

8th Grade American History

Angela Rose

Course Description:

After completion of 8th-grade social studies, you should have a thorough understanding of historical thinking, continuity and change over time, and history vocabulary. Through a variety of resources, you will learn to analyze, create, and express a historical argument effectively. The 8th-grade class of 2026 will be in charge of running this country in a few short years. It is a good idea to understand what made us who we are, where we come from, and the framework that has ruled us for over 200 years!

Student Grades:

Student grades will be based on assessments, classwork, writing, reading, homework, and projects. Grades should be a true reflection of your understanding of historical thinking skills and ideas of historical significance. Class activities and study time are important to your success on assessments. Put time and energy into your learning, and it will be rewarded with success!

Grades are updated typically within 48 hours of assignments being collected. It is the student's responsibility to find out about missed or missing assignments. Students and parents should be aware of grades at all times. Email me if you notice an error in the grade book. Parents will be contacted one time when a student's grade drops to a D or F.

Absent Work

- Classwork, even if not graded, should be completed in a timely manner. I don't assign busy work and assignments lay the foundation for unit tests and writing assignments. If assignments are not completed, you will have gaps in your information. I do not provide study guides for exams since assignments are intended to help with skills and content on exams.
- Absences due to additional school activities and field trips are still absences. You are responsible for the work you miss in the same way you would be responsible for the work if you were absent from school due to illness.
- It is important to keep up with your assignments. If extended time is needed, please communicate with me so that we can develop a reasonable plan.

Behavior:

Respect

Responsibility

Honesty

Compassion

Am I showing these traits for my school, my peers, my teacher and myself?

Studying History:

In U.S. history, we will explore issues that are at times complex, emotional, and controversial. In order to explore our assumptions and ideas in a supportive way, we need to try to be both *tactful* and *courageous*.

Tact requires us to be sensitive and thoughtful about how our comments may be heard and to be aware that we all take risks when we speak.

Courage asks us to take risks with our questions and comments as well as allowing ourselves to be open to other perspectives and feelings.

Technology:

All of our work and resources will be uploaded to Google Classroom. This is a great resource for review and to stay caught up on classwork.

We frequently use chrome books during class. Stay focused on the task at hand when using devices. Devices should be out of sight when not in use for classwork. Inappropriate use of technology will result in loss of privilege.

Topics Covered:

Illinois history and constitution, Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, WWI, the Roaring 20s, the Great Depression, WWII, the Cold War, mid-century and beyond.

Supplies:

Daily students are expected to have their social studies notebook, charged Chromebook, wired headphones/earbuds, something to write with, highlighters, and a book to read.

In Closing:

We will have a great year together and I am excited about all of the things we will learn. Please feel free to contact me through email if there are any questions or concerns that need to be addressed. I look forward to a great school year!

Ms. Rose

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