**20th Century American**  **Course Outline -** 

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**Course overview:**

This course will explore 20th century American pop culture through a focus on the “four-disciplines” of Social Studies: History, Civics, Economics and Geography. Through readings, multi –media resources, and discussion students will consider how elements of culture that develop from the “four disciplines” have both shaped and been shaped by significant events in modern American history. Particular emphasis will be placed on the following elements of culture: arts and entertainment, political and social movements, technology, government, literature, food and drink, geographical and economic trends, and cultural demographics. Throughout the course, students will be working on a project that answers the course essential question and culminates with an interactive multimedia presentation. There will be a continued emphasis on providing essential Social Studies skills, including the study of primary source documents, maps, and media analysis. This course is aligned with the Reading and Writing literacy standards from the Common Core State Standards.

Course Essential Question

***How do elements of pop culture evolve through the decades and help shape modern American society?***

**Unit Tasks:**

1. Timeline assignments

2. Vocabulary identification and projects

4. Simulation/ Station Activities

5. Document based analysis using primary and secondary sources: news articles, movie clips, television clips, political cartoons or excerpts from online databases.

6. Research for media based projects and assessments

7. Participation in class discussion

**Cumulative Project/Final Exam**

***Objective:*** To further investigate our study on pop culture throughout the 1920s-1990s, students will answer the course essential question by researching and tracking one element of pop culture through the decades. The project will prove how the element of culture played a significant role in shaping 20th & 21st century American attitudes, behaviors and social norms. The culminating project will be an interactive multimedia presentation which includes the use of primary and secondary resources. This project serves as your final exam

**Course Grading:**

This course uses a point system for grading. Your grade will be determined by dividing your total points earned by the total points possible.

**Materials:** It is required and expected that you come to class prepared **every day**. This includes pens/pencils, notebook, homework as assigned, and any other required materials.

**Absences and Late Work:**

* If you miss a class it is your responsibility to get all of the notes and assignments prior to the next class.
* You will not be allowed to make up any work including quizzes and tests if the absence is unexcused.
* Any makeup work must be completed within a reasonable amount of time. This will only benefit you as you will not fall behind in skills and content.
* If a student is absent on the day of a quiz or test, it must be made ASAP (either before school, after school, or during a study hall)
* All assignments must be turned in on time. Late work will be penalized.

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 **Expectations:**

* To earn a good grade means, in part, that you actively participate in class in a manner that is conducive to the learning environment. This includes doing your homework and coming to class prepared.
* Be on time! If you enter the class after the bell without an excused pass, you will serve a teacher detention.
* No discipline problems will be tolerated. Any disruptions in class *that prevent others from learning* are considered discipline problems.

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_