



Muscatine School District

Course Syllabus	
Teacher(s) Name(s)	Hilary Holmes
Course Name	8th grade Social Studies
Email	hilary.holmes@mcsdonline.org
Phone Number	SCJH phone number: 563-263-0411 Extension: 1420
Office Hours	By appointment only
Course Description	8th grade social studies covers American history from 1776-1870. The American Revolution, U.S. Government, Civil War, Reconstruction, and Westward Expansion are the main areas of study.
Objectives	At the end of the course, students should be able to describe and explain these historical events and their impact on American history.
Instructional Materials	Students will read, periodically, from National Geographic's "American Stories: Beginnings to 1877." Students will engage in materials from History Alive curriculum.
Communication Protocols	Teachers use ParentSquare routinely, usually early in the week posting. Teachers also communicate through their school email accounts.
Grading Information	Summative Assessments=70% of grade Learning Activities=20% of grade Participation=10% of grade

Assignment List	There will be 2 Document Based Questions (DBQs) essays, several simulations, several group projects (podcasts, posters, etc.), and a research based presentation.
Academic Policies and Procedures	Participation: Done in class and may be made up based on teacher discretion Learning Activities: May be turned in at scheduled time but students have until the end of the unit to turn it in for full credit. All learning activities need to be turned in if student wishes to retake any Summative Assessment Summative Assessments: May be retaken up to two weeks after the test is given/project is due. In order to retake the test students need to schedule a time with their teacher to retake the test in the morning or after school. All learning activities need to be turned in before students will be allowed to retake.
Course Calendar	● 1st Semester ○ Basics of Government ○ Social Media, Politics, and You ○ Revolutionary War (Might continue into 2nd semester) ● 2nd Semester ○ Origins of the Constitution ○ Civil War Era ○ Reconstruction ○ Westward Expansion
Dual Credit Courses Only	N/A