



General Expectations for Students

General Expectations for Students in US History:

1. **On-time attendance and active participation at all class sessions.**
2. **Respect for self and colleagues.** This class is a safe academic space where, at all times, everyone is expected to actively demonstrate social and academic respect for self and others, so that all participants (students, teacher, guest presenters) can voice their opinions, form debatable theses, and do their very best work. Out of respect for self and others, students must refrain from ad hominem attack, exercise active collegiality, and uphold Lab's honor codes by avoiding any form of cheating, including plagiarism.
3. **Completion of all assigned readings.** Come to class ready to share your knowledge and perspectives, based on a careful reading of the assigned texts. Expect pop quizzes on the assigned readings, especially if the previous class session indicated a lack of student preparedness. You will be graded on productive class participation.
4. **Preparedness.** Please bring your notebooks, pens and pencils, syllabus, and assigned readings to class each day. If this is difficult for you, consult the teacher to help you develop organizational strategies. You will be taking notes in class each day. Expect to be asked to submit your notes from a given class to the teacher for review and grading.
5. **A positive and proactive attitude.** You will do well in this class if you maintain your curiosity and optimism (i.e., resist the sometimes understandable temptation to hate the book, teacher, primary source author, principal, director, etc.), always come prepared, and quickly seek the help of others (parents, teacher, librarians, etc.) when you need it.
6. **Timely Completion of Assignments.** Please submit all papers on time. Late papers will lose one letter grade for each day past the deadline that they remain un-submitted. Papers turned in 24 or more hours in advance will receive extra credit.
7. **A daily desire for excellence.** Excellence isn't a one-time achievement. Rather, it is earned incrementally in consistent, daily attempts to do your best on smaller tasks that may seem inconsequential, but have a powerful cumulative effect. Carpe Diem!