

# Class Outline/Expectations

## Mr. Sullivan – 8th Grade U.S. History

Dear Student and Parent/Guardian,

I am very pleased to you to be a part of our U.S. History class for the 2016-17 school year! My goal is to help each student achieve his/her own academic potential in this course. In order to reach this goal, I would like to propose a partnership; a team made up of the student, the parent/guardian, and myself working together to assure the success of our student.

This course in U.S. history will be an exciting time for all of us involved. While this course will be presented in a traditional subject manner, the method of instruction will vary. The traditional lecture will be used utilizing PowerPoint, but numerous other teaching strategies will allow the students to view history as “alive” rather than simply transcriptions written within their text. Examples of these methods include hands on looks at historical items throughout history, utilization of our abundant resource of CVMS student Chrome Books, historical reenactor visits to the classroom, presentations, debates, investigation of first person historical accounts, and video analysis.

The most important objective of this course will be to get the student excited about learning our nations history, and believing they can achieve success through hard work! I believe that if we all work as a team, the end result will be a very educated and successful student.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. The quickest way will be through email (listed below.) Included within this packet, I have included a copy of the classroom policies and procedures. Please read the expectations of this course with your student, and have them return the last page of the form with both of your signatures. (Your student will receive 10pts participation credit for a signed form from parent/guardian.)

Thank you for your interest in your student’s education, and I look forward to a great school year! COUGAR PRIDE!

Sincerely,

Mr. Aaron Sullivan  
SullivanA@cajonvalley.net  
(619)588-3092

## **GRADING**

### **1. GRADES ARE BASED ON:**

- A. EXAMS/QUIZZES
- B. UNIT PACKETS
- C. CLASS ACTIVITIES
- D. WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS AND PROJECTS
- E. CLASS PERFORMANCE (PARTICIPATION, PUNCTUALITY, ECT.)

**2. TOTAL POINTS ARE ADDED UP FROM ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND DIVIDED BY THE STUDENTS TOTAL POINTS GIVING THEM A PERCENTAGE. PERCENTAGES ARE THEN ASSIGNED A LETTER GRADE BASED ON THE SCALE BELOW.**

**A= 100%-90%**

**B= 89%-80%**

**C= 79%-70%**

**D= 69%-60%**

**F= 59%-BELOW**

## **THE RULES**

- 1. NO TALKING WHILE MR. SULLIVAN IS TALKING!!!!**
- 2. ALL SCHOOL RULES WILL BE ENFORCED IN THE CLASSROOM**
- 3. SHOW RESPECT TO YOUR FELLOW STUDENTS**
- 4. NO CHEATING!!! 1<sup>ST</sup> OFFENSE= 0% FOR THAT ASSIGNMENT/TEST**
- 5. BE ON TASK, WORK WHEN YOU HAVE THE CLASS TIME TO DO SO**
- 6. ACT WITH DIGNITY, RESPECT AND PROFESSIONALISM**
- 7. HAVE FUN!**

## **CONSEQUENCES**

**OFFICIAL CAJON VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCIPLINE CODE WILL BE ADHERED TO FOR ALL STUDENTS.**

## **HOMEWORK:**

HOMEWORK LOADS WILL VARY SIGNIFICANTLY FROM WEEK TO WEEK! SOME WEEKS WILL SEEM VERY LIGHT, WHILE OTHERS WILL SEEM HEAVY. AMPLE CLASS TIME AND INSTRUCTION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE STUDENTS TO COMPLETE A PORTION OF THE HOMEWORK WITHIN CLASS. IT IS UP TO THE STUDENT TO USE THIS TIME WISELY! MOST ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE TURNED IN ON TEST DAY IN A “UNIT PACKET”. THIS CONSISTS OF CLASSWORK AND HOMEWORK COMPLETED DURING OUR STUDY OF A GIVEN UNIT. DUE TO THE VARYING LENGTH OF HISTORICAL TOPICS, WE WILL DEDICATE MORE TIME TO CERTAIN ASPECTS OF GEOGRAPHY/ HISTORY THAN OTHERS. THIS WILL EITHER INCREASE OR DECREASE THE SIZE OF YOUR “UNIT PACKET.” IT IS THE STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO BE ORGANIZED AND KEEP THEIR CLASSWORK FOR SUBMISSION ON THE DUE DATES THAT WILL BE GIVEN IN ADVANCE. AN INVENTORY FOR THE HOMEWORK PACKET WILL ALSO BE GIVEN TO ALL STUDENTS PRIOR TO THE DUE DATES.

## **MATERIALS:**

**YOU WILL NEED TO EITHER HAVE A DEDICATED SECTION OF YOUR SCHOOL BINDER (WITH DIVIDERS AND POCKETS) OR A SEPARATE FOLDER (WITH POCKETS) FOR OUR CLASS.** YOU WILL NEED TO BE PREPARED DAILY WITH A WRITING INSTRUMENT, AND PAPER FOR NOTES/DISCUSSION. WE WILL STRESS ORGANIZATION AND PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY, AS THEY ARE KEY COMPONENTS IN YOUR FUTURE SUCCESS!

I LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING A GREAT YEAR.

PLEASE RETURN LAST PAGE WITH BOTH SIGNATURES FOR 10 POINTS PARTICIPATION CREDIT)

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I have read and understand the attached CLASS OUTLINE/EXPECTATIONS

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

