8th Renaissance Middle School

Grade Georgia Studies 2025-2026

RMS Course Syllabus	
Course Name	**8th Grade Georgia Studies**
Teacher Name	**Ms. Shalonda Willingham**
Email	**Willinghams@fultonschools.org**
Textbook	**8th Grade Gallopade Student Workbook Edition**
Couse Description	The purpose of the social studies curriculum is to prepare students to become participating citizens of a democratic society in an increasingly interdependent world. Through social studies education students should acquire a continuing interest in their society; develop a respect for the dignity and worth of all persons; and achieve the depth of understanding, the loyalty to democratic ideas and the skills necessary to accept responsibilities and rights of citizenship. As part of the social studies program, students are provided with learning opportunities that enable them to grow in their ability to think clearly and to integrate significant facts, concepts and generalizations from history and the social sciences into their own experiences. Students should develop useful skills for obtaining knowledge, devising questions and engaging in problem-solving techniques through active involvement in the curriculum. Equally importantly, they should learn how to analyze issues from multiple perspectives and to test the validity of ideas apart from the sources of those ideas. They should also be encouraged to develop connections among ideas and events, both past and present, that will promote cooperative and constructive solutions to problems and issues.

Course Outline:

- **Unit 1**- Georgia's Beginnings
- **Unit 2**- Georgia's Colonization
- **Unit 3**- Georgia's Statehood
- **Unit 4**- The Foundations of Georgias Government
- **Unit 5**- The Juvenile Justice System
- **Unit 6**- The Civil War and Reconstruction
- **Unit 7**- The Development of National Identities
- **Unit 8**- Depression and World Conflict
- **Unit 9**- Post WWII and Georgia's Civil Rights
- **Unit 10-** Modern Georgia
- **Unit 11**- Personal Finance

Grading Distribution:
50%- Major Assessments (ex. Test)
40%- Minor Assessments (ex. Quizzes)
10%- Practice (ex. Classwork)

Recovery on Major Assessments:
Students in K-12 should be afforded the opportunity to recover all major assessments if they score below a 75% on the assessment. Students are limited to one recovery attempt per major assessment that meets the threshold for recovery.

- Recovery of a major assessment should occur before the next major is given.

- Students are eligible to earn a replacement grade on a recovery that is not higher than 75%.
- Before recovery, the teacher should work with the student to complete missing work and/or ensure delivery of the content through reteaching and relearning.
- If a student's recovery is below the original score, the original score should stand in the gradebook.
- The original score should be noted in the comment section of the grade book if a student recovers a major assessment.

Late Work:
Students are expected to submit all of their work on time. Points will be deducted from the assignment grade for late work. The maximum number of points that can be deducted for late work is 10%.

Responsible AI Use Encouraged with Teacher Permission:
Students are encouraged to use AI tools responsibly in this course with teacher permission to assist with their learning and assignments. AI can serve as an aid to enhance understanding and interaction with course content, within the boundaries of academic integrity. All AI-generated content must be accurately cited, and students are responsible for the correctness of their submissions, including any content derived from AI tools. It is essential to critically evaluate AI outputs to ensure they meet academic standards. Use of generative AI, without proper citation, is considered a violation of the Fulton County Schools Code of Conduct and may result in disciplinary action.

Please return the signed syllabus to the instructor before the end of week one for extra credit. Students will keep the syllabus in their AVID Notebook.

Student Name (Print)	
Student Signature	
Parent Signature	
Parent Email Address	
Parent Phone Number	