

Minnesota History

Course #197

Mr. O'Brien- Room 114

From the Minnesota Academic Standards:

### **What is History?**

The study of History (Minnesota, U.S., and World) helps students to see how people in other times and places have grappled with the fundamental questions of truth, justice, and personal responsibility, to understand that ideas have real consequences, and to realize that events are shaped both by ideas and the actions of individuals.

The study of U.S. History helps students understand the democratic traditions of the United States and how these traditions were established and how they continue in the present. U.S. History also helps students understand that the United States is a nation built on ordinary and extraordinary individuals united in an on-going quest for liberty, freedom, justice, and opportunity. It helps students understand how much courage and sacrifice it has taken to win and keep liberty and justice.

### **Why study History?**

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### **Expectations**

Come prepared, work hard, be respectful, and be responsible. Any questions?

### **What We Will Accomplish**

The ultimate goal is to learn. Good grades are nice, but learning and personal growth are more important. Grades should not be shared with other students- not because Mr. O'Brien is hiding something. Every student's goal should be to gain knowledge.

Some enter with some knowledge of MN History. In their case, this course should be considered MN History II- new areas will be covered and emphasized based upon pre-assessments without leaving any students behind. A magical act? Maybe- you'll see.

This course will operate as a filter of sorts. Each unit will start with the ‘big picture’ view of American History and be followed by the, relatively speaking, ‘microscopic view’ of MN History. The names, dates, people, places, and ideas are all here, so what does it all mean?

### Grading

A	94	C	74
A-	90	C-	70
B+	87	D+	67
B	84	D	64
B-	80	D-	60
C+	78	NC	Unacceptable

- 80% of grade– Concepts, Application, and Analysis
  - This includes the ability to identify and differentiate concepts, the ability to make personal connections between course concepts and everyday life, the ability to use critical thinking to further understanding and comprehension of course content.
- 20% of grade– Work Habits
  - This includes homework being turned in on assigned date, respectful and active class participation.
  - I will accept late assignments, but it will affect your grade!
  - In the past year I have had a number of students finish below their expectations because of late assignments. If you miss class it is your responsibility to find out what you missed.
- Students are responsible for checking with me to get makeup work.
- Students will need to bring in \$1 to cover the cost of their MN History journal.
- Thoughtful class participation is expected and can make the difference between an ‘A’ and an ‘A-’.
- Cheating is unacceptable and will earn a zero. School policy will be enforced.

### Rules

- All school policies and procedures will be followed.
- No food, pop, energy drinks, etc. in the classroom. Water is fine.
- Absolutely no cell phones, no exceptions.
- Passes are required in the hallways at all times.

Lastly, if there are any questions, don't be afraid to ask. I am usually available before or after school and my semester schedule is posted on my website.

### **The General Game Plan**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Theme</b>
1	Studying History
2	Minnesota- before people
3	The Native Americans of Minnesota
4	The Native Americans of Minnesota
5	The Fur Trade in Minnesota
6	Minnesota Territorial Period
7	Minnesota Statehood
8	The Civil War
9	Minnesota's Civil War
10	Reshaping the Land
11	Minnesota Industry in the Gilded Age
12	Minnesota and the Progressive Era
13	Local History Week
14	Boom and Bust
15	World War II
16	The Cold War Years
17	The Last 20 Years
18	Current Events and Minnesota
19	150 Years of Minnesota