

SYLLABUS 2015-2016

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COURSE: United States History: Part 1(8th Grade)

ROOM: 23

I. Course Description

This course is a survey of the history of The United States of America. The course will cover important aspects in the development of the nation, beginning with European colonization of Central and South America. The course will also investigate the effect of European colonialism and American expansionism on the native peoples of the region. This course is a study of the United States from the Colonial period through the Civil War Era. In addition to the study of historical events within this timeframe, the course encompasses an in-depth study of the United States Constitution and its past and present implementation at the federal, state, and local levels. While history and civics are the core disciplines, the program also incorporates economics, sociology, geography, and humanities to give students an understanding of and appreciation for the major movements and concepts that have characterized the United States.

II. General Objectives

Improve skills in historical research and geographical analysis by:

- 1. Understand the foundations of American citizenship
- 2. Appreciate the rights and foundations of citizenship
- 3. Explore how the American system of government works
- 4. Understand the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights
- 5. Appreciate the American political system
- 6. Explore the court system, including both civil and criminal procedure
- 7. Explore basic principles of economics and marketing
- 8. Identifying, analyzing, and interpreting primary and secondary sources to make generalizations about events and life in the history of the United States.
- 9. Using maps, globes, artifacts, and pictures, to analyze the physical and cultural landscapes of the United States and interpret the past.
- 10. Identifying major geographic features important to the study of United States history
- 11. Identifying and comparing political boundaries with the locations of states and regions.
- 12. Analyzing trends in human migration and cultural interaction.

III. Skills

The student will improve skills in historical research and geographical study through primary and secondary source analysis, using maps, globes, artifacts and pictures, identifying major geographic

features, identifying and comparing political boundaries, analyzing trends in human migration and cultural interaction, and analyzing the impact of economic forces on United States history to 1800s These skills will serve to increase student awareness of common connections between all humans past and present. Students who complete the course objectives should be more prepared to contribute positively to the world around them and to think critically about solutions to the problems of our day.

IV. Materials

UNITED STATES HISTORY Holt, Rinehart, Winston – Student Edition

Notebook, writing utensils, loose leaf paper, 1 ½ inch 3-ring binder, 5 tab dividers

V. Course Outline

FIRST QUARTER (August - October)

A. Introduction to U.S. History

Unit 1: Our Colonial Heritage

- 1. Chapter 1: The World before the Opening of the Atlantic
- 2. Chapter 2: The New Empires in the Americas TEST 1
- 3. Chapter 3: The English Colonies
- 4. Chapter 4: The American Revolution TEST 2

SECOND QUARTER (October - December)

- B. Unit 2: A New Nation
 - 1. Chapter 5: Forming a Government
 - 2. Chapter 6: Citizenship and the Constitution FINAL TEST

THIRD QUARTER (January - March)

- 3. Chapter 7: Launching the Nation
- C. Unit 3: The New Republic
 - 1. Chapter 8: The Jefferson Era
 - 2. Chapter 9: A National Identity TEST 4

FOURTH QUARTER (March – May)

- 3. Chapter 10: The Age of Jackson
- 4. Chapter 11: Expanding West TEST 5
- D. Unit 4: The Nation Expands
 - 1. Chapter 12: The North
 - 2. Chapter 13: The South
 - 3. Chapter 14: New Movements in America FINAL TEST

IV. Semestral Evaluation

Instrument	Points	Weight
TESTS (3) x 100 pts. ea. =	300 pts.	30 %
WRITING ASIGNMENTS =	200 pts.	20%
PROJECT (1) x 100 pts. =	100 pts.	15 %
PORTFOLIO =	100 pts.	15%
QUIZZES (4) x 25 pts. ea.	100 pts.	10 %
DAILY WORK	100 pts.	10 %
(Homeworks, behavior, notebook)	•	
SEMESTER TOTAL PTS. =	900 pts.	100%