

Harris County Carver Middle School
8th Grade Gifted Georgia Studies Syllabus
Andy Whatley

A. Course Description:

The 8th grade Honors Georgia Studies program is designed to help students understand and appreciate the historic and geographic factors, and economic and political relationships that have shaped Georgia. Honors Georgia Studies will strongly emphasize higher order thinking skills, research skills, communication skills and creativity. Students in this class will be expected to accept and meet the challenges presented in this course. Motivation is a key factor for success due to the fact that some learning will take place on an independent basis. Group work and presentations will also be key components of the program.

B. Units covered:

This course includes:

1. Geography of Georgia
2. Indian history of Georgia
3. Colonization and Revolution
4. Civil War Era
5. Modernization of Georgia
6. Civil Rights
7. State and Local Government
8. Economics

Allowing students the opportunity for further investigation will enhance the specific units covered. Students will also be assigned projects throughout the school year. Honors students will incorporate various aspects of technology into their projects.

C. Course Objectives:

1. The student will work with maps, charts, graphs, tables, and timelines to locate and use relevant data..
2. The student will be able to successfully complete varied writing assignments.
3. The student will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
4. The student will identify historical and contemporary leaders of Georgia.
5. The student will analyze current events affecting Georgia
6. The student will develop an understanding of Georgia's state government.
7. The student will analyze the significance of historical events in Georgia's history.

D. Materials and preparations for class:

Students must bring class materials and a writing utensil to class every day. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain all make up work for absences. Students who are absent the day before a test are still responsible for taking the test on the designated date.

E. Classroom behavior:

All HCCMS rules are enforced. Students are expected to follow classroom rules.

F. Grading policy:

The nine weeks average will be computed as follows:

Class work- 45%

Homework / Performance- 30%

Quizzes and Tests-25%

Feel free to contact me at whatley-a@harris.k12.ga.us or by telephone at 628-4951.

Working together, we can look forward to a fantastic year!

Student Name (print)_____

Student Signature_____

Parent Signature_____