

7th Grade Syllabus 2018-2019

Instructor: Mr. Truta

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Room 137

Office Hours: M, W, Th 7:30-8:15 AM, M-Th 3:15-4:30 PM

Class Description:

Welcome to 7th Grade Social Studies. This year our focus will be on the governmental structures of the United States and the development and changing role of the United States in the 20th Century.

Essential Questions: Who are we? How did we get to be this way? Where are we going?

Sequence:

Quarter 1: US Civics	Introduction to Government Legislative Branch Judicial Branch Executive Branch
Quarter 2: American History 1900-1939	America in 1900 World War I Roaring 20's 1930's

Class Format:

This class will meet every other school day. Each unit will be made up of 5 to 9 daily lessons. At the conclusion of each unit there will be a full day of review complete with review materials, practice tests, and review games. After the review day there is the test day.

Grade Policy:

Please see the table below.

Daily Work	40%
Test Scores	40%
Participation	10%
Final Exam	10%

Grades Breakdown

A-Excellent	90%-100%
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B-Strong work	80-89%
C-Average	70%-79%
D-Below average, needs improvement	60%-69%
F-Unacceptable level of work	> 60%

Teaching Philosophy:

Variety is my favorite word in the classroom. No two students learn the same way. Some students like to read, some students are more hands-on, some students love learning with technology, others prefer group work. With 90 minute classes we'll be doing two or three activities in each class. This class is designed to jam pack as much fun and learning as possible into each lesson. My goal is to design a class that I would like to take as a student.

Absent Policy:

When students are absent they have twice as long as their absence to make up their work. For example say we meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of a particular week. If you are absent on Monday contact the teacher that day via email to make sure you have access to the work that you missed. You then have until Friday to make up your work. Please note although my policy is to email students their work the day they are absent it is the responsibility of the student to make sure they have the work from their absence.

Late Work Policy:

Simply put, there is no late work accepted in this class. The amount of homework is limited and the majority of assignments will be completed in class. Because of this there is really little excuse with issues turning in work.

If there is an extenuating circumstance or something unforeseen please let me know.

*Although late work is not accepted I do believe in extensions of deadlines. For example say there is an assignment handed out on Friday. You have a soccer tournament in Utah that weekend and know that you will not have time to complete the assignment. Let me know and we'll have a discussion about when is a reasonable time to get the assignment in. Please note that there will be extensions given 24 hours before the assignment is due.

Redos or Extra Credit:

Redos and extra credit are not available.

Academic Dishonesty Policy:

Academic dishonesty means cheating and plagiarism. Cheating usually looks like students copying assignments, bringing in cheat sheets for tests, or using a phone when they are not supposed to. Plagiarism is passing off someone else's work as your own. Examples of

plagiarism are downloading papers from the internet, using an assignment your older sister used, or copying and pasting.

Behavior Policy:

I operate on a modified three strike system.

- Strike one is when I call on you by name for a behavior reason.
- Strike two is when I ask you to go to the hall. We'll have a private conversation about expectations.
- Strike three involves the administration. There are many possible outcomes.

Honors Policy:

Jefferson Academy is a college preparatory school and many students wish to be in the honors section. Students must be recommended by their teacher each semester to join or remain in honors. Each semester the student group changes.

What I am looking for in a candidate for honors is:

- A grade of 90%+ in on track social studies class
- Students that perform well on daily work *and* tests and papers
- Students that are among the top quartile of writers in their grade
- Students with enthusiasm and interest
- Students that have no missing work

Supplies Needed:

- One designated notebook
- One designated folder for graded papers and study materials
- A pencil or pen that uses blue or black ink
- Earbuds are helpful

Tips for Success:

- Show up!
- Take notes well. There is no central textbook in this class and your notes will be your main resource.
- Ask questions.
- Be sure that when you leave the review session before the test that you have a strong understanding of the material. There are no surprises on tests.
- Turn your work in.

Please tear this sheet off and have your parent or guardian sign it.

I acknowledge the policies and practices of Mr. Truta's 7th grade social studies class.

Student Name (print): _____

Student Name (signature): _____

Parent or Guardian Name (print): _____

Parent or Guardian (signature): _____