

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In United States History Studies Since 1877, which is the second part of a two-year study that begins in Grade 8, students study the history of the United States from 1877 to the present. The course content is based on the founding documents of the U.S. government, which provide a framework for its heritage. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to industrialization and urbanization, major wars, domestic and foreign policies, and reform movements, including civil rights. Students examine the impact of geographic factors on major events and eras and analyze their causes and effects. Students examine the impact of constitutional issues on American society, evaluate the dynamic relationship of the three branches of the federal government, and analyze efforts to expand the democratic process. Students describe the relationship between the arts and popular culture and the times during which they were created. Students analyze the impact of technological innovations on American life. Students use critical-thinking skills and a variety of primary and secondary source material to explain and apply different methods that historians use to understand and interpret the past, including multiple points of view and historical context.

U.S. History students are required to pass the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) End- of-Course (EOC) U.S. History exam to meet part of the graduation requirements.

3rd Six Weeks Overview

Students will be engaged in course work over the following units of study:

• Unit 6: The Roaring Twenties

This unit examines how Americans entered and new age of prosperity in the Roaring Twenties. Automobiles, telephones, and electricity made life more comfortable than ever before. Americans generally focused on making money and enjoying themselves. The real significance of the decade was less in tis politics than in the birth of new values.

- <u>Unit 7: The Great Depression and the New Deal</u>
- This unit examines the events leading up to the Great Depression and Herbert Hoover's delay in the Federal government's response to alleviate some of the hardships faced by Americans. Students will examine President Roosevelt's response to the Great Depression, and the federal government's massive intervention to revitalize the economy.
 - <u>Unit 8: America in World War II</u> This unit examines dictatorships that came to power in Italy, Germany, Spain, and Japan and how their aggressive policies led to the outbreak of war in Asia and Europe. World War II was

fought both overseas and on the home front. America helped secure an allied victory in the most destructive conflict in human history.

Click here to enter text. Student Assessment

Throughout the 3rd Six Weeks, student knowledge and understanding will be assessed in a variety of ways, such as:

- Interacting with Academic Vocabulary
- Thinking Maps and Graphic Organizers
- Student Collaborative Learning
- Quick Writes
- Think/Pair/Share
- Use of Stems for Writing
- Peer Tutoring
- Identify Bias in History (Interpretation)
- Connection to Future Historical Events and Present Situations
- Skills Practice (Maps, Charts, Graphs)
- Collaborative Small and Large Group Discussions (Socratic Seminars)
- Document Analysis of Primary and Secondary Sources (Historiography)
- Critical Listening and Note Taking/Summarizing (Cornell Notes)
- Critical Questioning
- Mental Mapping geographical awareness
- Formative and Summative Assessments (including analysis of released STAAR questions)
- Project based research/projects

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your student. We look forward to working with you and your child to ensure academic success.

Respectfully,

U.S. History Teachers