

# IB History of the Americas - Year 1

## 2023-2024 Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Mr. Vasquez  
**Email:** jvasquez11@saisd.net

**Room No.:** 3208  
**Conference:** 8th Period

Welcome to IB History of the Americas, Year 1! This course is designed to take an in-depth look at the history of North and South America, and is specifically geared to prepare students to sit for Paper 3 of the IB History Exam. Students can expect to participate in college level work which will involve extensive outside reading and preparation, individual and group research projects, student led discussions, and written assignments.

**BOOKS AND SUPPORT MATERIAL:** The following is a list of books which may be used during the course.

- *Civil Rights and Social Movements in the Americas post-1945*, Vivienne Sanders
- *America A Narrative History v2 11th Edition*, David Emory Shi

**NOTE:** In addition to the books mentioned above, students will use numerous primary and secondary sources and other assigned reading material as well as appropriate video sources.

**PARTICIPATION:** The IB History of the Americas course is primarily a seminar, discussion based course. Student participation in the discussions is critical to the success of the student. Students will be expected to read the material subject to discussion, prepare for, and lead discussions and to engage with the material analytically. In addition to thinking analytically about course material, students are also expected to view the material from a variety of perspectives. Students should feel free to express their various perspectives regarding course material, yet always be respectful of others' views, even if those views don't agree with theirs. The more perspectives shared in class will lead to more robust discussions and a more authentic educational experience. Rude, unpleasant, or insulting remarks will be dealt with quickly and could result in no credit for the assignment.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance is essential. Although some work can be made up, there are activities and discussions that are beneficial to your understanding of the subject matter that cannot be done after or outside of class. It is your responsibility to get all make-up assignments. If you are absent on the day of an exam or quiz, you will be expected to take the exam or quiz on the day that you return to school.

**GRADING CRITERIA:** Each student will be assessed individually. The assessment will be carried out through a variety of methods including oral presentations, teacher observations, participation, written assignments, projects, seminars, course notebook, quizzes and exams.

<b>Period Grade:</b>	60%	Daily Assignments
	40%	Assessments
<b>Semester Grade</b>	85%	Combined Period Grades
	15%	Semester Exam

**MAKE-UP WORK:** The student will be given the same number of days to turn in an assignment as the number of excused school days missed.

**LATE WORK:** Late work will only be accepted at the teacher's discretion.

**INTERNAL ASSESSMENT:** International Baccalaureate Diploma candidates will be required to undertake a historical investigation. A title must be developed for the historical investigation which, in order to give focus and direction, must be framed as a question. A written account (between 1850-2200 words), documentary or interactive website will be submitted, which must consist of an outline plan of the historical investigation, a summary of evidence, an evaluation of sources, an analysis, and a conclusion.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Cheating or plagiarism is not acceptable. Copying another person's work, such as homework, classwork or an assessment is a form of cheating. Plagiarism, which is the usage of another person's original ideas or writing without giving credit to the true author, will also be considered cheating, and the student will be referred to the IB coordinator and subject to academic disciplinary action.

**PREPARATION FOR STAAR TESTING AND IB HISTORY EXAM:** This course will prepare students for Paper 3 of the IB History Exam taken at the end of the 2nd year of the course. This course will also prepare students for the US History STAAR Test to be taken in May of this school year.

### Year-at-a-Glance

#### 1st Semester

Weeks	Topic
1	Introduction to the course
2-8	<p><b>No. 10: Emergence of America in Global Affairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Spanish American War and World War I</li> <li>● Technology of World War I</li> <li>● Homefront During World War I</li> <li>● Treaty of Versailles, League of Nations and Wilson's 14 Points</li> </ul>
9-14	<p><b>No. 13: The Second World War and the Americas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Dictators, Fascism, Nationalism and Militarism</li> <li>● Pearl Harbor and US Entry into World War II</li> <li>● The Holocaust</li> <li>● US Foreign Policy Post-Atomic Bomb</li> </ul>

- United States v. Soviet Union

15-17

**No. 16: The Cold War and the Americas**

- Innovation and Prosperity
- Fear of Communism
- Arms Race and Space Race
- Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan and Containment

**2nd Semester**

**Weeks**

**Topic**

18-21

**No. 16: The Cold War and the Americas - [continued]**

- Innovation and Prosperity
- Fear of Communism
- Arms Race and Space Race
- Truman Doctrine, Marshall Plan and Containment

22-26

**No. 17: Civil Rights and Social Movements in the Americas**

- Liberties of African Americans and Minorities
- Civil Rights Leaders and Methods to Achieve Equality
- Supreme Court Decisions
- *Brown v. Board of Education*

28-33

**STAAR End of Course Review**

- Gilded Age
- Progressive Era
- The Roaring 20s
- The Great Depression
- Vietnam/Kennedy Era
- Modern Era

34-35

**STAAR Exam Weeks**

36-38

**Internal Assessment**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and reviewed the **2021-2022 U.S. History Course Syllabus** and have had adequate time to ask any questions I may have about the class. I understand that signing this page means I agree to complete my classwork and projects on time, come to school prepared with the correct materials, and follow all classroom rules and expectations. I am responsible for asking for help when I need it.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_