



Center Middle School Course Syllabus

8th Grade Social Studies

Course Description & Overview	Textbook or Curriculum Source	Assessments for Course
<p>In the eighth grade U.S. History to 1877 course, students delve into American history more deeply than ever, honing critical historical thinking skills such as narration, interpretation, explanation, and judgment. Document analysis is a foundational approach, involving the nuanced processes of sourcing, contextualizing, and close reading to arrive at informed historical interpretations.</p> <p>This course will begin with early European exploration and colonization of North America and provide an overview/survey of American History all the way through the post-Civil War/Reconstruction Era ending in 1877. This story will be picked back up when students take US History in high school, normally in the 11th grade.</p>	TEKS RS, Four Question Method (4QM)	STAAR 8th US History Mid-9 Week Assessments End-9 Week Assessments

Course Content by Grading Period

1st Grading Period	Thinking Like a Historian; Colonial America; American Independence; Writing the Constitution
2nd Grading Period	Early Republic; Age of Jackson; Westward Expansion
3rd Grading Period	Industrialization and Reform; Sectionalism; Civil War
4th Grading Period	Reconstruction; End of the Year Projects

Grading Policy

In determining the 9-week average, a minimum of 15 grades from different assignments or components of major projects must be recorded. When calculating a nine-weeks average, NO ONE ASSIGNMENT GRADE MAY COUNT MORE THAN 20% OF THE TOTAL

AVERAGE, regardless of the grade category. Some major projects and writing samples may comprise more than one component and each component should be graded separately. In determining the nine-week average, grades will be divided into 2 categories and each category will count a designated percentage to determine student's grade. The 2 categories are; Assessments/Major Grade – Assessments, Performance Assessments, Major Projects/Papers will count TWICE Quizzes/Daily Work- will count one time Semester Average shall be determined by the following: Nine Weeks 1/2 Nine Weeks 1/2