

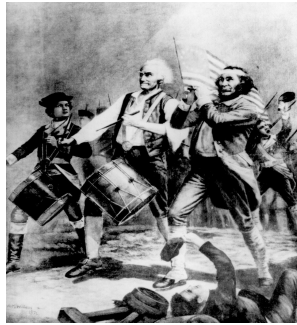
**Please know that at the start of every week
an agenda and a list of ‘What’s Due’ will be
emailed to parents and students**

8th GRADE HISTORY SYLLABUS

Mr. Saindon

United States History

2025-2026



History, we can confidently assert, is useful in the sense that art and music, poetry and flowers, religion and philosophy are useful. Without it -- as with these -- life would be poorer and meaner; without it we should be denied some of those intellectual and moral experiences which give meaning and richness to life. Surely it is no accident that the study of history has been the solace of many of the noblest minds of every generation. -**HENRY STEELE COMMAGER**

Overview

This course is what is called a “survey” course in American history. Our study commences with the birth of our nation in the Revolutionary War period, and concludes with the aftermath of the Civil War and Reconstruction.

We will approach history as the living, breathing testament to both where our nation has been and where it is going, and over the course of the year we will examine the experiences of the myriad of groups, individuals, and political and social movements that have come to define our heritage.

Our basic goals are threefold:

- 1) To develop an appreciation of the multicultural, pluralistic nature of U.S. society in the context of the principles of democracy**
- 2) To understand and appreciate American ideals as expressed in historical documents, speeches, songs, art, and symbolic representations and rituals**
- 3) To recognize that our country's original ideals are ever-evolving and in need of constant protection and reaffirmation.**

Sources

Our primary source for the year is your *History Alive* textbook. Additionally, we will draw upon numerous documents, videos, scholarly websites, and audio/visual sources to augment the text.

My Classroom Website

It is imperative for your success in this class that you are able to access my classroom website at least two times a week. You will be required to visit my classroom website for homework assignments, class notes, class projects, online assessments, and other tools for your success.

Materials

Organization is the hallmark of scholarly pursuit. Therefore, you will be expected to maintain a high degree of organization with respect to your notes and handouts throughout the year. Accordingly, you will need one three-ring (one inch) binder to store your class notes, handouts, and graded quizzes, tests, and homework assignments. Please keep a supply of lined paper in your binder. If needed, A textbook will be issued to each student and is to remain at home for the entire school year. Each day you should arrive in class with the following five items: ChromeBook, pen, binder, completed homework, interactive notebook, and a positive attitude.

Interactive Notebook

This year students will be given an *Interactive 'History Alive' Notebook*. This is a wonderful resource that will be utilized on a daily basis at school and at home. The activities in the notebook allow students to manage and learn the material in a fun, creative, clever, and interesting way. Students are expected to take the time needed to make this important 'history scrapbook' a genuine reference to be used throughout the year. Students will be responsible for bringing this to and from school each day.

Assignments

Approximately 30 to 60 minutes of homework will be given two times a week. Projects, activities, classwork and homework will comprise the single largest portion of your grade. Assessments will be administered, both announced and unannounced, and will generally center upon the unit of study being covered, so class preparedness is of the utmost importance. Class participation is another major component of your average, and will have a significant effect upon your overall grade.

Academic Integrity

It is my assumption and expectation that you and only you complete your own work. I am interested in how well you understand, learn and master the material offered in this course. I take words like: Hard Work, Perseverance, Honor and Truth extremely seriously in my classroom. Please practice the art of paraphrasing and 'putting it into your own words'. Please cite and/or put quotation marks around any words that are not yours. Use this opportunity to expand your wings, take a risk, and discover whole new intellectual skills.

Course Outline

- American Revolution
- Constitution
- Westward Expansion
- Native Americans
- Industrial Revolution

- Slavery, Civil War and Reconstruction
- California and the Southwest

Parents and Students

Please check the class website / Google Classroom each night for homework and information about the course.

Grades

60% Class Activities, and Homework
40% Tests / Assessment / Projects

Final Note

Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns: 588-6044

You may email me at jsaindon@ruesd.net

Map of the thirteen colonies in America in 1775

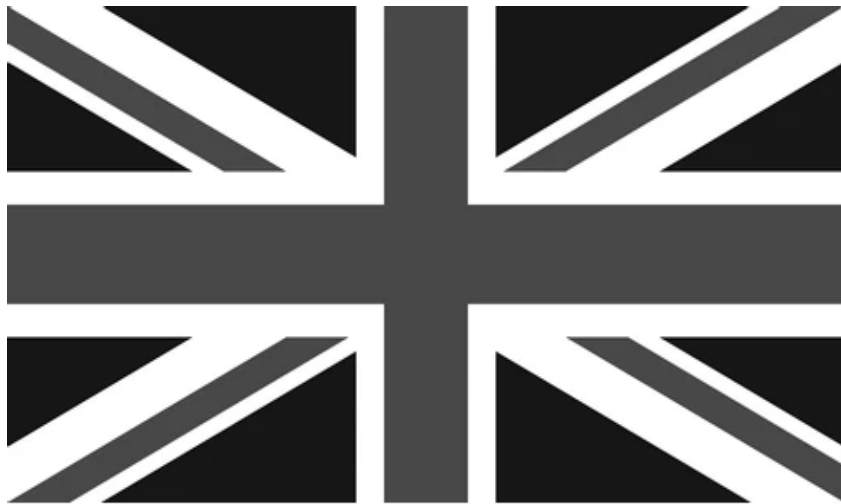


13 colonies

Virginia - First Colony, 1607
New York - Second Colony, 1626
Massachusetts - Third Colony, 1630
Maryland - Fourth Colony, 1633
Rhode Island - Fifth Colony, 1636
Connecticut - Sixth Colony, 1636
New Hampshire - Seventh Colony, 1638
Delaware - Eighth Colony, 1638
North Carolina - Ninth Colony, 1653
South Carolina - Tenth Colony, 1663
New Jersey - Eleventh Colony, 1664
Pennsylvania - Twelfth Colony, 1682
Georgia - Thirteenth Colony, 1732

Main cities

1 - Boston
2 - New York
3 - Philadelphia
4 - Baltimore
5 - Charleston



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Attention All Parents And Student: You Are Responsible For:

Check Google Classroom, my website, and Synergy for an update on homework and other information about the course. We spend a huge amount of time updating Google Classroom – So, please get into the practice of using this as your guide each night to keep up with the class.

Check the Power Questions and Power Vocabulary given out to each student at the start of every unit. This review covers all the important vocabulary, questions, and content standards. Be sure to work together on this assignment and projects. Review it together! Go over it together! Discuss it at home!

Try, with all your might, to make sure your child leaves the house each day with a positive attitude, prepared to learn, work hard, and maybe even have fun!

History is not dead!

Parent Signature: _____

Please write here any info that I might need to know about you son or daughter (please keep it under one million words):





SURRENDER OF LORD CORNWALLIS AT YORKTOWN VA. OCT. 19, 1781.

FROM THE ORIGINAL PAINTING BY CHARLES THORNTON IN THE CAPITOL AT WASHINGTON.

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