## 8th Grade Social Studies — American History



Mr. Fairchild

#### Class Overview

The eighth grade social studies course is a rigorous study of United States History up to Reconstruction. The curriculum begins with a discussion of "What is History?", continues with a review of exploration and colonialism, and leads into the study of the United States from the late 1700's through the mid-1800's.

This course includes an in-depth study of the Revolution and the establishment of the new nation, with an intensive study of the Constitution. The study of the constitution includes an understanding of the original intent of the document, modern interpretations, and rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Other major units of study include Expansion and Reform and the Civil War. The strands of social studies:-civics, government, economics, geography and culture-are woven through the historical events and connected to the people of the time period with a continual effort to understand the impact of the past on current issues.

# **Expectations**

- 1. Ready to learn Prepared with proper learning tools daily
  - a. iPad
  - b. Pen/Pencil
  - c. Notebook/folder
- 2. Respect for all involved in class
  - a. Respect the speaker
  - b. Respect and care of property
  - c. Maintain a safe classroom environment
- 3. Be Creative— Project and Student Based Assignments- Make them yours.
- 4. Give Honest Effort

## **Grading:**

- 1. Competencies (assignments) 40% of total grade.
- 2. Assessments 60% of total grade.

## **Classroom Management**

We are subject to the Orrick Student Handbook and discipline plan and expectations in the class.

- 1. First offense Verbal Warning
- Second offense Move to Safe Seat with a PAGE
- 3. Third offense —Buddy Room with a Detention
- 4. Fourth offense —Office referral

## Units covered in class

Geography Skills Review

Canada & the United States

Latin America

Europe & Russia

Africa

Southwest and Central Asia

Southeast Asia

Oceania and Antarctica

## Academic Honesty

I require and expect absolute academic honesty from my students. Any student suspected or caught cheating/plagiarizing in the class will be called in for an immediate Parent/Guardian Conference with an administrator and me. If academic dishonesty is proven, the student will receive a zero on the assignment and be given a detention at the very least.