

*WRDMSA*  
*Department History/Social Studies*  
8th Grades Social studies  
2020-2021

Class time and location:  
8am - 3:30pm/M-F/D-105

Teacher:  
Geron Hyke

Office:  
D-105

Office Hours:  
11-12 and 2-:330 M-F

Contact Phone:  
252-259-7503

Email:  
hykeg@da.halifax.k12.nc.us

**Disclaimer:**

This syllabus is intended to give the student guidance in what may be covered during the year and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the teacher reserves the right to modify, supplement and make changes as the course needs arise.

**Course Description:**

Students in eighth grade will continue to build on the fourth and fifth grade introductions to North Carolina and the United States by embarking on a more rigorous study of the historical foundations and democratic principles that continue to shape our state and nation.

**Course Objectives:**

The main focus of the course will be the critical events, personalities, issues, and developments in the state and nation from the Revolutionary Era to contemporary times. Inherent in this study is an analysis of the relationship of geography, events and people to the political, economic, technological, and cultural developments that shaped our existence in North Carolina and the United States over time. Although the major focus is state and national history, efforts should also be made to include a study of local history.

Other required materials:

A two-pocket folder for turning in essays and assignments

A notebook for taking notes in class

A Binder for classwork and homework

Assignments and Grading:

The following is an overview of the major assignments we will undertake this semester and grading policies. Additional assignments or a change to grading policies may be announced at my discretion.

**Quizzes:** They are designed to be conceptual and to foster *critical thinking*. As such, the quiz questions will draw on the elements and *standards*.

**Exams:** We will have 4 exams, one at 5 weeks, 10 weeks, 15 weeks and the NCFE. These exams are designed to foster *critical thinking*. Like the quizzes, the questions will draw on the elements and *standards*. Like the daily due no, the questions will ask you to investigate a question by employing the elements of reasoning, particularly: assumptions, consequences, context, point of view, and interpretations

**Papers:** We will produce formal papers. I will provide more detailed handouts on what is needed for the papers. I have attached a holistic grading rubric to the syllabus for your information.

Please note, there is a difference between an “F” and a “zero” on my scale. A “zero” will be given, for example, if you fail to turn in an essay. You may receive an “F” on an essay for a variety of reasons but still receive some points. In short, turning in something is better than nothing (with the exception, of course, of plagiarized work).

The scale I will use to calculate the final grade is as follows:

Grade Breakdown

The system is a 10 point scale:

100-90 A

89-80 B

79-70 C

69-60 D

59-below F

**\*\*\* I do not argue about grades. Please be respectful when discussing grades\*\*\***

**\*\*\* I do not discuss grades via email or phone. Please make a private appointment\*\*\***

**\*\*\* I do not discuss grades in the classroom. Please make a private appointment\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Once grades are submitted, they are final and will not be changed\*\*\*  
**\*\*\*It is your responsibility to keep track of your grades\*\*\*****

Attendance:

Regular attendance is required.

*\*\*\*Note: Auto-failure includes both excused and unexcused absences as well as accumulated tardiness. An excused absence only allows you the opportunity to complete the work for the day.\*\*\**

Classroom Etiquette:

Etiquette means respect. As outlined in Classroom Code of Conduct, we are expected to treat others and ourselves with an appropriate level of consideration.

To ensure that we foster a respectful and supportive learning environment, I ask that we:

- Silence all electronic devices, including cell phones, **Smart/Apple watches**, PDAs, etc.
- Refrain from aggressive or rude behavior such as inappropriate touching, cursing, or otherwise denigrating any member of the class.
- Refrain from using your electronic devices while in class or a parent will be called to pick it up from SRO Williams.
- No hood or hats worn in class without permission for administration
- No headphones, earbuds, or other listening devices allow unless given permission.
- Clothing must be worn properly no sagging pants, excessively tight clothing, or any other clothing that is against school policies.

Failure to adhere to appropriate classroom etiquette may result in disciplinary actions.

### Standards to be covered this year

#### **8.H.1:**

Apply historical thinking to understand the creation and development of North Carolina and the United States.

#### **8.H.2:**

Understand the ways in which conflict, compromise and negotiation have shaped North Carolina and the United States.

#### **8.H.3:**

Understand the factors that contribute to change and continuity in North Carolina and the United States.

#### **8.G.1:**

Understand the geographic factors that influenced North Carolina and the United States.

**8.E.1:**

Understand the economic activities of North Carolina and the United States.

**8.C&G.1:**

Analyze how democratic ideals shaped government in North Carolina and the United States.

**8.C&G.2:**

Understand the role that citizen participation plays in societal change.

**8.C.1:**

Understand how different cultures influenced North Carolina and the United States.