

7th and 8th Grade Social Studies

Mrs. Maureen Hayes

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Welcome to American History Class! The goal for the year is to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the history of the United States of America. You will gain an in depth knowledge of the material, and draw connections to overarching themes that historians use when examining the past. At the heart of the class will be the analysis of primary and secondary sources, reading critically, and articulating thoughts and ideas through speaking and writing.

Classwork - 10%

In Class Daily Expectations

Charged Chromebooks

Notebook

Pens (Variety of Colors)

Highlighter

Pencil

Students are responsible to take notes in their notebooks daily. Learning to take notes will be an integral part of this class and becoming prepared for high school. Students are also expected to be active participants in classroom activities and discussions.

Homework - 10%

Nightly homework of reviewing your class notes is mandatory. This assignment should take no more than 10 minutes. Students should take the opportunity to add any missing pieces, clarify misunderstandings, and fix any spelling and grammar errors. The review of the daily notes will help to avoid cramming for tests.

Occasionally, other homework will be assigned. Homework will count as 10% of your final grade.

Current Events HW - "Today's news will be tomorrow's history." Students will be responsible to bring in an article to share with their current events group.

Tests - 50%

Tests will be given at the end of each chapter.

Quizzes - 15%

Quizzes will be given after every two-three sections in a chapter.

Projects/Writing Assignments - 15%

Most projects will be done in class, however occasionally students will be assigned to complete a project at home.

Another major focus of this class will be to introduce and master essays and a variety of other writing genres. These assignments will be done both in class and at home.