

Sobriety High School Integrated Social Studies Joe Covert, teacher

Welcome to social studies at Sobriety High! My name is Joe Covert, and I will be your teacher this year. I received my BA in history and my teaching licensure from the University of Minnesota. I thoroughly enjoy teaching this class and intend to focus on history, geography, government and economics, the four disciplines required by the new Minnesota graduation standards. We will also spend a considerable amount of time on current events

To graduate from high school, a student must take a year and a half of history, more than any other social studies discipline. This is fitting because we will never understand the challenges of today unless we know something about our collective past. My intent is to emphasize historical content as well as critical thinking skills. I have a passion for history which I hope is contagious.

This class will favor depth over breadth. For example, we will explore the unprecedented period of American generosity in the aftermath of World War II. Studying this in depth, will help satisfy a requirement for a semester credit in economics. It will also introduce you to one of the most important episodes in our modern history, when American economic might saved millions of suffering people. I want to learn more about topics of interest to you, and I will remain flexible about what we explore in detail. Regular attendance is essential if you are going to complete this course.

*Attendance and participation = 15% of your grade. Please bring a notebook, folder, and writing utensil to class each day.

*Assignments and group work = 35% of your grade. This includes written work, readings and class discussions.

*Tests and quizzes = 50% of your grade. These will be given on a weekly basis and will include: essay, short answer, and multiple choice questions. The purpose of these tests are to assess your knowledge of course material we have covered.