

DEPARTMENT: SOCIAL STUDIES	COURSE TITLE: GRADE 8 SOCIAL STUDIES (AMERICAN STUDIES)
GRADE(S): 8	PRE-REQUISITES (IF ANY):

UNIT	LENGTH	CONTENT	SKILLS	METHODS OF ASSESSMENT	FRAMEWORK STRAND(S) & STANDARD(S)
What is history? Historical Method	20 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is history? • Historical inquiry method • Historical archaeology • Facts, evidence, inferences • Problems with evidence • Assumptions • Point of view • Resources include multiple sources (primary and secondary), videos 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take notes. • Use comprehension strategies (<i>Mosaic of Thought</i>) while reading. • Distinguish between primary and secondary sources. • Practice using vocabulary of historian. • Work in cooperative learning groups. • Form hypotheses. • Draw inferences. • Ask questions. • Listen for understanding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artifact box project • Quizzes • Discussions • Written response 	History 3
Colonial America	40 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural elements and daily lives of America's European, African, and Native American cultures • Issues of race, gender, and class • Cultural clashes • Regional comparisons (geography, economy, religion, etc.) • Focus on development of Jamestown and New England • Indentured servitude, slavery, triangular trade, middle passage, mercantilism • Resources include multiple sources, videos, music, illustrations, guest speakers 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare points of view. • Form generalizations and reach conclusions. • Analyze primary source documents. • Develop outlines. • Recognize propaganda. • Understand perspective. • Interpret graphs and maps. • Create and use data tables. • Identify regional differences. • Identify and develop thesis statements and support them with evidence. • Ask questions and research answers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quizzes • Test • Analytical essay • Group projects and presentations discussions 	History 2,3 5; Geography 7,8,9; Economic 13,15; Civics and Govt. 16,17
American Revolution and Constitution	20 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Causes and effects of Revolution • Forms of protest • Examination of Declaration of Independence • Origin and problems of Articles of Confederation • Shay's Rebellion • Basic principles of Constitution and Bill of Rights including contemporary constitutional issues • Resources include multiple sources, music, videos, computer software 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research issues related to founding documents. • Explain cause and effect. • Analyze documents. • Compare/contrast experiences of ordinary Americans of all classes, races, genders. • Recognize chronology. • Synthesize information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral presentations, • Role-play • Debate • Quizzes 	History 1,2,3,4,5,6; Civics and Govt. 16,17,18,19,20.

Early America and Pre-Civil War	40 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial, transportation, and communication revolutions with particular emphasis on New England movement from farm to factory Social reform of early 1800's Impact of technology Jacksonian democracy Roles of women, immigrants Trail of Tears Westward migration including Oregon Trail, Gold Rush, Manifest Destiny, Mexican War Conflict Resources include multiple sources, pictures, videos, art, music, Inspiration software 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research. Analyze primary and secondary sources. Understand nature of conflict. De monstrate understanding through role-play. Evaluate sources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test Essay Written and oral response Group projects and presentations Individual projects and presentations 	History 1,2,3,6; Geography 8,9,10; Economics 13,15.
Civil War	20days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Antebellum South and various perspectives on slavery Causes of the war Impact on ordinary soldiers and civilians including African American soldiers, women, children, immigrants Emancipation Proclamation 2nd Inaugural Address of Lincoln Political compromises 54th Massachusetts Regiment Resources include multiple sources, photos, music, art, video 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyze cause and effect. Evaluate regional advantages and disadvantage. Analyze primary source documents. Demonstrate understanding through role-play and dramatic monologues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journals, scrapbooks, and/or diaries Quizzes Written and oral response Discussion 	History 1,2,3,4,6; Civics and govt. 17, 19; Geography 9; Economics 11
Reconstruction and Post-Civil War	40 days	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three stages of Reconstruction and their impact on all segments of country Goals of Radical Republicans Southern Democrats, 1877 compromise, Altered lives of freed men and women Aftermath and legacy of end of Reconstruction (sharecropping, KKK, Jim Crow, <i>Plessy v. Ferguson</i>) Myth of the West Exodusters, Buffalo Soldiers, homesteaders Chinese immigrants and railroads Resources include multiple sources, video, photos, music 	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research. Examine Supreme Court decisions and cases. Summarize and analyze decisions and their impact on Americans and the country. Examine impact of westward expansion on Native Americans. Investigate intolerance in America. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tests Role -play Essay Debate Diaries and/or journals Quizzes 	History 1,2,3,4,5; Civics and govt. 17,19; Economics 11,15.