

2015-2016

July 8, 2016

8th Grade US History and Geography Syllabus

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CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT PLAN

The most effective learning environment is one that promotes positive interactions, safety, and acceptance of different viewpoints. As the classroom teacher, I will strive to accommodate all learners in an equitable manner with minimal disruption to the learning process.

GENERAL CLASSROOM RULES:

1. Keep your hands to yourself.
2. Listen attentively when others are speaking.
3. Respect each other.
4. Be prepared for class. Sharpen pencils before class begins.
5. Stay on-task and focused. Cooperative groups must practice this skill regularly.
6. No food without teacher permission. Water is acceptable at all times if in appropriate containers.
7. Bathroom privileges are granted after direct instruction is completed.
8. Please do not wad papers in my class. Fold trash neatly or lay flat in the recycling bin.
9. NO BUBBLES! If I can tell what color your gum is, it must be thrown away.
10. Be responsible for yourself and your classmates. Each of you possess wonderful leadership qualities. Practice them in class.
11. Electronic devices such as cameras, iPods, and tablets should only be used with teacher permission.
12. Follow the 7 Habits: Be Proactive, Begin with the End in Mind, Put First Things First, Think WinWin, Seek First to Understand - Then Be Understood, Synergize, and Sharpen the Saw.

PROCEDURES FOR DISCIPLINE INCLUDE:

Minor Behavior Issues– Proximity, eye contact, and redirection; verbal warning

Disruptive Behavior Issues– Conduct slip and/or logical consequence.

S– Sit Up

L– Listen

A– Ask and Answer Questions

N– Nod

T– Track the Speaker

SOCIAL STUDIES:

In this course, we will study early US History. We will explore historical events, notable figures, and important places as well as how these details have connections to our society today. Common Core's focus on literacy in the content areas is followed through various excerpts and reading passages. This is a writing intensive course!

TOPICS OF STUDY:

1. Colonialism
2. Development of a New Nation
3. The Constitution
4. Growth of a Young Nation
5. US Role on World Stage
6. Sectionalism
7. Slavery in America
8. Civil War
9. Reconstruction
10. Westward Expansion

HOMEWORK POLICY:

Students will complete approximately 20-30 minutes of homework in each subject each night. Special projects may require more or less time outside of class. **If you have been absent, it is your responsibility to see the teacher about any missed assignments.** Your parents may request assignments the day you are absent from the main office. Teachers will turn those in to the Main Office by 1:30 each afternoon. You will have 1 day for each absence to make up your work. Unexcused late assignments will be accepted one day after the original due date for maximum credit of 70%. After one day, students will receive a maximum of 50% for unexcused late work. If you are missing an assignment, I will highlight your planner with the missing work. You must have a parent sign the planner and return. If you do not, you will receive a conduct slip.

HELP SESSIONS:

If you require additional support, please schedule individual tutoring with me as needed.

GRADING SCALE:

A 93-100

B 85-92

C 75-84

D 70-74

F below 70

GRADING PROCESS:

Tests 60%

Instructional Reinforcements 40%

CONTRACT OF UNDERSTANDING

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT PLAN AND SYLLABUS IN MR. WEEMS' CLASSROOM. I EXPECT TO FOLLOW ALL RULES SET FORTH AND HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED OF CONSEQUENCES FOR ANY INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR. I WILL KEEP THIS AS A REMINDER IN MY NOTEBOOK AT ALL TIMES.

_____ Student Signature/Date

_____ Parent Signature/Date