

Miss Mara's Social Studies Class Syllabus

8th Grade Prep

Course Description:

The course will cover US history from English Colonization (1600s) until Westward Expansion (1880s). The students will be introduced to over 200 years of American history through reading primary sources, including the Declaration of Independence and speeches by Abraham Lincoln, and researching daily life of those who lived through the earliest years of our country.

Classroom Expectations:

Students are expected to be prepared for class which includes bringing their Social Studies notebook/binder, completed assignments, pencil/pen, and paper. Students will arrive to class on time. Students will behave in a respectful manner towards teachers, students, and visitors within the classroom. Students who do not follow the rules of the classroom or the school will follow consequences as outlined by the school's discipline steps.

Supplies Needed:

Each student will need a 3-ring binder (1 or 2 inches), a composition or spiral notebook, pens and pencils (continuous need), notebook paper (continuous need). The teacher requests donations to the classroom including: paper towels, tissues, hand sanitizer, and Clorox wipes.

Grading Scale:

A—93-100
B—85-92
C—75-84
D—70-74
F—0-69

Percentage Weights:

40% Classwork/Homework
40% Assessments
20% Final Exam

Assessments:

Students will be assessed on the following items: homework, classwork, class discussions, quizzes, essays, and unit tests.

Absences/Make-up Policy:

Students are responsible for making up any missed work in a timely manner after an absence. Once a student returns to class, they will find their missing work on the back table in the folder marked for that day's work. Students with repeated absences will be referred to the school counselor. **IMPORTANT:** Students will still take previously scheduled assessments at the scheduled time. For example, if on Tuesday a test is announced for Friday and you are absent on Wednesday and/or Thursday, you are still responsible for taking the test on Friday.

Late Work:

Students will be allowed to turn in late work; however, a 10 point deduction will occur for all work turned in after the due date. Exceptions will be given to students with documented accommodations (absences from school, field trips, etc.) or with prior teacher approval.

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Technology in the Classroom:

Technology use in the classroom is a privilege that all students are allowed until it is abused. Many assignments and projects will need technology including: classroom computers, Chrome books, and cell phones. If a student abuses this privilege, they will complete the assignment without the technology. Teacher Website: All necessary materials and extra resources will be posted to Miss Mara's website: kmara.weebly.com. This can be accessed by any device that connects to the internet. Remind App: Miss Mara will do her best to keep students and parents updated on homework and tests using the Remind app. To be added to the Remind list text @misskmara to 81010

Cheating/Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas and the representation of them as though they are entirely one's own. Acts of plagiarism might include, but are not limited to:

- Using words or ideas from a published source without proper documentation
- Copying the work of another student (copying another student's homework, essay, or project)

Cheating on assignments will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action and the grade of o for the assessment.

Dress Code:

Student dress code is outlined in the behavior plan given to each student at registration; it is also detailed on the school's website. Students out of dress code will be directed to administration.

Eating in the Classroom:

Students are not to eat or drink in the classroom. This means no food items including gum or candy will be allowed in the room. The only exception from this rule is bottled water. Students who do not follow this instruction will have consequences as outlined in the school's discipline steps. (Miss Mara does not want ants in her classroom!!)

Parental Contact:

Parents who wish to discuss student classroom progress and behavior are welcome to meet with the teacher. Communication is key to a successful teacher-student-parent relationship; please feel free to make contact at any time so that we may have a productive conversation concerning the student's education.

LOCATION: Room 203, Orchard Knob Middle School

EMAIL: marak@hcde.org

PHONE: 423-493-7793 ext 43037

REMIND: text @missmara to 81010

WEBSITE: kmara.weebly.com

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Please fill out the following information and return this completed form to Miss Mara by Tuesday, August 22, 2017. **This completed form, turned in by the due date, will be worth a free 100% daily grade.**

Full Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian(s): _____

Phone Number(s) to Use for Contact: _____

Parent/Guardian Email Address: _____

Parent/Guardian(s), if there is any other information that you believe would help your child be more successful in the classroom, please address those concerns in the space below:

I have read and understand the rules and policies in Miss Mara's syllabus.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____