



8th Grade Social Studies



Teacher: Ms. Tamburino

Text: Call to Freedom

Curriculum: United States History

Welcome to 8th grade Social Studies! Social Studies is a passion of mine, and hopefully you will love it as much as I do! Keeping that in mind, I have designed this class to be fun, interesting, and intellectually stimulating. As 8th grade students and the leaders at J.P. Case Middle School, I have high expectations for you as students and as role models. Below are some classroom rules and procedures.

Classroom Rules & Procedures:

1. In order to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning, be respectful of yourself, others, and the classroom.
2. Come to class on time and prepared. Upon entering the classroom, place all materials that are not being used underneath your desk, and begin working on the daily warm-up.
3. No talking when your peers or I are speaking. Side chatter is distracting and disruptive. Please raise your hand and wait to be called on. Everyone's opinions and answers are important, but please wait your turn to share your thoughts.
4. Do not bring food, drink, gum, or other personal items (Ipods, MP3 players, toys, games, etc.) into the classroom.

Contact Information:

I come to school early everyday and stay late most days. My goal is to help you succeed so please do not hesitate to ask for help! In addition, I can be reached by e-mail at Mtamburi@frsd.k12.nj.us or by phone at (908) 284-5100 *6358. For non-school hours, e-mail is the best form of communication.

Grading Policy:

Grading will follow the school policy. I use a point system that breaks grades down into the following categories: Homework, tests, quizzes, projects, and daily assignments. Daily assignments include class participation, preparation, and brief or informal classroom assignments. Grades can be accessed online. I will update the grades frequently so that you are kept up-to-date on how you are doing throughout the marking period.

Students can make test corrections by fixing any incorrect answers and explaining which answer is correct and WHY. Students who do not include an explanation will not earn points back on their test. Test corrections are due the day after the test is returned to students.

Grading System:

A = 90 – 100 B = 80 – 89 C = 70 – 79 D = 65 – 69 F = Below 65

P = Pass I = Incomplete

Late Work:

Missing homework can be handed in up to three days late. Ten points will be deducted for each late day.

The grading policy for late projects will be in accordance with the student handbook which states:

“The grade given for long-term assignments such as reports and research papers will be reduced if the assignment is submitted late. The reduction will be:

One letter grade for up to two (2) school days late Two letter grades for up to five (5) school days late Failing grade for more than five (5) school days late” The full student handbook can be found here:

<http://www.frsd.k12.nj.us/cms/lib01/NJ01001104/Centricity/Domain/747/StudentHandbookk11-12.pdf>

Attendance Policy:

See the student handbook for the official attendance policy. Being absent does not excuse you from missed work. When the work is due back will vary depending on the length of absence and the amount of make-up work. It is the student’s responsibility to SEE ME to discuss when make-up work must be returned. Students should come for missing working before school, after school or during tutorial...not during instructional time.

If a student is in school, but not in class, any homework, projects, assignments, etc. are still due on the original due date. The student is also responsible for the work from the class period that they miss AND the homework from the class period they miss.

Late Policy:

Coming to class late is a distraction to both your peers and me. It disrupts the learning process and delays the start of class. You will receive a warning the first time, but repeated lateness will result in detention.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit opportunities will be given throughout the year for activities such as review games or additional questions on tests. Extra credit WILL NOT be given on an individual basis.

Required Materials:

- * Three ring binder & 2 packs of dividers
- * Highlighter, pens, pencils
- * 3 hole punch for your binder
- * Marble notebook
- * Agenda
- * Lined paper
- * Covered Social Studies book

Textbook Website:

Please visit the textbook website below for additional resources to help you master the content and prepare for assessments. The site includes homework practice online, additional maps and graphs, worksheets, and practice activities. <http://go.hrw.com/hrw.nd/arbitr/pRedirect?project=hrwonline&siteId=691&pageId=5633>

Course Content:

This course covers United States History from the European discovery of America up to the end of the Civil War/ beginning of Reconstruction. The 8th grade Social Studies curriculum is available here:

[http://www.frsd.k12.nj.us/cms/lib01/NJ01001104/Centricity/Domain/9/5-8 SS Curriculum.pdf](http://www.frsd.k12.nj.us/cms/lib01/NJ01001104/Centricity/Domain/9/5-8_SS_Curriculum.pdf)

Class Website:

The class website will be updated with important notifications and information on assignments, projects, and helpful resources. I will also post review games and class notes periodically. The homepage of my website contains a twitter feed. I will use this to send brief reminds about daily homework, assignments, etc. You can access my website here:

<http://www.frsd.k12.nj.us//Domain/872>

My Blog:

I will be using this blog (<http://mstamburino.edublogs.org>) throughout the year to issue updates which I call “newsletters”. The newsletters will provide information about the topics recently covered, what we are currently working on in class, and the material to be covered next. I will also be posting pictures of projects, presentations, student work, links to student made videos, etc. I see the hard work, time and effort that go into student projects and want to share the amazing results with you 😊

“If you want to understand today, you have to search yesterday” ~ Pearl Buck

Contact Information

I will be sending e-mails periodically to update parents and guardians about major assessments and other important information. Please provide me with the phone numbers and e-mail addresses of the person, or people, in each household that you would prefer I contact.

Student name:

Parent/ guardian name #1: _____

Work phone number: _____

Mobile phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Parent/ guardian name #2: _____

Work phone number: _____

Mobile phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Picture Permission Form

I will be updating my blog and website with class pictures. Please check one of the two options below and sign to let me know if you will allow pictures of your child on my teacher blog or the school website. Typically, pictures will be taken so the students face is not clearly in view.

_____ Yes, you may post pictures of my child in class or completing an activity.

_____ No, you may not post pictures of my child in class or completing an activity.

(Print name)

(Sign Name)