



Grade 8 Early American History

Mr. Scott Quincey
2020-2021 Course Syllabus

Classroom Expectations:

➤ Participation and Behavior

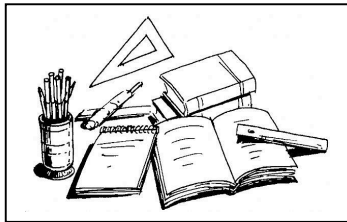


Learn about the heritage of the United States. Learn to express your opinions, beliefs, and thoughts.

- 1) Respect one another.
- 2) No food, drinks, or gum are allowed in class.

Bring all required materials to class daily. Required materials include:

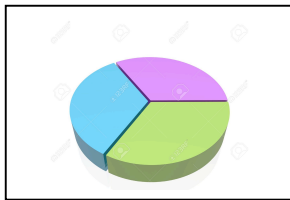
- 1) Chromebook
- 2) Class binder and loose leaf paper
- 3) Writing instruments (pencils, blue or black ink pens)
- 4) Completed homework



Storage and Organization Tips:

- Use a binder to store class notes, assignments, and project materials.
- Note upcoming deadlines and organize your work time.
- Track all ongoing assignments *AND* due dates.

➤ Grading



Overall grades are based on work quality. The online grade is updated after work is graded. Work turned in late is not graded until time is available. Students can check in with me and discuss grades. Comments on report cards will reflect responsibility, respect, resourcefulness, and improvement and/or progress towards these expectations.

There are 3 major categories included in the grade. They are:

- Daily Work/Homework (formative and summative)
- Tests/Quizzes (summative)
- Quarter Project(s) (formative and/or summative)

Late work:

- "0" for missing work
- 10% reduction of grade if work is handed in late on the same day it is due.
- 25% reduction of grade for late work handed in after date due.
- After unit completion, late work is not accepted or has a 50% grade reduction at teacher's discretion.
- Students and parents can check grades on our online grading system.

Make-up Work: The student is responsible for getting assignments and arranging for make up tests and quizzes. If there is a planned absence, like an appointment or vacation, meet with me in advance and plan ahead. If there is an unexpected absence (i.e. illness, family emergency), meet with me **on the day you return to school**. We will discuss what was missed and create modified due dates to complete missed work. If student forgets, avoids, or delays this meeting, late penalties will be applied.

If you know time will be missed or you will be unable to complete work, discuss this with me in advance to request an extension. If there is an emergency or unsolvable problem, be sure to tell me that this was the reason your work was late, so I can be fair in assessing your work.

➤ Cheating

Cheating will result in a zero on the assignment and may require further consequences with school and/or at home.

➤ Extra Help

I am available for extra help during my prep times and by appointment.

Tardy: Tardy if not in assigned seat with class materials when class begins. An unexcused tardy is a violation.

Course Overview: Grade eight is the first section of a two year sequence in American History which covers the period from Native American nations, the pre-colonial period, through the end of the Civil War. Ninth grade U.S. History continues with Reconstruction through the Modern Era. A solid foundation must be established for a sequential ninth grade year and students are expected to take increasing responsibility in using social studies resources for course research. Most students have studied events in American History in fifth grade. In eighth grade, students are guided to learn from differing historical perspectives.

Constitution Project: An extensive project requiring students to collect news articles, write about Constitutional issues, and give a presentation is due at a set time before Christmas Break. Students receive directions for this project during Trimester 1. Students may pick up the directions from me anytime, but may only receive one copy. Write-up samples may be reviewed in my classroom. The project includes 10 write-ups and a formal presentation. It is a significant part of the Trimester 2 grade.

Theme-Based Early American History Course Outline:

Unit 1	American Fundamental Principles
Unit 2 *	The Constitution, Rights of U.S. Citizens

Remaining unit order will be set as the year progresses, but will likely include these topics:

- First Peoples/Early Cultures
- European Exploration
- Independence and Revolution
- Expansion and Development of the U.S.
- Civil War/Conflict Resolution

* = before and during main stages of Constitution Project work (2nd Trimester)

Additional Information:

Other information needed for a successful semester includes the following:

- Early U.S. History is a required core curriculum course that is necessary for graduation.
- Listening, reading, participating, and taking good notes are key skills necessary for success in this class.
- I am available for student help.
- Please contact me with any concerns and questions at 663-4100 or quincey@edgewoodk8.com.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date