

Lake Shore High School
Course Syllabus
AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Teacher: Christopher Hubbard
e-mail: chubbard@lshs.org
Length of Course: One Semester

School Year: 2010-11
Work Phone: (586) 285-8989
Credit: ½ S.S. Elective

Course websites: <http://mrhubbard.weebly.com> for daily assignments.
 <http://civilwarfieldtripshoot.weebly.com> for field trip info.

I. **Course Description**

The American Civil War course is offered as an elective to juniors and seniors who have successfully completed their required course work in American History. This course was designed to give students an in-depth understanding of various aspects of the American Civil War, 1861-1865. Students are expected to work in cooperative learning groups on a variety of research based activities and projects. They will produce reports, bulletin board displays, and models. Students are challenged to be innovative in the production of their presentations. They are expected to present their projects to the class.

The course is divided into nine themes or units: economics, causes, military life, major battles, medical care, crime and punishment, entertainment, technology, and prisons. Of these the themes/units concerning military life and technology will be most lengthy.

One of the highlights of the class will be a Saturday field trip to a rifle range where students will observe and take part in activities that would have been part of the daily lives or duties of soldiers. During the day students send and receive messages using authentic devices they have constructed with codes they have devised. The students will observe artillery and mortar drill and firing using original and reproduction full scale artillery. Students will be issued rations as soldiers would have been issued, and will build cooking fires to cook the rations into meals they have researched representative of what soldiers would have eaten. Students will observe the firing of rifles, carbines, and revolvers of the Civil War era. Finally, each student is given an opportunity to load and fire a Civil War rifle under the direct one-on-one supervision of an experienced instructor.

This field trip will be held SATURDAY October 23rd, in Marysville MI. You can find more details at <http://civilwarfieldtripshoot.weebly.com> . Permission slips will be distributed in early October.

The class will also take a trip to Fort Wayne, in Detroit, an actual Civil War era brick star fort where most of the state's troops mustered and left for the war. Students will spend half of the day aiding in preservation of the fort with tasks like removing brush and repainting. They will spend the other half of the day touring the fortifications and studying the design of a typical star fort. This is tentatively set for Wednesday, September 22nd

Fee: Students will be required to pay a \$10.00 fee for the class. This will pay for the field trip and for hands on materials used in class. Due - September 20th, 2010 Please contact me with any concerns.

II. Text/Materials/Supplies

Students will be required to have the following in class everyday, unless told otherwise.

Catton, B., The Civil War., Houghton – Mifflin Co., © 1960

Billings, J.D., Hardtack and Coffee., Bison Books., © 1993

III. Course Outcomes

By the end of the course students will

- A. Arrange and interpret information in various forms, including maps, graphs, tables, and charts.
- B. Recognize there may be more than one interpretation of an event.
- C. Understand cause and effect relationships of major events.
- D. Participate cooperatively in group discussions and activities by listening attentively, presenting ideas clearly, and responding thoughtfully to the ideas of others.
- E. Locate and utilize data using written, graphic, oral, physical, and technological resources.
- F. Demonstrate appropriate behavior for various social settings and situations.
- G. Place events in chronological order.
- H. Relate Civil War events to experiences in their daily lives.
- I. Recognize cultural, ethnic, gender, racial, and religious similarities and differences during the Civil War, and now.
- J. Know the chronology and describe the influence of major events, ideas, historical movements and key figures in the Civil War.

IV. Student Behavioral Expectations

- Be on task at all times.
- Respect others and their property
- Be prompt (In your seat when the bell rings)
- Obey school rules as listed in the Student Handbook.
- Turn in assignments when due.
- Try your best at all times.

Students are expected to have their text book(s), notebook or folder, and pen or pencil with them each day.

Students are expected to use the following learning strategies or tools: Concept maps, review sheets, graphic organizers, note taking, and outlining. Students should study or review their material every day.

V. Grading Scale

The standard Lake Shore High School grading scale will be used. Approximately half of the student grade is based on test scores or similar assessments. The remaining portion of the grade is based on class work, homework, participation, and being prepared for class every day. Grades are determined by points earned divided by total points possible.

Assessments will include: tests, research papers, cooperative group work, and projects.

The final exam or paper/project is worth 15 percent of the student's final grade for the course.

VI. Discipline procedures

- Nonverbal cue.
- Verbal reprimand.
- Loss of classroom points.
- Move student.
- Move student to the hallway.
- Call home.
- Additional measures based on student handbook.