

BILL REED MIDDLE SCHOOL

Syllabus and Classroom Procedures



8th Grade U.S. History

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Course Description:

U.S. History is a two-semester course required for all eighth grade students. This class is designed to follow the Thompson School District's Course Pathways for Secondary Social Studies.

<http://www.thompson.k12.co.us/cms/lib07/CO01900772/Centricity/Domain/1251/Pathways/Social%20Studies.pdf>

The curriculum is aligned with the standards adopted by the Colorado Department of Education and District standards for Social Studies.

Major Instructional Goals: Early American History, with a focus on the American Revolution through Reconstruction.

Students will:

- Read nonfiction materials to acquire new information and to build an understanding of the world. With this information students will be able to conduct an informed discussion and argue a position with supported data.
- Use geographic tools to analyze patterns in human and physical systems. Interpret maps and other geographic tools as a primary source to analyze a historic issue.
- Analyze causes and effects of major conflicts from the origins of the American Revolution through Reconstruction
- Formulate appropriate hypotheses about United States history based on a variety of historical sources and perspectives. Use and interpret primary and secondary sources.
- Analyze elements of continuity and change in the United States government and the role of citizens over time. Analyze primary sources supporting democratic freedoms and the founding of our government. Documents to include but not limited to the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Bill of Rights, and explain how they provide for both continuity and change.
- Research and organize information from a variety of sources to be presented in a logical, organized format.
- Write using proper grammar and mechanics throughout the year.

General Rules:

Be on time, be prepared, be respectful and be responsible.

Preparation for Class:

Students are required to bring a pencil, blue or black pen, paper and completed homework.

Grading: (Use Parent Portal to access student scores.)

8th grade Social Studies is currently following the grading system of:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

<59 = F

