

Hedrick Middle School
Grade 7 Social Studies 2025-26
Mr. Read Team 7.1

michael.read@msd549c.org

Welcome to a new school year at Hedrick Middle School, and especially to our Social Studies classroom.

This course is intended to familiarize students with the historical, cultural, political, geographic and economic aspects of the eastern hemisphere of the world, from ancient times through the 1600's, and the Age of Exploration. Students will develop an understanding of the physical and cultural processes that shape regions and people, and an appreciation for our roles and responsibilities as world citizens. Students will also study the emergence of major religions. In addition, principles of financial literacy will be addressed.

Major Units of Study

- Ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Africa and Israel (1st Quarter)
- Ancient India and China (2nd Quarter)
- Ancient Greece, Rome, and the Byzantine Empire (3rd Quarter)
- The Medieval Europe, Renaissance, Reformation, and the Age of Exploration (4th Quarter)

Integrated throughout these units will be a study of world geography, economics, social science analysis, nonfiction literacy, historical literature, government and civics, and current events.

Grading

Formative assessment: Practice activities are formative assessments that give the student feedback on their learning and help the teacher plan instruction. Practice makes permanent, so students must apply quality effort to properly learn. Students will use a variety of methods and materials such as notes, texts, activities and diagrams to develop their knowledge.

Summative assessment: After learning and practicing, students will complete summative assessments to measure their understanding and skill within a topic. These summative assessments will be individual quizzes, tests, projects or performances that show the result of the learning process.

ALL students can reach proficiency in all of the learning targets in each topic. In order for this to happen, students may need to **retake quizzes**, or tests, or complete summative projects. Practice for each topic should be completed for that particular quiz/test before the student takes the assessment again. Students normally do not show higher proficiency without more focused effort on practice activities. Retakes for assessments will be scheduled as needed, during class time or ATI period.

BOTH PARENTS AND STUDENTS CAN MONITOR GRADES ON PARENTVUE!

Student Supplies:

Pens and pencils (blue or black pens only—no gel pens)

Colored pencils

A separate place in your large binder just for social science class

Classroom Expectations

- Be kind and respectful to each other
- Take care of classroom materials and environment
- Come prepared, organized, and on time for class

Use of AI is acceptable in certain situations in this course.

Procedures in Room 311

- As students enter the classroom, they should take out their planners and write homework/classwork for the day's class in their planners.
- Students should be quietly seated and ready to work when bell rings.
- When a student or the teacher is speaking, eyes should be on her/him, with no side conversations.
- Students must use hall passes when leaving the classroom.
- Tardy students need an "Excused note" from the office or teacher who held them late.
- Students **ARE RESPONSIBLE** for finding out what they missed when absent by CHECKING CANVAS!

Contact Information

The best way to contact me is through email: michael.read@msd549c.org

All students will also have a Medford District Google account. This is to be used for schoolwork only. The username and password for this are in the student's SYNERGY information. Parents are encouraged to monitor home use of this account.

I am looking forward to a great year of teaching and learning together!

Sincerely,

Mike Read