U.S. Academy History 2019-2020

Miss Dansie (801) 610-8765

calidansie@alpinedistrict.org

**Objectives:** This class will focus on U.S. geography, exploration of the “new world”, the Colonial era, the Revolutionary War, the forming of our country and the Constitution, westward expansion, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and how it relates to our world today. We will learn through reading, discussion, projects reports, simulation activities, and creative writing. We will also be competing in the history day competition.

**Suggested Materials:** You will need a three ring binder with lined paper (no spiral bound) and 5 tab dividers, black pens, mechanical pencils, colored pencils, and a flash drive.

**Academic Expectations:** This is an exciting and challenging course so get ready! Students will be greatly rewarded for the time, work and effort they put into this course. Students in the academy class are expected to maintain a B- or higher. If they do not maintain this standard they will be put on probation until they demonstrate their ability to maintain this standard or they will be dropped from the class.

**Behavior Expectations** Students are to actively participate in class, and respect others. Students are expected to develop skill in making decisions and willingness to accept responsibility for their actions. Students are to respect the rights and property of others and to act on the belief that each individual has value. Students who disrupt the learning atmosphere of the class or who are unkind to others may receive a warning and deduction of citizenship points, a loss of classroom privileges, a student/ teacher conference, or make parent contact, or in school suspension.

At Timberline Middle School students are taught school-wide behavioral expectations, called the Grizzly Guide. The Grizzly Guide states that students are respectful, responsible, resourceful and brave.

Teachers at Timberline specifically teach the Grizzly Guide and reinforce it by distributing Pawsitive Tickets, which students can exchange for prizes. When a student’s behavior is contrary to the Grizzly Guide, he or she is re-taught the behavioral expectations with quick feedback from an adult. If the student repeats the inappropriate behavior after being re-taught, teachers may provide an opportunity to re-direct the student’s behavior through a Think Time, where the student completes a reflective worksheet, and apology. Major behavioral infractions, such as physical violence or vandalism, result in an office referral.

See the online Student Handbook for more information about the Grizzly Guide and Timberline’s school-wide positive behavior plan.

**Citizenship Grades:** This class follows the school wide citizenship grading policy to communicate behavior.

**Grading Policy:** This class will be graded on a weighted system. 70% of the grade will be based on tests, quizzes and projects. 30% of the grade will be based on engagement, which includes packets and in class discussion etc. Grades are earned based on the following scale.

A= 94-100, A-=90-93, B+=87-89, B=84-86, B-=80-83, C+=77-79, C=74-76, C-=70-73, D+=67-69, D=64-66, D-=60-63, F=0-59

**Late work Policy:** Students are expected to turn in homework and assignments when they are due; however, late work will be accepted within the current unit with a penalty of up to 20% off. If it is turned in after the unit has ended it will receive a penalty of up to 40% off.

**Absent Work Policy:** If you are absent the day an assignment is due, but you were in class when it was assigned, it is due the day you get back. After that day it will be considered late and will be treated as a late assignment. For missed assignments during absences, you will have one week to make up missed work for full credit. If you have extenuating circumstances, please feel free to talk to me.

**Technology:** Cell phones, ipads, ipods, kindles etc are only aloud to be used in class with the teachers permission.

**Media Check Out:** You are financially responsible for the damage or loss of any checked out media (tripod or camera )from my classroom.

**Plagiarism:**  The copying of another’s work is prohibited and will result in a zero for that assignment and an U in citizenship.

**Disabilities Act:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, students needing special accommodations may contact me for alternative arrangements.

**Communication:** The best way to contact me is by email, [calidansie@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:missdansie@gmail.com). Parents are welcome to visit before or after school with a prior appointment. I would encourage you to visit skyward and my website often to stay informed on what we are doing in class. If there are any extenuating circumstances, please let me know so that we can work together for your student’s success

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**Viewing Historical Movies in Class:**

Historical movies can provide a powerful learning experience. Although we do not watch movies often in class we will occasionally watch clips from historical movies or, rarely, entire movies that coincide with the topic we are studying. The following is a list of possible movies we may watch at some point in our class. Please look through the list and inform me of any movies you would prefer your student to not view. This list only includes movies that are **not** produced by History Channel, National Geographic, or PBS.

The Conspirator (Assassination of Lincoln) PG-13

102 Minutes That Changed America (Footage from the 9/11) Not Rated- Produced by the History Channel

500 Nations (Native Americans) Not Rated

The Patriot (American Revolution) R but we will watch an edited version appropriate for classrooms

Into the West (Westward Expansion) Not Rated

Glory (Civil War) R but we will watch an edited version appropriate for classrooms

Gettysburg (Civil War) PG

Amazing Grace PG

Lincoln PG-13

I have read and understand the classroom policies and procedures. By signing below I give consent for my student to view movies listed above. I will contact Miss Dansie ([calidansie@alpinedistrict.org](mailto:calidansie@alpinedistrict.org)) with any questions and concerns throughout the school year and will monitor grades using skyward on a regular basis. I will do my part to make my education a valuable opportunity in my life.

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**Class period**  Date

Student’s Name (please print) Student’s Signature

Guardian’s Name (please print) Guardian’s Signature

Additional information you would like Miss Dansie to know about your student:

Please list any movies you would prefer your student to not view in class this year. Please inform your student that it is their responsibility to remember which movies they are not permitted to watch and contact me beforehand so that I can provide them with an alternative activity.

Return this paper to Miss Dansie within the first week of school. Keep the disclosure document in your binder.