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## **ROSLYN HIGH SCHOOL**

**DEPARTMENT:**                   **Social Studies**

**NAME OF COURSE:**           **United States History and Government Honors**

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COURSE**

This course is an elective for **STUDENTS** who have a particular aptitude and/or interest in United States History. These students are also academically highly motivated and seeking an academic challenge. This full year course emphasizes the Constitution and related principles of government and the chronological study of American History from the colonial period colonization to the present. The Honors course challenges students to read and write at a higher level than Regents students. There is greater emphasis in class on critical evaluations rather than content review. The projects assigned will help Honors students develop further their thinking and research skills, their ability to present information orally, and of course, their facility with writing. The projects include both independent and group activities. In addition, the short answer and essay tests will contain more analytical questions than Regents tests.

While learning the history of the United States and the structure and function of its government, constitutional principles and values are woven into the curriculum in the hope that students not only acquire an understanding of, but also commitment to participatory citizenship and an appreciation for the diversity found within our nation.

### **MAJOR TOPICS COVERED**

- Constitutional Foundations and Principles of American Government
- Civil War and Reconstruction
- Industrial Revolution and its effects on the American People
- Reform Movements (Populism, Progressivism and New Deal)
- Foreign policy-emphasis 1898 to the present
- Current Issues

### **TEXTBOOKS**

#### America Past and Present

In addition students are assigned primary sources and historiography.

Students are also expected to be independent readers about current events both on a national and international level.

### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Good attendance
- Completion of assignments
- Involvement in classroom activities
- Passing written examinations
- Research projects

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## **GRADING PROCEDURES**

Students will be graded according to the established school policy by numerical grade. Grades will be based on test performance, projects and participation in the total classroom experience. A variety of performance assessments will be used throughout the year. At the completion of the course, students are required to take the Regents examination in United States History and Government.