

COURSE DESCRIPTION

United States History 8 is designed to place major emphasis on the nation's history, from pre-Columbian civilizations to the Civil War and Reconstruction. Geography of the United States and social studies skills also receives emphasis. Map skills, reading and interpreting charts and graphs, and the utilization of reference books and materials are implemented throughout the program. In U.S. History 8, students participate in role playing, group activities, documentation examination, quizzes and tests, and organized lecture/discussion activities.

DAILY REQUIRED MATERIALS

Agenda (planner)
Social Studies textbook
Social Studies notebook
Pocket folder for daily handouts
Pens / pencils
Red pen
Thumb Drive

Students who come to class without these items will be at risk of interrupting learning and/or teaching.

Every nine weeks students will be issued three locker pass coupons. If they can manage to avoid going to their locker for the quarter and turn in all three coupons at the end of the quarter, students will earn 15 extra credit points.

SEMESTER 1 TOPICS

Different Worlds Meet
Colonial Settlement
Creating a Nation

SEMESTER 2 TOPICS

The New Republic
Civil War and Reconstruction

SPECIAL PROJECTS

American Revolution Web Quest
Indiana Stock Market Simulation
U.S. President Biography Research Paper/Power Point Presentation

*The teacher reserves the right to make changes in the schedule, assignments, tests, quizzes, and projects as needed. In the event of a major changes, students will be given due notice.

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Do your personal best
2. Always do what is right
3. Do to others as you would want them to do to you (The Golden Rule)

CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

1st Incident: Teacher/Student Conference – Verbal Warning issued and recorded

2nd Incident: Behavior Notice will be sent home (Parents this is your notification not your son or daughter's. They already know my opinions about their behavior)

3rd Incident: Student will be sent to the office with a referral which will result in an automatic detention.

4th Incident Parent Teacher Conference either in person or by phone.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE TEACHER

- A structured class that challenges each student to do his or her best
- Updated teacher web-site that will have many needed and useful tools for students and parents
- Student grades posted to school master every week
- Most importantly your child's best interests at heart

WHAT THE TEACHER EXPECTS FROM STUDENTS

- A positive attitude
- Be a part of the solution, not a part of the problem.

GRADING POLICY

Students' grades are based on points earned for tasks completed in and out of class. The points are all added together for the final quarter grade. Points are earned for class work and homework (50pts each), quizzes (75 pts. each), and tests and projects (100 pts. each). Extra credit opportunities are offered throughout each quarter.

HOMEWORK POLICY

1. Just do it.
 2. Bring it to school.
 3. Turn it in during class.
- Failing to do one of these will result in zero points and an academic notice. If the completed assignment is turned in the next day, half credit (25pts.) will be given.
 - If a student is sick, I will work out an arrangement with that individual so that he or she has ample time to get their work done.
 - In the event of a prearranged absence, it is the responsibility of the student to make arrangements with the teacher to "makeup" missed work.