



8th grade US History Advanced

Teacher: Mr. Burdock

Email: bburdock@ems-isd.net

Conference Period: 7th 2:02-2:49

Tutorial Schedule: Tuesday & Thursday mornings 7:50 am—8:15 am. If you need me to arrive earlier, stay later or meet with you on Friday then I need to be notified at least 2 days in advance. Please take advantage of tutorials; they are very important to your success in this class.

Class Materials:

Textbook: McGraw-Hill United States History to 1877, Texas Edition (If the student requires a book after school hours, a link to the electronic version of the book will be provided for students to access at home later in the school year.)

Materials: Students will be required to have:

- * 3 to 5 subject spiral notebook with folders or 2 inch binder with notebook paper and folders
- * Pens and Pencils
- * Additional supplies as needed for class (tissues, notecards, hand sanitizer, poster board, etc..) These will be designated by the teacher at the beginning of the school year and throughout the year based on classroom need.

Online access to the student textbook, canvas and Office 365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description: Advanced United States History 8: Designed to meet the needs of the district's more advanced students, this course is a study of United States History from the early Colonial period through Reconstruction. Students will read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, sharpen writing and research skills and/or to develop creative projects for historical periods covered. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Academics program through sustained habits necessary for college success.

Course Goals: Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- *Demonstrate an understanding of issues and events in U.S. history
- *Demonstrate an understanding of geographic and cultural influences on historical issues and events.
- *Demonstrate an understanding of the role of government and the civic process on historical issues and events.
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- *Applies critical-thinking skills to organize and use information acquired through established research methodologies from a variety of valid sources, including technology.

Student Evaluation: The grading system for this course is as follows:

- *Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- *Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- *Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- *Each six weeks will count as 1/3 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 and quizzes. 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: For assignments, exams, and expectations outside of the classroom Canvas will be used. CANVAS will NOT be an interactive tool this year. It will contain all of the class assignments on the date and in the order they are assigned in class. Students that are absent will complete the work posted on canvas and then turn the work in when they return to school. There will not be a function to turn in work online through canvas. All students will have access to canvas through their SSO to support their learning while they are absent from school.

Attendance: To receive credit or a final grade in a class, a student in kindergarten -grade 12 must attend the class at least 90 percent of the days it is offered. A student will be permitted to make up tests and turn in projects due in any class missed because of absence. That student will have one day for each day they missed to complete class work. If a student misses more than one day, they will have equal number of days to complete work.

Make-Up Work: Students have until the assigned date to turn in assignments for full credit. An assignment turned in a day late will receive a score of 85% at most. An assignment turned in the second day will receive a 70% at most. Assignments turned in three days late will receive a 60% at most. Any late work turned in after 3 school business days will only receive up to a 50% at most.

Classroom Expectations: This is a class in which students must take an active role in their education and are expected to participate in all activities in a positive, constructive manner. The expectations for this class are high, both for student work and behavior in class. This means completing all assignments on time, being prepared, and staying on task and maximizing class time every day.

*Be Respectful. Respect yourself; your classmates, and your teacher.

*Be Prepared. Always bring pen, pencil, notebook/binder, and assigned materials to class everyday.

*Be Responsible. Be responsible for your work, your materials, and your class area.

*Communicate. I am a very reasonable person, if there is any problem come let me know and we will work out a fair solution. Remember if I don't know or find out to late, I cannot help you.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

1st six weeks: Unit 1 Exploration, Colonization, and Revolution

2nd six weeks: Unit 2 Establishing a New Nation (Government and Early Republic)

3rd six weeks: Unit 3 Age of Jackson and Westward Expansion

4th six weeks: Unit 4 Industrial Revolution and Reform

5th six weeks: Unit 5 A House Divided (Sectionalism, Civil War, and Reconstruction)

6th six weeks: STAAR Testing review and Workshop, STAAR test, Post STAAR activities

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.

PVMS Policies and Procedures

*Cell Phones will follow school policy. Cell Phones are to be located in your bag (not your person) during class, if you are caught using your cellphone it will be confiscated. Multiple cellphones violations will result in the phone being turned over to the administration.

*Dress Code will be followed at all times, violations will be sent to the office. (NO HOODS or LARGE HOLES IN ANY CLOTHING)

*No food or drink allowed in class at anytime except water, unless designated or given by the teacher

*Restroom passes will be granted with the teacher's discretion. Going to the restroom will not be a distraction and permission will not be given during any type of exam or test. No going to the restroom within the first 10 minutes or last 10 minutes of class.

*Students will only be allowed to leave the class for any reason one at a time. More than one student leaving at a time will only be granted in special situations and at the teacher's discretion.