



8th Grade Social Studies

PRESTON JR. HIGH SCHOOL



MR. ASHCROFT

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Room #23

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OVERVIEW

In 8th Grade Social Studies we will use the Idaho Core Standards as the framework of the class. This course is designed to teach students about their rights and responsibilities as citizens of the United States and how past events have shaped the world we live in today. The textbooks we use for this course are *America: History of Our Nation* and *We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution*. In addition to the textbooks, we will use primary source historical documents, newspapers, Internet sources, and a few educational videos.

CANVAS

We are privileged to use laptops on a daily basis in this class. You will be responsible for any damage you cause due to carelessness or misuse. We will be turning in many assignments electronically and most tests will be given on the computer. This is a great tool as it allows you to work on assignments even if you are not in class. Lecture slides are posted in Canvas so you can get the notes even if you are absent.

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Pencil or dark colored pen (please do NOT use red to complete assignments)
- Notebook or lined paper
- Colored pencils
- Good attitude

HALL PASSES/TICKETS

Each student is provided with 5 tickets which can be used for hall passes, late work, or extra credit at the end of each quarter. Use them **WISELY**.

<i>Grade Breakdown</i>		<p>You will earn points towards your grade through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Warm up activities -In-class participation -Discussions -Assignments -Tests and Quizzes -Projects -Portfolios <p>* Extra credit opportunities will be very limited and not worth as much, so turn in ALL other assignments.</p> <p>Grades can be checked at: https://psd201.powerschool.com/public</p>
A	100-93%	
A-	92-90%	
B+	89-87%	
B	86-84%	
B-	83-80%	
C+	79-77%	
C	76-74%	
C-	73-70%	
D+	69-67%	
D	66-64%	
D-	63-60%	
F	59-0%	
I	Incomplete	

<i>Citizenship Breakdown</i>	
H	Earned by students who go beyond their own needs and demonstrate exemplary behavior.
S	Earned by the majority of students who are cooperative with teachers and other students.
N	Earned by students whose behavior needs improvement. (Talking out of turn, uncooperative, disruptive, tardies, missing work regularly, etc.)
U	Earned by students who continue with inappropriate behavior. * Any student who fails to cooperate with substitute teachers.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

- 1st Quarter: Presidents, First Americans, Explorers, Colonization
- 2nd Quarter: American Revolution, Constitution
- 3rd Quarter: Nation Building, Manifest Destiny, Westward Migration
- 4th Quarter: Civil War & Reconstruction

CLASSROOM RULES:	CONSEQUENCES- AFTER VERBAL WARNING
Be in your assigned seat, ready to work when the tardy bell rings.	1- You are marked tardy. More than 3 tardies will earn you lunch detention and possibly disqualify you from participating in incentive activities.
Stay in your assigned seat during class. Do not leave class without permission.	1. Citizenship will be lowered. Poor citizenship disqualifies you from incentive days. 2. Isolated seating or removal from class 3. Parent contacted
Follow Directions - the first time.	1. Citizenship will be lowered. Poor citizenship disqualifies you from incentive days. 2. Conference with student/Parents contacted
Bring your assignments and materials EVERY DAY.	1. You will lose points by default. Be prepared. 2. You will have to use a ticket to go to your locker
Treat others the way you want to be treated. Keep hands and feet to yourself - do not touch teacher's or other's property without permission.	1. Citizenship grade will be lowered. 2. Lunch detention
Use classroom computers appropriately. Do not play games when you should be working.	1. Loss of computer privileges.
Cell phones, iPods, fidget spinners used as toys, etc. should not be used in class as they may distract many students from actually learning.	1. If they are used for non-educational purposes in the classroom, they will be taken and a parent will need to come get them.
Do your own work!!!	1. If you appear to be cheating, you will receive a ZERO for that assignment or test.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:

*Warm up/Agenda

The lesson/assignment schedule will be posted in the front and back of the room each week.

*Class time

I expect students to do their very best as we think, discuss, read, listen, write, reflect, cooperate, share, watch, and participate in our United States history class.

*Homework

Parents, if your student has homework every night in this class, most likely it is because they chose to waste the time I gave them to work in class. Students, make effective use of your in class time and homework will be slim to none.

ABSENCES

There is a close relationship between attendance and success in school. Do not expect good grades if attendance is poor. If you are unable to attend school for whatever reason, **you are responsible for making up the work you missed.** Each week, schedules will be posted in the room so you can see what you missed. If you have any questions about your absent work, please ask me during breaks (not while I am teaching the class), or you may stay for PASS for extra help after school.

It is **your responsibility to collect any notes or worksheets that you might need, complete the work you missed, and turn it in to me within ONE WEEK for full credit.** After one week, absent work will be considered late and will receive less credit.

LATE WORK

If you do not turn an assignment at the time it is due, it is late. If you are absent on the day we turn something in, then you need to turn it in on your first day back or it is late. Late work will be marked down 50%, and will only be accepted for **ONE WEEK.** All tests/quizzes can be made up, but is your responsibility to schedule this with me. I will not chase you to down to make up a test.

ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have any concerns about your student needing extra accommodations or you feel that I could do something to better help your student, please contact me. I will do everything I can to work with you and your student to make this year of learning a positive experience.