

SYLLABUS 8TH GRADE US HISTORY

LIFE AHEAD® METHODOLOGY

Life Ahead®: Personal growth is assured through the philosophical foundations and the school's Life Ahead® Methodology. The Life Ahead® Methodology promotes autonomy, organization, responsibility, and social skills. Its major goal is to produce self-reliant individuals who will assume greater responsibility for their own learning.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In 8th grade, we expect students to increase their interest in knowing more about the history of the United States and its geography. Also, we expect that students apply what they learn to their daily lives and compare and contrast what happened in history with today's current events. During each unit we will be building skills in the following areas: history, geography, study, and research skills, thinking skills, reading skills, writing skills, speaking, and organizational skills. This course will explore US history from its beginnings until 1877. US History is a study of the first Americans, the 13 Original Colonies through the Civil War. Students will study the causes of past events, and their effects on shaping the present and future. Students study the roots of U.S. democracy and the founding documents. Students relate founding principles to contemporary events and issues. Working independently and cooperatively, students learn to "think and act like historians" by comparing, contrasting, and evaluating historical interpretations using primary and secondary sources. They consider the roles played by geography, culture, economics, and technology on the development of the United States.

OBJECTIVES

- Increase their interest in knowing more about United States history and geography.
- Help students develop skills such as critical thinking and analyzing.
- Increase listening and verbal skills.
- Improve writing skills.
- Increase English vocabulary
- Improve order and neatness
- Explore the movement of people to and throughout the US
- Investigate how social, economic, and technological changes have molded US society and governmental policies
- Examine values, beliefs, ideas, and institutions that exist in US society (past and present)
- Use chronology of important historical events to explain and analyze causes and effects
- Tell the story of the US using important events, places and people from the past to support claims
- Study current events and their impact on U.S. Society
- Have fun learning about United States history.
- Motivate students to be successful learners.

CONTENT

- The First Americans
- Europeans Reach the Americas
- The First English Colonies
- The Road to Revolution

- The American Revolution
- Creating a Republic
- The Constitution at Work
- The New Government
- The Jefferson Era
- Years of Growth and Expansion
- The Jackson Era
- From Sea to Shining Sea
- The World of the North and South
- A Reforming Age
- The Road to Civil War

SKILL STRANDS

Reading and Thinking Skills

- Decision Making
- Making Generalizations
- Drawing Conclusions
- Frame of Reference
- Recognizing Bias and Propaganda
- Recognizing Points of View
- Comparing and Contrasting
- Using Primary Sources
- Context Clues
- Picturing the Past

21st Century Skills

- Critical Thinking
- Creativity
- Collaboration
- Motivation
- Problem Solving
- Communication



Geography Skills

- Using Maps
- Using Special Purpose Maps
- Using Maps to Compare
- Reading and Creating Charts and Graphs
- Making Timelines
- Following Routes on a Map

Study Skills

- Taking Notes
- Writing Outlines
- Summarizing
- Using Technology
- Organizing Notebook
- MLA Format for Research Papers

LIBRO DE TEXTO/TEXTBOOK

American Nation- Beginnings to 1877 (Prentice Hall)

EXPECTATIONS

Students will be expected to:

- Be respectful
- Be on time
- Bring all required materials to class.
- Have an organized notebook.
- Finish class work in the allotted time (if not the work must be finished for homework when indicated by the teacher).
- Turn in homework, assignments, projects on time.
- Participate in class activities and discussions.
- Make up any missed work.
- Be able to work individually and in groups.
- Express their opinions and listen to others' opinions respectfully.
- Speak English at all times.
- Schedule their activities, both academic and extracurricular.
- Use an agenda /planner effectively.
- Take responsibility for their actions, resolve conflicts peacefully, and follow the consequences established in the class.
- Assignments and project guidelines will be sent via GOOGLE CLASSROOM to the students so students are expected to check it daily.
- Keep the classroom clean and organized.

ASSESSMENT

Students' grades will be based on a variety of assignments, such as class work, homework, quizzes, tests, and individual/cooperative work projects.

The weight of each category is as follows:

- 40% Classwork individual/cooperative work, projects, notebook revisions, class discussions, participation
- 60% Quizzes, projects, essays, critical thinking exercise, Chapter tests, projects and/or presentations

WEEKLY FOLDER

Student's evaluations will be sent home in the Friday folder. Please, sign and return the folder each Monday. Students will have the opportunity to improve all test grades except semester and final exams. It is important to review this work and make sure students keep track of their work in a folder.

APPOINTMENTS:

If you have any questions, you can request a meeting with the teacher by sending an email to iamaya@colegiomaya.edu.sv or calling 2316-7800.

For further information, we invite you to visit us at:



www.colegiomaya.edu.sv



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