

Social Studies 8

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Eighth grade students will build on their concepts of geography, civics, and political societies beginning with the world as it was in the 1500's followed by the natural unfolding of events from the explorations, the establishment of the colonies, the colonial era leading up to the causes of and including the French and Indian War and The Revolutionary War. The development of American government from a confederation to a constitutional one, the launching of the Republic, through the War of 1812, the growth and development of the nation through the Louisiana Purchase and the Lewis and Clark exploration on through Manifest Destiny and the Mexican War will follow. Students will explore the changes in the nation from immigration and abolition issues to the Civil War and Reconstruction, westward expansion, to the development of the U.S. as a world power and into World War One. They will explore the 1920's, the Great Depression and World War Two.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- Use geographic tools such as thematic and interactive maps, graphs, charts, models, and databases to collect, analyze, interpret and present data
- Apply, examine, and develop timelines and chronology by sequencing events, people, technology, time periods, and people
- Identify contributions of significant individuals including Samuel Adams, Benjamin Franklin, King George III, Martin Luther, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Thomas Paine, the Marquis de Lafayette, Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, Robert E. Lee, Abraham Lincoln, Harriett Tubman, Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, Desmond Tutu
- Identify points of view from the historical context surrounding an event and the frame of reference that influenced the participants
- Analyze political, economic, and social effect of war
- Consider the obligation of society to individuals and the obligations of citizens to society
- Organize and interpret information from outlines, reports, media, databases, and visuals including graphs and graphics, charts, timelines, and maps in order to apply generalizations about past, present, and future events in history from the 1500's to the present
- Understand the effects of the interaction between humans and the environment
- Compare types and uses of technology, past and present by analyzing the effects of scientific discoveries and technological innovations
- Apply critical thinking skills to organize and use information acquired from a variety of sources including electronic technology
- Analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, identifying cause and effect relationships, comparing, contrasting, finding the main idea, summarizing, making generalizations and predictions, and drawing inferences and conclusions
- Evaluate documents such as the Mayflower Compact, The Treaty of Paris, Articles of Confederation, The Constitution of The United States of America, The Bill of Rights and The Emancipation Proclamation

Social Studies 8 (continued)

PREREQUISITES:	None
COURSE LENGTH:	Two semesters
REQUIRED TEXT:	None

COURSE OUTLINE:

Exploration

- The World in 1500
- The European explorations

The Colonization of North America

- The English establish 13 colonies
- American identity develops
- Early culture of the colonies
- Representative government develops
- The French and Indian War

Revolution

- The road to revolution
- Taxation without representation
- The early battles
- The early years and expansion of the war
- Victory

Establishing a Republic

- The Confederation
- The Constitution
- The Bill of Rights

The Early Years

- Washington's presidency
- The Federalists
- Challenges to the new government

The Jefferson Years

- The Louisiana Purchase
- Problems from abroad
- The Lewis and Clark expedition
- The War of 1812