



8th Grade
Team 803

Mrs. Smith's Georgia Studies

2024-2025

HOW TO CONTACT ME



lorri.smith@henry.k12.ga.us



770-288-2108 (OMS)



[Mrs. Smith's webpage](#)

COURSE GOALS

Our course goals are aligned with the Henry County Teaching and Learning Standards for 8th Grade Georgia Studies.

1. Students will examine key events, documents, and people from history and be able to make correlations with current events.
2. Students will conduct research and participate in projects.
3. Students will debate issues and examine current trends in Georgia, the United States, and the world.
4. Students will conduct themselves like historians (question, research, defend and communicate).

GEORGIA STUDIES NOTEBOOK

Always write down assigned homework and due dates in your notebook, or put it on your Google Calendar. Each student will be expected to keep a notebook for assignments and notes. **This notebook should be for social studies ONLY!** These notes may include:

1. **Warm-Ups:** Students will complete a daily warm-up at the beginning of each class. This will be posted on the board. Sometimes these will be collected for a grade.
2. **Writing/Research:** Students will keep DRAFTS of writing and research assignments. Students will incorporate feedback from drafts into their final assignments. Final copies of writing assignments will be submitted on loose leaf paper in blue or black ink, or through Google Classroom.
3. **Reading:** Articles, text-dependent questions, annotations, and graphic organizers should be kept.
4. **Returned work:** Student quizzes, and tests will be kept in the classroom and not given to the student to take home. Reflection and test corrections will sometimes add additional points to students' overall grades.
5. **Reflection:** Students will often be asked to reflect on a lesson or assignment. These reflections enable students to communicate what they have learned or still have questions about.

GRADING SCALE AND ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

A = 90-100	D = 70-73
B = 80-89	F = Below 70
C = 74-79	

Students and parents can monitor grades by checking Infinite Campus **WEEKLY**. Grades are categorized by Practice Work (40%) Assessments (40%), and Semester Exams (10 % each semester).

Cheating/Plagiarism is considered a serious matter. If a student is believed to have cheated or plagiarized on an assignment, the student will receive a zero and it will be noted in Infinite Campus. If a student wishes to attempt the assignment again, he or she will have to complete the work after school and will only receive partial credit.

Absences

In the event a student is absent, the student will need to make up missing work and tests in accordance with Henry County absence policies. **Students should check Google Classroom for assignments when they are out,** and/or email the teacher directly with any questions. Failure to complete assignments will result in students receiving a zero. Tests that are missed must be made up within a week from the student's absence, and a make up time scheduled with the teacher. **NO TESTS** will be made up at lunch time.

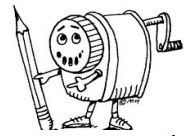
IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK GOOGLE CLASSROOM FOR ASSIGNMENTS DAILY.

LATE / INCOMPLETE WORK



- My expectation is that all assignments be completed to a level of proficiency (**70% or higher**) and turned in on time.
- Students turning in assignments after the assignment has been handed back to other students will receive a max grade of 70 unless special circumstances occur.
- If a student has a missing assignment, It will be marked with an “**M**” in the grade book. The student has one week to get that work submitted before it becomes a zero.
- A [Missing Work form](#) must be completed when work is turned in late. This can be found in the student’s Google Classroom.

Tutoring



- Tutoring is available during homeroom, and afternoons from 4:00-5:15 by appointment.
- Please email me at lorri.smith@henry.k12.ga.us to set up a tutoring appointment.
- If these times do not fit into your schedule, you may contact me to schedule another time.
- Students may make a tutoring appointment in order to complete missed assignments.
- No tutoring will be done before school, on weekends, or over breaks.

TECHNOLOGY



We will use a variety of technology in the classroom. Notes and/or assignments are posted daily in Google Classroom. If a student is given a paper copy of an assignment and they lose it, they should be able to locate a copy of it in their Google Classroom. All work posted in Google Classroom also has the due date and expectations for that work attached in the description. **Cell phones and headphones are not allowed to be used in class and will be kept in the class cell phone caddy.**

CLASS MATERIALS

Required:

- 1 Pronged pocket folder
- Loose leaf notebook paper
- PENCILS**
- Highlighters
- Eraser
- 1 Spiral notebook just for Georgia Studies



Infinite Campus

~I will use Infinite Campus Messenger as a tool to communicate upcoming deadlines and other information. Grades are typically updated once a week.
~If you do not have a parent account set up, please contact our 8th grade counselor to help you (monae.reed@henry.k12.ga.us).

Please make sure to keep your contact information updated as phone numbers frequently change without us knowing. There is a link on the Infinite Campus login page to do this.

Office Hours

Office hours will be from 12:30-1:45 pm. These are times available to schedule parent conferences, ask questions, etc. Teachers are frequently in training or planning lessons during this time, so availability is limited. Conferences can be done via Google Meet, telephone, or in person as conditions allow. The quickest way to reach me is through email. I generally check my messages once in the evening after school gets out, and once over the weekend. If I do not respond to you after school hours, I will reach out the next business day. Please make sure to include your name, your child’s name, and the best way to reach you.

GRADE RECOVERY

Students will have the opportunity to complete a grade recovery assignment approximately once a month. This assignment may replace a missing or a low assignment grade, but it will not replace a test or quiz grade. These assignments will not be accepted after the due date posted in Google Classroom. Sometimes research will need to be completed by the student to figure out how to complete the grade recovery assignment. Assignments will vary in their point values.