**Ms. Elizabeth Gifford**

**Lisa Academy High West**

21 Corporate Hill Drive

Little Rock, AR

72205

(501) 246-5853

**egifford@lisaacademy.org**

**egifford.weebly.com**

**United States History Syllabus**

* **Texts:** *United States History:  Reconstruction to the Present*

**Course Description**: This course will be a year-long course which begins with an overview of how the Antebellum South was affected by the Civil War socially, politically, and economically. From there, we will look at the Nation and how the Reconstruction process took the country in a new direction on many aspects. Our focus will be on the United States from the 1890’s to present. A prior knowledge of colonial and early national United States history is crucial to your success in this course.

**Required Supplies:**

Grading Scale:

* 90% - 100% = A
* 89% – 80% = B
* 79% – 70% = C
* 69% – 60% = D
* 59% & below = F
* Binder (preferably 2 in)
* 1 package of divider tabs for binder
* Loose leaf paper (no spiral notebooks)
* Black/blue pens
* Highlighters
* Post it tabs

**Topics of Study:**

1. New South and the Last West

2. Industrialization and Corporate Consolidation

3. Urban Society

4. Intellectual and Cultural Movements

5. National Politics, 1877-1896: The Gilded Age

6. Foreign Policy, 1865-1914

7. Progressive Era

8. The First World War

9. New Era: The 1920s

10. Depression, 1929-1933

11. New Deal

12. Diplomacy in the 1930s

13. The Second World War

14. Truman and the Cold War

15. Eisenhower and Modern Republicanism

16. Kennedy's New Frontier; Johnson's Great Society

17. Nixon

18. The United States since 1974

**Course Methods of Assessment:**

Students are primarily assessed through chapter exams and reading quizzes. Chapter exams consist of multiple choice, identify, open response questions and essay. Daily quizzes will relate to assigned text and/or assigned primary source documents. Students are also required to complete DBQs, compare and contrast, argumentative, persuasive, and change over time essays. Students will also take a mid-term and final exam. All assignments/exams will be assessed promptly and placed on database for student/parent grade evaluation. Students will receive these assignments and due dates with proficient time to complete and return when due. I will use remind, google classroom, and our database to ensure students and parents are aware of all assignments/exams. See my late assignment policy below for additional information. Students will also be expected to:

* Read articles and documents in order to analyze and better understand United States history.
* Construct and analyze maps in order to develop and strengthen geography skills.
* Perform research skills needed for college classes.
* Write essays in order to develop proficiency and fluency as a skill.
* Present information to classmates to demonstrate knowledge of topics covered.

**Teaching Strategies**

Teaching strategies for this course include lecture through power point presentations, student based presentations, document/photo/cartoon analysis, and student led discussion. There is also an emphasis on independent reading and analysis of text and primary source materials, both written and visual. Students are provided a study guide prior to each chapter.

**Class Policies & Procedures:**

* Come into class prepared. This requires you have all your supplies, book, and any homework assigned that is due.
* Be in your seat with your binder and book on desk before the tardy bell rings.
* Do not ask to leave the room (bathroom, nurse, locker, et…) once you enter the classroom unless it is an emergency and you have teacher approval.
* Please be respectful of your classmates and their educational journey. This requires respect across the board while in the classroom. Disrespectful behavior towards a student or teacher is not tolerated.
* I expect each and every student to come to class ready to open their minds and give 100% effort daily. As I was taught, “If you are going to do something, do it right!”
* Please do not hi-light or write in the textbooks.
* No sleeping or self-grooming in class. Please take care of those things before/after class.
* All school rules in the student handbook will be applied in our classroom.

Don’t forget to sign up for Remind!

Instructions are provided below…

**Other Information**:

* You must read and understand the assigned material in order to succeed in this class.
* Complete sentences and paragraphs are expected on written responses.
* Productive, mature class discussion is required.
* Be prepared for reading quizzes!!