United states History (1787-1865)

**SYLLABUS**

Mrs. Jeanne Gasparovic West Deptford Middle School

8th Grade Room F-8

2016-2017 856.848.1200, ext.3088

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goals and procedures:

This course presents a review and analysis of the structuring and development of the U.S. government from the years of our early nation to our expanding nation as we increased its size, to the American Civil War. The purpose of this course is to foster an understanding of how our United States government works, how our nation was formed and how it continues to develop even today.

Course requirements and attendance:

 The requirements of this course include preparation (charged laptop every class, writing utensil (a MUST!) and a social studies folder; identification quizzes and unit tests (study guides will be distributed for tests and quizzes/tests will be administered using laptops via Moodle); individual and group projects (in class); and an end of the year course assessment (will be administered on paper). Students will also have access to Google Classroom, where assignments, video clips, homework, hard-copy notes, Power Points, etc. will be posted and work will be submitted.

 Class sessions will consist of lectures, discussions, video clips, group activities/ assignments and sharing of material learned through group work. All students are expected to prepare the lecture notes from previous sessions in advance of class, to participate in all class discussions and group activities, and to maintain a copy of all work assigned throughout the school year (students will use as a reference for the end of the year course assessment). Failure to participate adequately in classroom activities and discussions may affect your grade.

 Consistent attendance is also expected, and attendance will be taken in every class daily. However, if you are absent, please check the teacher website on the WDMS homepage, as well as GOOGLE CLASSROOM prior to returning to school in order to stay abreast of classroom activities. Upon your return to school, please check the white bin next to the classroom door (each class period is clearly identified) for any hand-outs, homework assignments, returned assignments, etc. When absent, you will have 2 days for every day absent to make up your missed work from the day you were absent. However, if you are absent on the day an assignment is due, you will be expected to turn it in upon your return to class. As a rule, I will enter a “0” into the computer for any assignments missed during an absence, but I will adjust the grade upon completion of the assignment within the proper time frame.

CELL PHONE USAGE:

Due to the ongoing problem of improper use of cell phones in the classroom, they will **NOT** be permitted at any time in my room (HR, SS Class, Study Hall, etc.). Any infraction of this rule will result in the student receiving a ZERO for participation for the day!

***Homework*:** if homework is checked for completion and reviewed in class,

students who are unprepared will NOT be able to turn it in late. However, if homework is collected and graded for accuracy, students who are unprepared may turn it in for HALF CREDIT the next day. After that, it will not be accepted for a late grade.

HOMEWORK and/or related class work is posted on my WEBSITE, GOOGLE CLASSROOM, & REMIND. Sign up for REMIND using the information on the home page on my website.

***Projects***: Projects are due on the due date during the class in which you attend. 10 pts will be deducted for each day late.

*GROUP WORK: all group work is* ***graded individually*** *& what each student is responsible for. No students will need to feel compelled to complete the work for another student, since he/she is ONLY graded for his/her OWN work.*

Please come to see me at any time, **other than a class period in which I am teaching**, if I can help you in any way during the year. You may also email me outside of class, and I will make every effort to respond within a reasonable amount of time. If you have a problem or disability that may have an impact upon your work in my class for which I have **NOT** been made aware by the guidance counselor, nurse, or special education teacher, please contact me. It is my goal to provide the best environment for learning, so please feel free to contact me if someone or something is impeding on your ability to do so in my classroom.

Extra Credit-provided in 3 different ways & listed on my website throughout the school year:

1. **Yearly Extra Credit**: Shady Lane Home- with parent participation, students may volunteer 5 times during the school year (at least once per marking period) to visit a resident that you will be “buddied” with. Complete the form on my website & turn it in to override your final grade for the marking period +4 points at the END of the marking period. Contact information is provided on my website under “Extra Credit.”
2. **Marking Period Extra Credit**: students may read the assigned book (provided by the teacher) any time during the marking period and take a 10-question multiple-choice test for extra points that will be used to override your final grade for the marking period- up to 5 Pts.- depending on your performance on the test at the END of the marking period. Details are listed on my website.
3. **Monthly Extra Credit**: details will be listed on my website each month regarding this extra credit. Due by the last school day of each month.

Curriculum: (by marking period)

1. Constitutional Convention, U.S. Constitution-Articles I-VII
2. Amendments 1-27; Related U.S. & world history under George Washington , John Adams and Thomas Jefferson
3. Related U.S. & world history under James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams & Andrew Jackson
4. Related U.S. & World History under Andrew Jackson-Abraham Lincoln; American Civil War: (reason for, strategies, tactics & weaponry of major engagements, the personalities and contributions of political and military leaders, and social and economic impact of the war)

CLASSROOM RULES-

* Be respectful, polite & mannerly toward others.
* Stay seated & ready for instruction. Be prepared.
* NO calling out. Use your hand if you have a question or wish to say something.
* NO CELL PHONES in class!
* Please ask to use the restroom at the beginning or end of the class ONLY.

**\*NO restroom during 5th period**-since you may use it during lunch **AND** recess (4th per).

**\*NO restroom during videos/tests/quizzes**- too distracting to others!

**\*NO trips to the water fountain during class time- DO BETWEEN classes! Remember to fill your water bottle PRIOR to coming to class!!**

Important vocabulary that you should know by the **end of 8th grade**:

 compromise secede agriculture

 Constitution abolish infrastructure

 Legislative, Executive & Judicial Emancipation Proclamation nullify

 precedent tariff Industrial Revolution

 Midnight Appointments economy Underground Railroad

 Marbury v. Madison Dred Scott Decision

 Louisiana Purchase Nat Turner Rebellion

\***Wednesday** is free reading day during the DO NOW! You are required to bring a book to class and be prepared to show it to me as you enter the classroom every Wednesday. In addition to bringing the book, you will also be expected to actually read it for the allotted 10 minutes at the beginning of class, so please bring a book that you are currently reading & find interest in. Neglecting to do any of these things mentioned will be reflected in your grade!