

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to a new school year! I am excited to have your student in U.S. History this year and look forward to an engaging year of learning, discussion, and historical inquiry.

I am also excited to share a completely optional opportunity for Juniors. This year, juniors will have the choice to earn **dual-credit U.S. History through Minot State University**. This is completely optional, and if your child does not wish to participate, they will still take their on-level US History course. This opportunity allows students to earn both high school and college credit while remaining in the supportive environment of their high school classroom.

Why Dual Credit?

After careful consideration, we have chosen to offer dual credit in place of AP U.S. History (APUSH). While both courses are rigorous and designed to prepare students for college, dual credit offers several advantages for many of our students:

- **Guaranteed college credit** for students who successfully complete the course, rather than relying on a single end-of-year AP exam.
- **An authentic college experience** that emphasizes consistent learning, writing, discussion, and critical thinking throughout the semester.
- **Reduced testing pressure**, allowing students to demonstrate their learning through multiple assessments instead of one high-stakes exam.
- **A smoother transition to college expectations**, helping students develop the study habits and academic skills they will need after graduation.

Our goal is to provide students with a challenging and rewarding course that prepares them for future success while giving them the opportunity to begin earning college credits.

Expectations in a College Course

Because this is a college-level class, students will be held to high academic standards. Success in the course will require students to:

- Complete assignments on time and take responsibility for meeting deadlines.
- Read assigned materials independently and come prepared for class discussions.
- Write analytical responses using historical evidence.
- Participate actively in collaborative activities and discussions.
- Demonstrate academic honesty and integrity in all coursework.
- Communicate proactively if they need assistance or anticipate missing work.

Although expectations are rigorous, students will receive guidance, feedback, and support throughout the year. My goal is to help every student develop the confidence and skills necessary to succeed in college-level coursework.

Parent Information Meeting

To help families learn more about this exciting opportunity, I will be hosting a **Dual-Credit U.S. History Parent Information Meeting** during our **Back-to-School Open House** at 6:00 PM in Mrs. Werre's classroom. During this meeting, we will discuss:

- Course expectations
- College credit and registration through Minot State University
- Student workload and grading
- Important dates and deadlines
- Questions from students and parents

I encourage all families of juniors to attend. If you have any questions or are unable to attend, please feel free to contact me at kayla.werre@nedrose.com.

Sincerely,

Kayla Werre
Nedrose High School