionary War (1733-1783) -** Learn about the important political and economic factors that contributed to the development of colonial America and the outbreak of the American Revolution and its consequences.
  + **Unit 3 - The Critical Period and the Constitution (1777-1789) -** Learn about the writing and key ideas of the U.S. Constitution.
  + **Unit 4 - The New Nation (1789-1820)** Study the domestic and foreign conflicts that led to the establishment of political parties, war with, and eventual commercial independence from Britain.
  + **Unit 5 - The Age of Jackson (1820-1850)** - Examine the economic and political development, westward expansion, and the growth of sectional conflict in Antebellum U.S.
  + **Unit 6 - Crisis, Civil War, and Reconstruction (1848-1877) -** Analyze how that sectional conflict led to the Civil War, and the consequences of the Civil War, including Reconstruction.

### **Behavioral Expectations**

* All policies listed in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook will be strictly followed.
* **Be on time:** Be in your assigned seat when the bell rings. Attend to all personal matters outside of class. Students will not be permitted to leave class to use the restroom, get water, or go to lockers.
* **Be prepared:** Bring manual, paper, pen, homework every day.
* **Be responsible:** **No whining!!! No excuses!!!**
* **Be respectful:** Speak and act without offending, and listen without defending.
* **Be orderly:** Raise your hand to speak. Only leave your seat with permission. No disruptions of the learning environment will be tolerated (food, drink, hats, electronic devices, grooming, etc.) **NO FOOD OR DRINK!**
* **NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES UNLESS PERMITTED BY ME**
* **Be Proud:** Always give your best effort, and take pride in your work.
* **Be Honorable:** Follow the Honor Code; do your own work and demand that others do their own work too.
* **If all else fails, follow the Golden Rule!**

### **Consequences**

* **First offense:** Teacher/Student conference (warning, request to move, removal from class).
* **Second offense:** After-school Detention and/or loss of other privileges. Call and/or letter to parent.
* **Third offense:** Disciplinary referral to Administrator.

**Daily Routines & Assessments**

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

1. Notebook / 3-ring binder,
2. Loose-leaf paper
3. Blue or black ink pens

**STUDENT MANUAL**

All students will be given a US History Student Manual that they are expected to bring to class **EVERYDAY**. If a student loses his/her manual they will be charged $9.00 in order to replace their manual. Students will NOT be permitted to go to their lockers or to another class to get their manuals or other class materials.

All assignments are due at the beginning of class or when the teacher asks for them. **LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED, BUT WILL RECEIVE NO MORE THAN 50% CREDIT!** If you are absent, the student is responsible for completing missed assignments. **BE RESPONSIBLE** to ask me for your make up work and complete it within 5 days of the absence. Students who are absent on a test day must schedule a time before or after school to make up the test.

**GRADING POLICY**:

**INFORMAL ASSESSMENT – 30%**

* **HOMEWORK -**

You can expect to have homework **every night and on weekends**. All assignments will be checked for completion and/or accuracy. The student is responsible for making up any missed work within five days of returning. But if an assignment was given before the absence the work will be due when the student returns.

* **CONTENT QUIZZES** - will be given on a regular basis to check student progress. I will frequently allow you to use any notes that you have taken in class.
* **CLASSWORK -**

1. Daily Reading, writing, or group activities
2. Video Guide Questions

**FORMAL ASSESSMENTS – 70%**

* **TEST / PROJECTS –**

**Unit tests** will involve the student reading, writing, and communicating the understanding of the content covered in an instructional unit. These tests will be aligned with the North Carolina Essential Standards for American History I: The Founding Principles. Content units will also involve the completion of a skill-oriented **PERFORMANCE TASK** (project) designed for the student to “show what they know”.



* **ADDITIONAL PRACTICE AND REASSESSMENT –** All students who score below 84% on a formal assessment will be given the opportunity to complete additional practice and then take a formal reassessment. Any student wishing to take a formal reassessment must contact the teacher and complete the additional practice and formal reassessment within 7 calendar days of receiving the graded original formal assessment. The formal reassessment can receive a maximum score 84%.

**SEMESTER EXAM -** given at the end of 1st term, to assess each student’s progress in meeting the North Carolina Essential Standards for American History I. This exam will count as 20% of the 1st term grade.

**FINAL EXAM – A North Carolina Final Exam will be given at the end of the course. The exam will count as 25% of the final course grade.**

**COURSE GRADE includes:**

**1st Term Avg. – 37.5%**

**2nd Term Avg. – 37.5%**

**FINAL EXAM – 25 %**

**GRADING SCALE –**

**90% - 100% A**

**80% - 89% B**

**70% - 79% C**

**60% - 69% D**

**0% - 69% F**



### **Honor Policy**

All members of this class will be expected to adhere to the CMS Honor Code. Any student found giving or receiving assistance on any assignment without teacher consent, will receive a zero, and will be referred to an administrator. Honor violations include but are not limited to, cheating on a test, sharing or copying homework /class work, and plagiarizing. All students will be required to write their pledge on every assignment: **“On my honor, I have neither given nor received assistance on this work.”** If the pledge is not given, the assignment will not be graded and a zero grade will be given.

### **Contact Info**

Anyone wishing to schedule a conference with Mr. Wessler may call the school at 980-343-6300 and request to either speak with Mr. Wessler or leave a voice-mail. You may also e-mail me at kurt**.wessler@cms.k12.nc.us**. Please feel free to contact me at any time you have questions or concerns, or to schedule a conference.

**Signatures**

Please indicate that you have read and understand the information above by signing below. Thank you!

Student

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_