**MERCYHURST PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

**HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS - PART II**

**2014-2015 SYLLABUS**

**MS. BETTI**

**TEXTS**

Boorstin and Kelley. A History of the United States. Ginn and Company.

Bailey and Kennedy. The American Pageant. D.C. Heath and Company.

**CLASS OBJECTIVES AND GOALS**

History of the Americas Honors Part II is a year-long interdisciplinary course designed to meet requirements in Junior Social Studies Honors. The course is structured to consider history through a thematic approach, beginning with Sectionalism up to and including the Pre-World War II Era. Students will individually and collectively examine the major epoch of the Americas while evaluating social, political and economic trends throughout. Topics dealing with music, art and drama which are integral to a study of history will also be assessed.

**TOPICS FOR IN-DEPTH COVERAGE 2014-2015**

The Flourishing Land

The Industrial Revolution

The Rise of the West

The Cotton Kingdom

The Age of Reform

War with Mexico

The Compromise of 1850

The Nation Comes Apart

The Failure of the Politicians

The Civil War

Reconstruction

The Passing of the Frontier

Native American Resettlement

The Nation Transformed

Railroads and Big Business

Labor Begins to Organize

The Challenge of the Cities

Politics in the Gilded Age

Democratic Reforms and World Power

The United States and the Great War

From Boom to Bust (1918-1932)

Life in the Jazz Age

A Return to Normalcy

The Coming of the Great Depression

From Recovery to Reform

Reshaping American Life

Problems on the Farm

The New Deal and Women

The Struggle of Labor

Pre World War II

**GLOBAL UPDATES**

Format: *Newsweek,* "Title", date, page.

 The summary should be at least three paragraphs, in your own words and opinion of the article is also in your own words. This assignment must be typed.

Current events play a major part in our lives and will be discussed regularly. Students should watch, listen to and/or read the news on a daily basis.