



## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade United States History

Mrs. Cason

kcason@ems-isd.net

**Conference Period:** 9:10-10:00

**Tutoring Opportunities:** Distance Learning: 1:00-2:00 M-F; In person: 7:45 AM

**Class Materials:**

- gluestick
- scissors
- colored markers
- Canvas

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

### **Course Description:**

This course is a detailed study of United States history from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, research major themes and/or develop creative projects for historical periods covered. Knowledge of the founding documents will be stressed as well as the skills and attitudes of responsible citizenship.

### **Course Goals:**

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

Identify and understand the history of the United States from early exploration period through the end of Reconstruction in 1877. Special emphasis will highlight the thirteen original colonies, the American Revolution, the U.S. Constitution, Westward Expansion, the Civil War, and Reconstruction.

### **Student Evaluation:**

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor (**Advanced courses 70% Major 30% Minor**)
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum ten per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), "The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

**Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:**

Students will take notes and work weekly out of file folders that will account for a major grade. Students will practice important academic vocabulary by completing weekly vocabulary thinking map assignments. Students will complete assessment of academic vocabulary from the weekly assignments. Students will be responsible for all information needed in order to master STAAR Social Studies test in the Spring.

**Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:**

Students will follow the homework, make-up work, and tardy guidelines from the District Student Handbook. All missing assignments should be addressed in before or after school tutoring.

**Classroom Expectations:**

Students will follow the Creekview Way: Be safe, respectful, responsible, honest, and hardworking on a daily basis.

**Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments**

**Exploration and Colonization American Revolution New Government Westward Expansion Civil War Reconstruction**

**Academic Integrity:**

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.