

Gresham Middle School Course Syllabus

Teacher: Mr. Collins

Course Title: 8th Grade US History and Geography Syllabus 2016-2017
<http://www.tennessee.gov/education/article/social-studies-standards>

Course Overview

Description and Objectives:

Eighth grade students will study the geographic features that influenced early settlements and colonies. This course will emphasize the development and maturation of the British colonies, and the political, cultural, and economic influences that led to the American Revolution. The major events and outcomes of the American Revolution will be analyzed, along with the individuals that played influential roles in the development of the new nation. Students will follow the development of the United States and its government, continuing through the early 19th century. The impact of the expansion of the United States will be analyzed, including implications on domestic and foreign policy. Policies that affected the American Indians will also be studied. The events leading up to the Civil War will be examined, along with the individuals and events that were significant during the war. The history, people, government, and geography of Tennessee will be emphasized in order to illustrate the role our state has played in American history. Reconstruction And the development of the American West Will conclude this course. Appropriate Primary sources and informational texts will be included in order to enhance understanding of the content.

Expectations and Guidelines:

Grading: Standards Based Assessments and Projects...75%. Daily work...25%.

Honors: Standards Based Assessments and Projects 70% Midterm 15%
Daily/Homework 15%

Exceeding Expectations.	93 – 100
Meeting Expectations	92 – 85
Approaching Expectations	84 – 75
Attempting Expectations	74 – 70
Insufficient Evidence	69 – 0

Communication: If you have questions, you may contact me via email or through the school phone (865-689-1430). I will get back to you at my earliest convenience.

Benjamin.collins@knoxschools.org

Assignments and Projects: Because time is a commodity none of us have in abundance, it is my expectation that all work be completed when it is due. Late work will be penalized 10 points.

Make Up Work: It is the responsibility of the student to get their make up work after an absence and complete it as soon as possible. All work missed must be completed and turned in before end-of-module testing.

Scope and Sequence: There are 10 Modules we will cover in class this year. During each module, we will have ongoing progress monitoring through quizzes. After each module is complete, a module test will review and assess overall retention of the standards.

Module 1: Colonialism (1600-1750)

Module 2: Development of a New Nation (1720-1787)

Module 3: Constitution (1777-1787)

Module 4: The New Republic: (1789-1849)

Module 5: US role on world stage (1789-1849)

Module 6: Sectionalism in America (1800-1850)

Module 7: Slavery in America (1800-1850)

Module 8: Civil War (1830-1865)

Module 9: Reconstruction: (1865-1877)

Module 10: Post Civil War Growth (1865-1890)

Instruction and Instructional Materials

Materials: *Students need to bring in (4) 1-subject notebooks for this class. All notes will be recorded in the notebooks.

Textbook and Other Materials*: McGraw-Hill: Discovering Our Past, A History of the United States, Discovery Education video clips, film clips selected from *Lincoln*, *Race to Freedom*, *The Crossing*, *Nightjohn*, *April Morning*, *Gettysburg*, *Gods and Generals*, and various historical documentaries.

Religion in the Curriculum

Knox County Board policy states:

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion be conducted in a factual, objective and respectful manner in accordance with the following:

1. Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;
2. The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and
3. Student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious belief or non-belief in compositions, art forms, music, speech and debate.

* If you do not approve of a specific resource listed in this syllabus, please make your request to me in writing and an alternative assignment and/or materials will be provided. The request should include your name, the child's name, the specific activity/materials in which you do not want your child to participate or to which you do not want them exposed, and the nature of your objection.

Plagiarism

When presenting someone else's ideas, research, or opinions, even if it has been rephrased, one must properly cite the original author to avoid plagiarism (Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition). Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students found guilty of plagiarism will engage in an academic conference with parents/guardians and the teacher. Students will be required to redo the assignment within a specified time period.

Return

I have read and understand the course syllabus for *8th grade U.S. History*

Student Name, printed

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Name, printed

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

