

## General Course Information

### Course Name: American History Grade 8

Department: Social Studies	Grade Level(s) 8
Duration/Credits: 1 year (no credits in Middle School)	Prerequisites: none
BOE Approval Date: Dec. 2021	Course Code: M1800

### Course Description:

American History Grade 8 covers Colonial America through the Civil War. Throughout this course students will analyze the causes and consequences of the European colonization of America and various patterns of migration. Using an inquiry lens, students will analyze the causes of the American Revolution along with the effects the colonists' victory had on the creation of our nation. The Constitution will be studied in depth to develop and answer compelling questions about the framework of our government. Students will analyze the struggles and challenges of a new government and a new nation while explaining the effects of westward expansion on the native inhabitants. The course will conclude with an in depth study of the causes and consequences of the Civil War.

### Course Rationale:

American History gives students a strong foundation for understanding the development, growth, and change of the United States, both prior to its founding and through the end of the Civil War. The class prepares students for 9th Grade American History and American Government. Studies in American History and Government prepare students to understand their roles and responsibilities to function as citizens in a democracy.

### Course Objectives:

Insert course objectives

- The student will interpret founding documents and reflect on their significance.
- The student will explore the causes and motivations for the colonization of America and study the impact on early colonial life.
- The student will analyze the causes, significant battles, and impact of the American Revolution.
- The student will research and evaluate the roots of the Constitution, the process for getting it ratified, and its lasting impact.
- The student will use an inquiry lens to analyze the causes and consequences of migration and forced migration and enslavement in the development of the United States of America.
- The student will use an inquiry lens, develop compelling questions, and consider multiple points of view regarding the causes of the Civil War, significant battles and strategy, outcomes, and lasting impact.
- The student will consider multiple points of the view regarding the causes and consequences of western expansion of the United States.
- The students will use primary source documents to infer meaning, perspective and personal insight using claim, evidence and reasoning in the context of American history up to 1870.