**Course Syllabus**

**NEW 10 POINT GRADE SCALE**

**90-100=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D**

**50 & BELOW=F**

**African American Studies**

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**Fall 2020**

Welcome to African American Studies! It is important to note from the start that African American History is not separate from the larger subject of American History. It is deeply entwined with the story of America from its beginning as imperial colonies to the present day. However, this course will afford us the opportunity to focus on African American history beginning with origins on the African continent, and deeply examine the role of African Americans in building the United States as we know it today. We will learn a lot about Africa itself, including its geography, topography, history, and global impact. We will make connections of how African culture has influenced the American experience and examine relationships between modern relations between the US and Africa.

**African American Studies Units**

 Unit I: Beginnings in Africa through Colonization

 Unit II: The Impact of African Americans and Slavery on the New Republic

 Unit III: Civil War and Reconstruction

 Unit IV: New Opportunities, Economic Depression, World War and Equal Rights

 Unit V: Movement, Transition, and African Americans in Modern America

**Supply List:** Students will need the following materials for this course:

* ***YOU MUST BRING YOUR CHROMEBOOK EVERY SINGLE DAY!!***
* Three-ring binder
* Loose-leaf paper
* Black pens, #2 pencils

**Grading Criteria:** Per CMS grading policy, students will be assessed each 9 weeks under the following percentages:

* Formal Assessments = 70% (will include tests, major projects, collaborative work, and quizzes)
* Informal Assessments = 30% (will include homework, in-class work and activities)
* Midterm is worth 20% of the quarter grade.
* The Final Exam is worth 20% of the final grade.
* **Homework:** Homework will be assigned daily and will consist of reading and written assignments. Homework will be checked for ***accuracy and mastery of concepts, not completion***.
* **Late work:** will be accepted per school policy. Please refer below to Student Absences for a more detailed explanation. Students should have work when they arrive for class. It will be taken up during the first 5 minutes of class and will be considered late if accepted thereafter.
* **Using Canvas:** **Using Remind:** Each student enrolled in class much establish an Canvas account so they can enroll online. Students will be responsible for accesing materials such as maps, notes, homework, etc. ***It is essential that the student plan to use Cavnas and other computer resources in African American Studies.***  Students should also sign up for Remind101 Text messaging reminders.
* **Quizzes:** Students can expect at least 1 quiz weekly, based on assigned readings and in-class notes. Frequency of quizzes may increase if it is evident that students are not completing reading assignments.
* **Tests/Essays:** Tests will be given by unit. A unit may have more than one assessment, depending on the size of the unit. Each test will consist of multiple choice questions and some type of constructed response questions. Various other essays may be assigned throughout the semester.
* **Projects:** Projects will be assigned to enrich student learning by requiring further research and work outside of class. Projects may be individual or group.

**Student Absences:** Attendance in imperative to be successful. Large blocks of content will be covered daily. Should a student be absent, any work due on the day of the absence will be due upon return – ***including completing tests***. Students with excused or unexcused absences may make up missed work, but they will receive a percentage of the grade in accordance with CMS policy. ***It is the student’s responsibility to initiate the make up process before or after class and turn in work before the deadline. After stated deadlines, makeup work will not be accepted.***

**Late Work:** Late work is accepted according the CMS policy: 1 Day Late=80%, 2 Days Late=70%, 3 Days or more=50%

**Extra Credit:** I do not assign or accept extra credit.

**Remediation/Extra Help:** Remediation and retesting is available for every unit test. I also arrive to school early and will be available before school and after school by request.

**Parent Communication:** Parents should check their student’s academic progress weekly using PowerSchools. Should a parent need to contact me, it is best achieved through email. My email address is jenniferd.holland@cms.k12.nc.us. Parents may also contact guidance to arrange conferences if necessary.

**CELL PHONES WILL BE PLACED IN THE HOLDER AT THE FRONT OF THE ROOM. PLACE YOUR PHONE IN THE POCKET WITH YOUR NAME ON IT!**