

8TH GEORGIA STUDIES 2014-2015

Mrs. Ethredge
SMS Room 824

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students trace the history of Georgia in the context of the development of the United States. A chronological focus includes a geographic overview and early inhabitants, the foundation of Georgia in the 18th century through the state's development in the 20th century. Students also examine the characteristics of state government, public issues, citizen rights and responsibilities, and contemporary and historical comparisons of state and national political institutions. In addition, common core literacy standards will be integrated into the curriculum.

COURSE CONTENT: We are using the Georgia Performance Standards this year in 8th grade Georgia Studies. This course will cover many different themes in Georgia History. The following will be studied throughout the course of the eighth grade and the standards we will be using can be found on the Georgia Department of Education website or www.georgiastandards.org.

COURSE OUTLINE- TOPICS OF STUDY:

<i>First Semester (Units with text correlation)</i>	<i>Second Semester (Units with text correlation)</i>
• Georgia's Beginnings Ch. 1, 2, and 3	• Georgia in the Antebellum Era Ch. 7 (sections 2, 3, 4, & 5)
• Georgia's Colonization Ch. 4 and 5 (sections 1 & 2)	• Georgia in the Civil War Ch. 8 Georgia and Reconstruction Ch. 9 (section 1 & 2)
• Revolution in Georgia Ch. 5 (sections 3 & 4) and 6 (section 1)	• Developing National Identities/New South (WWI) Ch. 9 (section 3 & 4)
• Georgia's Constitution Chapter 14.1	• Depression and World Conflict (WWII) Ch. 11
• Westward Expansion Ch. 6 (sections 2, 3, & 4)	• Societal & Technological Growth (Civil Rights Movement and Modern Georgia) Ch. 12 and 13 and 14.
	• Georgia's Government Ch. 15 and 16
Map, globe, information processing skills, and Reading and Writing in the Content will be incorporated into each unit to reinforce student learning.	

TEXTBOOKS: Our textbook is *GEORGIA AND THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: Clairmont Press 2005*.

STUDENTS MAY CHECK OUT (from the teacher) THE TEXT ON CD, and/or ACCESS THE TEXT ONLINE at:

- mystatehistory.com
- Password: ga11hist

Textbook Replacement Cost: \$49.95

GRADING: Following is the grading format used in 8th grade Georgia Studies:

1. Assessment Tasks (summative assessments, performance tasks, projects): 65%
2. Practice (class work, homework, formative assessments, labs): 20%
3. Semester Exam 15%

MAKE-UP WORK: It is the student's and parent's/guardian's responsibility to make arrangements for make-up work. The number of days allowed to complete make-up work will be determined by the principal but will not exceed the number of days absent. Failure to comply with this make-up procedure will result in a grade of zero (0) being given for graded assignments missed during an excused absence. Students will not be allowed to make up graded assignments that were missed during an unexcused absence. If a student repeatedly has late, missing, or no homework completed, a telephone call or in-person conference with the parent/guardian will be arranged.

LATE POLICY: All assignments are required to be turned in on the due date. Assignments after the due date without a valid excuse/absence and prior arrangement between the teacher and student/parent will not be accepted.

TECHNOLOGY: Throughout the year students will incorporate several diversified aspects of technology (QR codes, Remind101, Edmodo, Study Island, NearPod, Evernote, etc.) Students will be allowed to and may on occasion require the use of Wi-Fi enabled devices (tablets, smartphones) in order to complete assignments. If your student does not own or is unable to obtain a device please notify the teacher so that other arrangements can be made.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR GEORGIA STUDIES' CLASS:

1. **Entering:** Enter the classroom quickly and quietly with the necessary materials in hand. Sit in your assigned seat. Complete the warm-up (Georgia Studies Journal) in your notebook. (This assignment is meant to review concepts previously learned or to introduce you to concepts that will be learned.) Once you have completed the warm-up, sit quietly until further instruction from the teacher.
2. **Materials:** Take out writing utensils, notebook, and homework (if any). Place all other materials underneath your chair (nothing should be placed in the aisles.) *Make sure you have all required materials for class before entering the classroom. You will not be allowed to go to lockers or to another teacher's classroom to get your missing materials.*
3. **Tardy Policy:** If you are tardy for any reason, enter the room quietly. Sign the tardy sign- in sheet and sit in your assigned seat. If you have a pass, give it to your teacher. **Remember that excessive tardies count as a citation. Also, be mindful that class has begun, and you are not permitted to disrupt the learning process of others.** (Excessive tardiness violates Henry County Middle School rules and will be dealt with according to school policies and procedures.)
4. **Homework:** Homework is due on the due date. If you do not have your homework, you **must** sign the no Homework log. I will keep these on file for future references.
5. **Sharpening Pencils:** Pencils should be sharpened before instruction begins. You do not have to ask permission to use the pencil sharpener at this time. You will need to sharpen more than one pencil. You will not be permitted to get up during instruction to sharpen your pencil or visit the trashcan! NO EXCEPTIONS!
6. **Assignments:** *It is your responsibility to turn in your assignments.*
7. **Class Participation:** Class participation is expected. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized if you have a question or would like to contribute to the lesson. Talking is otherwise unacceptable unless teacher permission has been granted. **(Blurting out and shouting are disrespectful practices.)**
8. **Flexible Grouping/Cooperative Learning Groups:** Students will be placed in small learning groups. Students are expected to work together using positive communication in order to complete the task(s) at hand. Each student in the group will be assigned roles that he or she is expected to perform to the best of his or her ability. At the end of group assignments, all materials should be returned to their appropriate locations.
9. Be respectful to all faculty, staff, classmates, and school property.
10. Be prepared with materials and assignments.
11. Be ready to learn and always actively participating in classroom activities.
12. The clock nor your watch dismisses class - do not pack materials until instructed to do so. The teacher will dismiss students by sections and you are to exit quietly. Make sure to clean up your area, return supplies, and push in your chairs before leaving.
13. No food, candy, or beverages permitted!

CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR:

- 1st citation: Action Plan 1
- 2nd citation: Action Plan 2 Phone call to parent/Silent lunch or conference
- 3rd citation: Action Plan 3 Phone call to parent/behavior reflection/off-team suspension
- 4th citation: Action Plan 4 and Office referral
- Subsequent behavior infractions result in an office referral.

**Please note that major discipline problems warrant immediate office referral.*

SPECIAL NOTE: All students will be required to complete a science fair type project and/or social studies project. Each Georgia Studies' project requires the same components such as a research paper and demonstration of the understanding of a designated topic. The students will sign his/her contract-of-intent during the first six weeks.

Please feel free to contact me at any time. It is much easier for me to respond by email. My email address is: cethredge@henry.k12.ga.us. The school phone number is (770)-474-5710 if you prefer to speak to me in person.

I have read the above information.

Student signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

****Please return this portion! (Not required if you complete the following)**

Please text the message **@mrsethred** to phone number **(678) 792-3029**. This will not only sign you up for Remind 101 text/email reminders but will also serve as your acknowledgement that you have read and understand the contents of this syllabus.