

Syllabus

Course Title: Social Studies - American History

Grade: 8th Grade

Description of Course: The course begins with an exploration into the birth and development of America with special focus on the geography, economy, foreign affairs, and the people who helped to shape the new nation. The class will also look at the beginnings of Colonial America and the events that led to the Revolution and Independence from England. Students will examine the Constitution, with specific attention to the Bill of Rights. The course will end with the beginning of the Civil War. This course will target strategies for improving student comprehension in the area of reading and writing.

REQUIRED TOPICS OF STUDY	SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONAL TIME	STANDARDS/ ELIGIBLE CONTENT
European Exploration of the Americas	3 weeks	8.1.8.A., 8.1.8.B., 8.1.8.C., 8.3.8.A., 8.3.8.B., 8.3.8.C., 8.3.8.D. CC.8.5.6-8.A., CC.8.5.6-8.B., CC.8.5.6-8.C., CC.8.5.6-8.D., CC.8.5.6-8.E., CC.8.5.6-8.F., CC.8.5.6-8.G. CC.8.5.6-8.H. CC.8.5.6-8.I. CC.8.5.6-8.J.
The Thirteen Colonies	3 weeks	
Colonial Development	3 weeks	
Road to the Revolution	3 weeks	
The American Revolution	5 weeks	
From Confederation to Constitution	5 weeks	
Growing Pains in the New Republic	3 weeks	
The Jefferson Years	3 weeks	
Expansion and Growth	3 weeks	
The Changing American Identity	3 weeks	
A Broken Nation	3 weeks	

Resources:

1. Textbook: American Stories - Beginnings to 1877
2. Supplemental text:
Fight for Freedom
The Bill of Rights
The Declaration of Independence
3. Computer Lab Textbook Resources
4. Library Reference Books
5. PBS Video
6. National Geographic Multi-Media

www.NGL.CENGAGE.com/school

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