

American History 8-1

Supplies, Course Description, and Policies

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Supplies List:

- College rule lined paper (200 pages)
- Folder to keep important papers
- Colored pencils (for maps and other projects)
- Pencils, black and red ink pens, and glue stick

Course Description: Eighth Grade History 8-1 is the study of American history from pre-revolutionary times to the Jeffersonian Era (1815). The founding principles of the United States of America will be the primary focus. We will use primary source documents, maps, essential questions, and current events (living history) to guide our study. Students will be expected to keep a notebook divided into sections related to these topics. During the course of this trimester, students will present projects, work in co-operative groups, and read a history novel or book related to the course of study. They will keep a journal of the book and present an overview of the book at the trimester end.

Grading: Grades are earned **with 85% of all grades being calculated on a point system** composed of all class and homework assignments, project, quizzes, and exams. Extra Credit may periodically be available for any students who have completed all of their assigned work. **Citizenship points will be worth 10%** of the final grade (300 points per 6-week period). Points are lost for breaking the rules listed below or not turning assignments in on time. The final 5% of the final grade is the CECA (Common End of Course Assessment) given at the end of the trimester. All History 8-1 classes are given the same CECA and follow the same course outline. This test was written by a Social Studies Department Committee.

Due Dates and Late Work Policy:

Unless specifically stated, all assignments will be due the day after they are assigned. Any late assignments will earn 75% of the score earned for on-time assignments. After two weeks, the assignment will be worth 50% of the on-time score. If a student is caught cheating, that assignment/exam is given an automatic zero. Students who miss assignments due to an excused absence will have 2 days for every day absent to complete and turn in missing assignments with no penalty. When they return, it is the student's responsibility to check the whiteboard for make-up work. All assignments are listed there for a week's period of time. Students must request any worksheets they need from me.

Class Rules:

Be Responsible: Come to class on-time prepared to learn! You are allowed only 5 tardies (and 5 absences) per trimester before you have to take the final test (the final test *is not* the same as the CECA)! If you meet these criteria, you will have two days of vacation at the end of the trimester. If you have more than 5 tardies or 5 absences and choose to skip the final test, you will receive a zero for that test, which will be worth 5% of your final grade. Keep all notes, handouts, worksheets, etc. as proof of the grade earned; these can also be used as study guides for quizzes, exams, and the CECA.

Be Ready: Bring all required supplies, books, and assignments to class. Your school issued planner is also your hall pass. You may leave the room three times per trimester with no penalty; after that you will lose citizenship points. If you do not have your hall pass, you will not be able to leave class. **No food or drink is allowed in class except water bottles.** You may chew gum, if I don't see it or hear it.

Be Respectful: Treat other people the way you would wish to be treated. This includes your classmates, substitute teachers, guests and me! This policy is a large part of your citizenship points. Any discipline consequences will follow school policy as outlined in your Bobcat Planner Book. It is your responsibility to become familiar with it. I reserve the right to give detention points to any student who loses too many citizenship points. You have one week to attend detention. A missed detention will result in the loss of 50 regular class points and an administrative consequence. That being said, I anticipate a great trimester with students contributing to a positive learning environment! Let's work together to make our educational experience beneficial to all involved!

Please sign this form after reviewing it with your parents or guardians. Return to me by the due date. This is your first assignment and you are required to sign it. Your guardian's signature is extra credit. If you lose this copy, you may print it from my website: www.munnsclass.com

Due Date: _____ Student Signature: _____

Guardian signature: _____

