

**United States History**  
***Reconstruction to the Present***  
**2023-2024 Course Syllabus**

**Room:** 158

**Teacher:** Greg Scott

**Email:** glscott@conroeisd.net

**Conference:** 2nd period (White - 7:15-8:45)

**Website:** [www.glscott.org](http://www.glscott.org)

**American History Instructional Focus**

In this course, which is the second part of a two-year study of U.S. history that begins in Grade 8, students study the history of the United States from Reconstruction to the present. Topics include historical events and issues; influence of geographic factors on major events, the impact of constitutional issues on American society and efforts to expand the democratic process, the relationship between the arts and the times, and the impact of technological innovations.

The emphasis at Grade 11 is for students to develop a conceptual understanding of the United States and its place in the world. The purpose is for students to gain an overview of the relationship of events and issues that created a democratic society. Therefore, points of view and interpretation of historical context as well as current events are vital to the understanding of American society.

**Topics of Study:**

**Unit 1: Constitutional Foundations and Westward Expansion 1845-1877-** Changes on the Western Frontier, Railroads, Populism.

**Unit 2: The Gilded Age 1877-1905 -** Immigration, Segregation, New Technology, Political Machines.

**Unit 3: Populism and Progressive Era 1890-1920-** Progressivism, Teddy Roosevelt, Women's Rights, Labor Unions.

**Unit 4: American Expansionism 1898-1918 –** Spanish American War, Imperialism, Expansionism.

**Unit 5: WWI 1914-1918 -** Causes and Effects of World War I, New Technologies, Wilson's Fourteen Points.

**Unit 6: The Roaring 20's –** Prohibition, Organized Crime, Harlem Renaissance, Pop culture, Education, Credit.

**Unit 7: Great Depression and the New Deal 1929-1940-** Stock Market Crash, Dust Bowl, Inflation, FDR, Expansion of Government, end of the depression

**Unit 8: World War II 1931-1945 –** Rise of Dictators Causes of World War II, Pearl Harbor, US Involvement.

**Winter Break**

**Unit 9: Early Cold War and the 1950's –** Containment, Truman Doctrine, Korean War, Suburbs, Rock and Roll.

**Unit 10: Civil Rights Movement – 1954 – 1975 –** Great Society, Civil Rights, Feminism, Social Change.

**Unit 11: 1960's and Vietnam –** John F. Kennedy, Brinkmanship, Cuban Missile Crisis, and Space Race, The Vietnam War, Counterculture, Draft, 26<sup>th</sup> Amendment.

**Unit 12: 1970's-End of the Cold War -** Nixon, Watergate, Environmentalism, Conservative tide, Reaganomics.

**Unit 13: 1990s-21st Century –** End of Cold war, Terrorism, War in Iraq & Afghanistan, Election of Barack Obama.

**\*\*\*STAAR EOC Exam. Passing the 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies EOC test is required for graduation!\*\*\***

**Cell Phones/Electronic Devices**

Cell phones and other personal electronic devices are not permitted in class, except in specific times when identified by the instructor for educational purposes. At these times, cell phones are to be used only for the educational purposes specified by the instructor. Failure to comply with this policy will result in a referral.

**Late and Missing Work**

When students are absent it is their responsibility to pick up and submit all make-up work. Students should regularly check Canvas for assignments posted there. Students will have a proportional number of days to make up their work upon their return. If a student turns in work late for an unexcused reason, that assignment will receive a maximum grade of 70 and can be submitted until the next progress check (3 weeks) comes to an end.

**Missed Tests**

Students are always expected to take tests on their assigned days. If a student misses the test for an excused absence, they are expected to complete the test within 1 week of their return through Social Studies tutorials or as otherwise arranged with their instructor.

**Level Retakes**

Each grading period students may retake up to 2 tests to earn up to an 85. Students must first speak with their teacher to establish expectations for tutorials and preparation prior to retake. Tests must be retaken within 1 week of receiving back the original test grade.

**Textbook:**

*The United States History Since 1877*. New York: McGraw Hill Education, 2016. Print. The text will be available online to students on the SSO page.

**Supplies:**

Folder or binder

Students may want their own sets of colored pencils and/or markers, paper or notebook, pens and pencils.