

Mrs. McQuay-8th Grade Social Studies—United States History

Course Overview: The course is based on Ohio Academic Content Standards for 8th grade and focuses on U.S. History from European Colonization through Civil War and Reconstruction. Students will focus on four areas: History, Government, Geography and Economics.

Topics of Study: Major topics of study include the causes and outcome of the American Revolution; the creation of the Constitution; early presidents and their style on domestic/foreign policy; Westward Expansion; and Causes and outcome of the Civil War, to name a few.

Materials for Class: Students will need a spiral notebook, their agenda, and a pencil everyday. They should also have a two pocket folder. Materials for projects will be provided by the instructor.

Grading/Assignments

Grading Scale: Grades will be determined not only by unit tests, but by homework assignments and projects as well as their notebook portfolio. Based on percentage those students with a 100-90 percent will receive an A; 89-80 percent B; 79-70 percent C; 69-60 percent D; 59-0 percent F.

The expectation is for every student to be in the A to B range. There is no excuse for not working or preparing for a test.

Goals and Objectives: These are learning goals for students and will be posted on the whiteboard. These are based on state standards for social studies.

Self-Assessments: This is a quiz student's take that allows them to gauge where they are at in understanding the learning targets. They are unannounced and NOT taken for a grade. However, there have been pop quizzes given by the instructor at her discretion. These will be for a grade.

Unit Tests: A test will be given at the end of each unit. A study guide will be provided prior to the test.

Projects: There will be many projects and role-playing activities throughout the year. Expectations and a rubric will be distributed prior to assignments.

Lectures: Students will be taking guided notes from the instructor or will be creating their own notes through reading assignments.

Notebook Portfolio: This is where the student will place all of his or her assignments and notes. It will be graded quarterly for completeness. Do NOT rip any pages out of your notebook. If you need loose paper, it will be provided to you.

Absence: If you are absent you are responsible for getting the material you have missed. There will be a binder that details what we did in class. You will need to check this as well as any missing notes, handouts, assignments, and homework. It is always the student's responsibility not the teacher's to collect and complete missing work.

Classroom Rules:

1. Listen and follow directions and procedures
2. Raise your hand before speaking or leaving your seat
3. Keep your hands and feet to yourself
4. Respect your classroom, your classmates, your teacher, and yourself
5. Be on time, on task, and prepared.

Consequences: Students actions have consequences. When students choose to follow the classroom and school PBIS rules, they will be rewarded with positive consequences, such as merits, however when procedures and rules are not followed, students should expect negative consequences. These consequences may include being removed from an activity, parent contact, seating change, demerit, office referral, or detention.

Starting Class: Students should be lined up respectfully in the hallway until they are allowed in by an adult. Once you enter through the door, the talking stops and you find the quickest route to your seat, and you begin your daily warmup.

Restroom: Go before you get to class. You may only leave class for the restroom in the case of an emergency and you must use the bathrooms in the mods. You will have three emergency passes per quarter. You must have your agenda signed to use your pass.

Pencil Policy: You may only sharpen pencils with my permission and only during warm up. If you lost your pencil or have a dull pencil, you must raise your hand and you will be provided a pencil to borrow until the end of class.

Communication: Email and remind are the two best ways to reach your teacher outside of school. You can visit my teacher site for a variety of resources including handouts, notes, videos, and more.

Email: bmcquay@lhschools.org

Remind: Text- [@74cgk4](https://www.remind.com/users/@74cgk4) to 81010

Website: lhschools.org/McQuayBrittany.aspx