

**Mr. Salber**

**Gulfport Virtual Academy – Mississippi Studies**

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## **Crazy questions and comments.**

***So Mr. Salber what do we need for your class?***

- Copy of digital textbook
- Paper, notebook, or binder (your preference)
- Laptop, tablet, et al with access to google classroom and Zoom (your preference but the school will provide a chromebook)
- Additional items to complete projects as needed

***How much stuff will you teach this year?***

I will first give you an introduction to the course starting today and then I have the course broken down into the following sections for the second half of the school year

Intro to course

Geography of Mississippi

Native Mississippians

European Period

Territory to Statehood

Antebellum

Civil War and Reconstruction

Conflict and Change

Civil Rights

***Homework!?! Are you going to assign a lot?***

Well, this is school so yes I will assign homework. We will have a series of worksheets and some projects in both the 3rd and 4th quarter.

***Will we have tests?***

Although I am not a fan of testing and the academic emphasis put on testing I am obligated to assess you and your knowledge throughout the year in the form of formal assessments and informal quizzes. So yes

***Mr. Salber, I did my one page paper and you still gave me a bad grade. How come?***

Well, let's take a look at that paper... I know all about font sizes, creative line spacing, margin manipulations and all that stuff. Don't embarrass yourself by trying that.

***What's this giant circle on my paper?***

Uh, that would be your grade and that would also be my zero tolerance for plagiarism. Note to all students: The internet has made it so much easier for you as students to research information. However, if you search for information and copy and paste it, I can find it too. If you still decide to try and copy and paste an assignment I will copy and paste this 0 to your paper. In addition, plagiarism was a significant problem so far with the GVA. It hurts you a great deal because I can not assess what you know and don't know, so I can not help you in the areas that you may be struggling.

***Mr. Salber, I am just not getting this material. I'm going to fail today's test...***

Wow, well I can't help you now, but for the next test or project maybe you should ask me for help. I will make myself available physically or virtually, so please don't wait until the last minute to ask for help.

***Mr. Salber, my printer isn't working. It's okay to hand my paper in tomorrow, right?***

Ah, no. You need to get your assignment to me on time. I will give you plenty of notice for all of your assignments, so I expect them to be handed in on time. If you do turn in work late the highest grade you can receive is a 70.

***Mr. Salber, you seemed very upset when my cell phone went off in class the other day. How come?***

Yes, I was very upset. This is a classroom. We will use technology in the classroom, but put your phones away, on silent or airplane mode or off. It should NEVER go off in class.

***I forgot to complete several of my assignments and don't want to fail. Is there anything I can do for extra credit?***

No, now get away before I call security. Seriously, if you did not take time out of your schedule to do the mandatory assignments I am not going to take time out of mine to create new assignments to boost your grade. If you have done ALL of your assignments and need a little boost, then and only then can you talk to me about extra credit.

***Mr. Salber, I am really tired. Do you mind if I sleep in class?***

Oh, sorry this is not kindergarten. I did not put "nap time" in my lesson plans

***Man Mr. Salber you seem really mean and unreasonable. Will I enjoy your class?***

Actually I am a big ray of sunshine with sugar on top, as long as you come to class with your homework done and you don't try to pull off any nonsense described above. If you are willing to play along this can be a rewarding class. If you do what you are supposed to, this class can be challenging, enriching, rewarding and (gulp) fun.

Joe Smith

## The Cold War

The Cold War is the name given to the relationship that developed primarily between the USA and the USSR after World War Two. The Cold War was to dominate international affairs for decades and many major crises occurred - the Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam, Hungary and the Berlin Wall being just some. For many the growth in weapons of mass destruction was the most worrying issue.