

# 8th Grade US History

## Classroom Guidelines and Syllabus

Welcome to Mr. Wilson's US History! In this class we will be studying the history of the United States from the beginning of European colonization up to the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction. The focus of this class will be learning about the course of American history and gaining the skills to analyze different sources. Students should be able to create and express their analysis through different media. We will be doing this through lessons that include our textbook *Discovering Our Past*, sources both from the time period being studied and those created later, simulations, mock trials, and in-class debates. Students will also be expected to work both in a group and individually on various projects.

**Classroom Rules** – Classroom rules are based off of the Ivy Hawn way.

- Do my best every day.
- Treat others with kindness and respect.
- Take responsibility for my words, choices, and actions.

### **Classroom Expectations**

Any actions that interfere with teaching and learning are unacceptable. Students are expected to adhere to school and class rules, as well as these classroom expectations to ensure a positive learning environment:

- Come to class prepared to learn
- Keep your hands, feet, and any other objects to yourself
- Learn and follow all classroom procedures
- Attend class on time and regularly
- Think before you act or speak

### **Discipline Procedure**

Students who are unable to follow classroom rules and expectations will receive the following consequences:

- Verbal Warning/Redirection(1st Offense)
- Seat Moved/(2nd Offense)
- Student-Teacher Conference (3rd Offense)
- Parent Contact (4th Offense)
- Discipline Referral (5th Offense)

ANY misbehavior for a substitute teacher will result in Parental Contact and Discipline Referral. Severe discipline issues will result in an immediate Office Referral and/or parent contact.

### **Make-up Work**

- If a student is absent, it will be their responsibility to acquire what is needed from the "What did I miss" bin, not the teacher's.
- If students were asked to take notes on the day of an absence, the absent student may copy notes from another student.
- Students have as many days as they were absent to make up missing work. Ex. If a student is absent 3 days, they have 3 additional days to turn in missing work.

**Summative Assessments (60%)**

- This category includes quizzes, exams, projects, and writing pieces to show mastery of the standards covered in class.
- If a student scores below a 70% on any summative assessment, he/she will have the opportunity to remediate the grade during the lunch hour in order to ensure students achieve mastery of each standard.

**Formative Assessments (40%)**

- This category includes classwork, document based questions, checks for understanding, graphic organizers, mini-quizzes, homework assignments, and various activities that help determine mastery of the US History standards.

**Retake/Remediation Policy**

- Students will have up to 5 days to retake a summative assignment after the initial assessment is given. Remediation of a formative assignment will be on a case-by-case basis. If a retake score is lower, the higher score will be used.
- One retake of per summative is allowed. Students may not be allowed to retake a test if they are missing assignments from that unit of study.
- On retakes, a different assessment may be used as the idea is that students master the standards rather than memorize the answers.

**Plagiarism**

I will not tolerate “academic stealing” in my classroom. This will result in a “0” on the assignment and a Discipline Referral. The most common reasons for this are a lack of confidence, disorganization or unwise time management. If you need any help in these areas, please see me immediately and I can help you establish a plan.

**Grade Check and Contact Info**

- Student’s grades can be checked daily by both students and parents on Volusia County gradebook. Please feel free to email me at [wilsona@ivyhawnschool.org](mailto:wilsona@ivyhawnschool.org) with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have regarding your child throughout the year. If your or your student have any questions or if your student would like assistance with US History, I am available in my classroom on Mondays between 3:00 and 3:45. In addition, I will periodically send out announcements to the class via the Remind App. To subscribe on a phone text to the number 81010 the message “@ivyhist” without the quotations.

**8th Grade US History****Parent/Student Agreement Form**

I have read, with my student, the 8th Grade US History Classroom Guidelines and Syllabus packet and have discussed the expectations of the class with my child/parent. We understand the packet in its entirety and agree with its contents. This agreement form must be turned in, with both names and signatures, to Mr. Wilson by Friday, August 25.

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature