

8th Grade Social Science 2023-2024

Mr. Prysny

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Course Description:

Eighth grade social science is a class in United States history. Students will investigate particular events, analyze and make connections to better understand history and how the United States has evolved. This class will adhere to the Illinois State Learning Standards for Social Science. Our exit outcomes will relate to content areas: citizenship/government, economics, history, geography, and culture.

Essential Learning Standards are as follows:

Inquiry Skills

SS.6-8.IS.5.MC. Develop claims and counterclaims using evidence from credible sources while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both.

SS.IS.5.6-8.MdC. Identify evidence from multiple sources to support claims, noting any limitations of the evidence.

SS.6-8.IS.6.MdC. Construct explanations for a specific audience using reasoning, correct sequences, examples, and details, while acknowledging their strengths and weaknesses.

SS.6-8.H.3.MC. Evaluate the validity of claims made in historical sources representing a variety of perspectives, describe the possible or actual impact(s) of the sources on audiences, and determine uses and applications.

Civics

S.6-8.CV.2.MdC. Explain the origins, functions, and structure of government with reference to the U.S. Constitution, Illinois Constitution, and other systems of government and how they have impacted multiple groups of people.

Geography

SS.6-8.G.1.LC. Use geographic representations (e.g., maps, photographs, satellite images) to explain relationships between the locations (places and regions) and changes in their environment.

Economics & Financial Literacy

SS.EC.FL.1.6-8.MdC: Identify how people choose to buy goods and services while still maintaining a budget based on income, taxes, savings, and fixed and variable interest rates.

History

SS.6-8.H.1.LC. Identify and describe the contexts of a series of historical events and developments as examples of change and/or continuity based on the perspectives of multiple diverse groups.

Vocabulary

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RH.6-8.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.

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Curriculum sequence is as follows:

- U.S. Expansion at Home and Abroad
- Gilded Age; Progressive Era
- World War I
- Boom and bust (20s & 30s)
- World War II and the Holocaust
- Post - WWII issues
- Cold War Era
- Civil Rights
- Pop Culture through different eras
- Financial literacy, economic principles

Current Events are embedded throughout the year

Grading:

- Assignments = 30% -Formative assessments = 30% -Summative assessments = 40%

Materials:

The following materials are expected to be in class on a daily basis:

- *Agenda for keeping all assignments and important reminders/due dates*
- *Folder for Social Studies ONLY*
- *Notebook paper (loose leaf or Neatbook) -NO spirals on papers to be turned in please!*
- *Pens (black or blue) and pencils*
- *A social studies textbook will be provided for you in class every day as well as checked out on an as needed basis.*

Textbooks: McDougal Littell: *Creating America, A History of the United States* (Primary Text)

Assignments:

Class assignments will be explained and listed in OTUS (online). All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the day it is due. It is important to be prepared with assignments in order to contribute to class discussions and activities.

Policy for Student Absences:

If a student is absent, they are responsible for making up any and all work. It is the student's responsibility to check the assignment binder (kept in class and updated daily) to find out what activities were done in class and what was assigned for homework. Generally, students will have one extra day (per absence) to complete the work without penalty. If there are extraordinary circumstances, please let me know as soon as possible so we can work together.

Class Rules/Discipline

Specific classroom rules and school-wide expectations will be discussed at the beginning of the year with each class.

Some basic rules to remember:

- Be on time to class.
- Have all necessary materials out and be prepared before class begins, including your agenda filled out
- Display respectful, responsible, and safe behavior towards yourself, your peers and staff members.

We will follow the WJHS policy using progressive discipline in all classes.