

<p style="text-align: center;">SYLLABUS 8th Social Studies 2000-2001</p>

Summary Statement: Eighth Grade Social Studies involves a survey of United States history through Reconstruction (1877). Emphasis is placed upon chronology, geography, pivotal events, and major trends. Although virtually all Social Studies Outcomes are addressed to some degree in 8th Social Studies, the greatest emphasis is placed upon:

4.4 Understand the chronological development of societies along with the multiple causes of change so to understand the role of history as a determinant of the present and past.

Upon request, documentation is available reflecting the alignment of the course with program outcomes and district-wide outcomes.

Learning Units:

- 1 The Peopling of the Americas: First Americans
- 2 The Peopling of the Americas: Europeans
- 3 The Peopling of the Americas: Africans
- 4 The Colonial Experience
- 5 Growing Tensions
- 6 The War for Independence
- 7 The Critical Period
- 8 The Constitution
- 9 The Federalist Period
- 10 Jeffersonian Democracy
- 11 The Growth of Nationalism
- 12 The Age of Jackson
- 13 Social Changes in the mid-1800s
- 14 Westward to the Pacific
- 15 A House Divided
- 16 The Civil War
- 17 Reconstruction
- 18 Overview: The Development of Modern America

Note: It is projected that five learning units will be completed per marking period.

Pedagogy: The course will be taught utilizing *Outcome-Based Education/*
Mastery Learning strategies and procedures.

Texts and Materials:

History of the United States: Beginnings to 1877 - Mason, Jacobs and Ludlum

Pennsylvania: A History of the Keystone State - Peck

CNN Newsroom (daily current events video program)

Across Five Aprils - Hunt

Johnny Tremain - Forbes

Carry on Mr. Bowditch - Latham

Numerous audio-visual materials are used to reinforce and enliven the curriculum

Homework: Homework is an essential component of this course. Homework will take the form of outside readings, text and worksheet questions, studying, and researching. These assignments will be the basis of classroom discussions and debates. Homework will count for 15% of the marking period grade. It will not always be graded for accuracy but for effort and completion.

Current Events Journal: Students will be required to maintain a journal in which they will respond to issues presented in class from news articles, video clips, research journals, and other educational sources. The journal entries will require the students to make inferences, suggest alternative strategies, and share thoughts and concerns. The journals will count for 15% of the marking period grade.

Quizzes: Occasionally students will be given short quizzes to assess their understanding of concepts during a learning unit. These quizzes will count for 20% of the marking period grade.

Tests and Projects: Research assignments, projects, and learning unit tests will count for 50% of the marking period grade. Students achieving a grade less than 80% will have the opportunity to retest after completing a corrective activity so as to obtain a higher grade not to exceed 80%.

Homework and Review Sessions: I will be opening up my room before and after school every day at 7 A.M. and 2:45 P.M. to help students who wish to work on their homework or review concepts. There will be a review session the morning of each learning unit test at 7:30 A.M.

Feel free to call at any time concerning the contents of the course or your student's progress. (Ph.: 884-1801)