

8th Grade Social Studies

Mr. Young—Room 32

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Areas of Study

- Early U.S. history (Revolutionary War era and beyond)
- Introduction to the document-based question
- Civics and the foundations of American government and the U.S. Constitution
- Election/present-day political, economic, and social issues

Needs

- Self-discipline, strong work ethic, time management, and communication skills
- Respect for everyone in the room at all times
- Materials:
 - Subject-specific folder with loose-leaf paper OR notebook with folder pockets—it is not recommended that students bring large binders to school.
 - All appropriate notes, homework, articles, and printouts (from Mr. Young’s website, Google Classroom, etc.)
 - Pens (2)—**blue or black ink only**
 - Highlighter and dry white out—students are not permitted to use liquid white out.
 - Charged Chromebook—Mr. Young is not responsible for providing students with an outlet to charge their Chromebooks during class. Students who cannot participate in certain class assignments due to a “dead” Chromebook will earn “strikes” per the 8th Grade Chromebook Policy.
- Students will be required to access class announcements, readings, study guides, assignments, and other essential materials online through Mr. Young’s web page and/or Google Classroom.

Classroom Management

- Be prompt! When the bell rings, get quiet and be prepared to begin class (Do Now/ homework/notes/etc.).
- Questions and opinions are invaluable. I want to hear them—**RAISE YOUR HAND.**
- **DO NOT DISRUPT MY CLASS.**
- Extra help is always available, but it must be scheduled.
- Bathroom visits are rarely granted. If they are, return quickly.
- Laugh and have fun when it is appropriate to do so, but be able to refocus your attention quickly.

Grading

- Grades are earned, not given!
- Students are responsible for all work and knowledge of their grades.
- Grading is done on a points system (points earned divided by points possible).
- Marking period and final grades are not rounded up. What you earn is what you get.
- The Community Service Extra Credit Project is the only extra credit available to students.
- Participation points are awarded and recorded for use on all tests and certain quizzes and “quests” (at Mr. Young’s discretion).
- Cheating and copying earn immediate zeroes and detention for the student who copied AND for the student who allowed his/her work to be copied. Plagiarism will earn an immediate zero and consequences to the furthest extent allowed by the Student Handbook for Grades 6-8.

Homework/Assignments

- All due assignments that are not handed in at the beginning of class are late. Students are responsible for all missed work due to absences.
- Late homework can be handed in one day late for half credit. Homework more than one day late earns a zero. Extenuating circumstances must be communicated to Mr. Young by the student by the due date in order to be eligible for the possibility of an extension (extensions are not a right, and are granted sparingly on a case-by-case basis).
- Significant projects will have separate guidelines for late work consequences.
- Projects/group assignments—it is expected that students will work through all personal and academic differences with their partners. Very few exceptions will be made.
- Students will not be allowed to print out their assignments in class. If a student needs to print out an assignment in school, they must make arrangements to do so with their Opportunity Period teacher.
- Not having access to the Internet, a printer (if needed), or any other computer/technological difficulties will not excuse a student for being unprepared with necessary class materials and/or assignments.
- Neatness counts! If I cannot read your work, I will not grade it. Late work rules will apply to all illegible work.
- **All homework is to be done in blue or black ink unless specifically stated otherwise.**
- Any work done in class may be done in pencil if preferred.
- Typed work is always acceptable, but rarely is it required. Only Times New Roman 12-point font will be accepted (whether students type by choice or assigned).
- **For in-person students only**—Electronic submissions of assignments (Google drive, email, etc.) will not be accepted unless Mr. Young has given express permission ahead of time.

Help Yourself

- Check Mr. Young's webpage/ Google Classroom regularly.
- Be organized!
- Read all directions carefully!
- Take quality notes and review them regularly.
- Read, do not skim!
- Use evidence and detail to support your answers and opinions.
- Communicate any questions or problems with assignments as soon as possible—not the day they are due (email, phone, in person). **Communication should come from the student first.**
- Read a newspaper/ watch the news regularly.
- Enjoy your accomplishments. Accept the consequences and learn from your misdeeds.