

## 8th Grade American History Northland Preparatory Academy

Welcome to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and American History! In this class you will be learning about the incredible history of the nation in which we live. Here are some things you can do to prepare for my class and get a head start on next year:

### **Supply List:**

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- My class is almost completely paperless. You should have a laptop or Chromebook to bring to class each day. Chromebooks can be checked out through the school. Contact Dr. Visockis for details.
- **Blue/Teal** colored 1 inch, 3-ring binder **per semester** (you may reuse it if it doesn't wear out)
- 5-tab dividers **per semester** (you may reuse them if they don't wear out)
- Reinforcement stickers
- Lined paper
- Agenda (Provided by NPA)
- Dark blue or black pens (work done in pencil is **not** accepted. Erasable pens are ok.)
- Bright colored pens, such as red or green, for corrections
- Colored pencils
- White out

### **Preparation for Next Year:**

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- Begin studying the presidents, spelling and order. There will be a quiz over the first 22 in 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.
- Review MLA format for papers and citations, you need to make sure you know how to do this.

### **Extra Credit Opportunities:**

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Earn credit before you even begin the class! You may do one item from each category to turn in by the first Friday of school. If you have any questions, you can contact Mrs. Shafer at [LShafer@northlandprep.org](mailto:LShafer@northlandprep.org) (I will only be checking email periodically throughout the summer.)

### **Museum Visit (20 points):**

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- Visit one of the following historical museums:
  - Pioneer Museum – 2340 N. Fort Valley Road
  - Museum of Northern Arizona - 3101 N. Fort Valley Road
  - Riordan Mansion State Historic Park – 409 West Riordan Road
  - Any other American History-focused Museum you may encounter while outside of Flagstaff, especially if you are travelling this summer.

- **The assignment:** You must spend at least one hour at the museum. You must have a docent sign their name and the time you arrived at the museum and the time you left. To get full credit for this assignment you must get a *Museum Visit Worksheet* from Mrs. Shafer and accurately fill it out and return it by the first Friday of school. Attach your ticket or receipt to the worksheet.

### **Museum Event (20 points):**

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- Attend any special event at any of the above museums.
- **The assignment:** You must stay for at least one hour of the event. Write one paragraph (5 sentences) describing what the event was about and one paragraph describing what you thought about the event. Staple your ticket to the back of your paragraphs.

### **Current Event (25 points):**

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- Read an article that relates to American History (foreign or domestic policy, politics, anything to do with the President, Congress, or Supreme Court, etc.). After reading the article, write a paragraph, at least *5 sentences*, summarizing what the article was about. Then, write another paragraph explaining to the reader what you think about this article. Do you agree or disagree with the event? Was the article something that you can relate to? Was it something that upset you or made you happy? *If you don't have an opinion about the article in any way then you should pick a different article.* Include a link to the article.
- You may do a current event for both June and July (the article must come from that month). You can submit the assignment by email or in person the first week of school.

### **Historical Documentaries (30 points):**

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- Watch a documentary on a topic that relates to American History. This film must be from an educational source such as PBS.
- **The assignment:** Write one paragraph (5 sentences) summarizing the documentary. What would you like to know more about? Research more about the topic using reliable sources. Write two paragraphs about what you learned in addition to the documentary. You must use specifics and cite where you got your information.

### **Historical Fiction Book (40 points):**

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- Read a book about a topic in American History.
- **The assignment:** Write two paragraphs (5 sentences each) summarizing the book. Then, write a paragraph explaining what the book got historically correct and one paragraph on what the book got historically wrong. You must use specifics and cite where you got your information to prove whether or not the information given in the book was correct or incorrect.

**Museum Visit Worksheet – Extra Credit Assignment**

Name of Museum: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Visited: \_\_\_\_\_ Time arrived: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_

Docent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Who do you think was the most interesting person or group you saw in an exhibit today? Why?

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What do you think was the most interesting item you saw in an exhibit today? Why?

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What do you think was the most interesting exhibit you saw today? Why?

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List five facts you saw in this exhibit:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Don't forget to staple your admission ticket to the back of this worksheet. \*\***