

Introduction to American History (1500-1865)

7th Grade Social Studies

Welcome to the exciting world of Social Studies!

We will be focusing on skills such as informational text analysis and primary/secondary source interpretation (to name a few) all through the lens of U.S. history. I know we are going to have a great year!



Mr. Mathias Room #7107



Visit Mr. M's class website at:
hmathias.weebly.com



Contact Mr. M via e-mail:
hmathias@dunlapcusd.net



Follow Mr. M's class
[@Mathias_DVMS](https://twitter.com/Mathias_DVMS)

Always have P.R.I.D.E. in the classroom

Perseverance

- Some of what we will do may be difficult for you – embrace the struggle!
- It is okay to be wrong, but it is not okay to not try.

Respect

- Obey all directions given by any adult, including other teachers, aides, and all other staff members.
- Work to keep the room clean and orderly. Please leave the room better than you found it!

Interpersonal

- Remember that how you say something is just as important as what you say.
- The truth is always better than a lie.

Disciplined

- Come to class prepared with all required materials.
- Use your planner to keep track of assignments, upcoming dates, and A/B days
- Be inside the classroom and ready to work before the bell rings.

Effort

- Work hard at all times while in class.
- All students are better than cheaters.

You may use cursive or print to write, as long as I can read it!
n0 txtng plz! <3 lol #nohashtagseither #sorrynotsorry #pencilonly



This Year at a Glance

Daily Supplies

You are expected to bring the following to class **every day**:

1. Chromebook & charger
2. Earbuds/headphones
3. 3-ring binder or folder
4. Paper
5. Pencil (for daily work)
6. Pen (for grading/editing)

Quarters 1 & 2

- Native Civilizations
- Europeans Arrive
- Early Colonies
- American Revolution
- U.S. & Illinois Constitution

Quarters 3 & 4

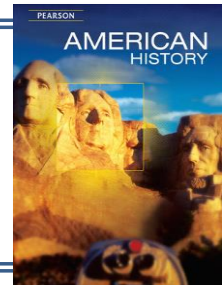
- Early Republic
- Westward Expansion
- Industrial Revolution
- Age of Jackson
- Civil War



Please keep your cell phones off and put away. You do not need them for this class.

The textbook, *American History*, (via Savvas Realize) is available online through your student PowerSchool account.

Instructions can be found on Canvas.



Behavior Expectations

*"Fair isn't everyone getting the same thing.
Fair is everyone getting what they need
in order to be successful."*

For every action you take, there is a reaction. Positive actions will result in positive reactions. Likewise, poor choices will result in negative consequences. Consequences in my class include, but are not limited to: verbal warning, movement to the safe seat, phone call home, lunch detention, and/or office referral. No one will be allowed to disrupt the learning of others.

I will be making regular contact with your parents at home. It is up to you to decide through your actions if these conversations will be focused more on the positive or negative.

"I will always be on your side because you are worthy of success."

Constitution Test

The state of Illinois has clarified the Constitution mandate and determined that passing assessments over the U.S. and Illinois Constitutions *will no longer be a requirement for students to move on to high school*. There will still be summative assessments over these topics, but we will be devoting significant time in class to prepare. There is no need to stress!

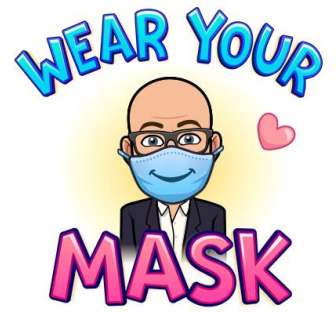
It is good to stay hydrated throughout the day. Please make sure you only bring water in a container with a lid.



Absences

It is your responsibility to find out what you miss when you are gone. *I will not hunt you down.* Check Canvas Calendar, but also check with me personally to see what else you may have missed. If it is a pre-planned absence, you must turn in the work on the day you return.

See the student handbook for more details.



Standards Based Grading

- Your grade in this class will be 80% based on summative assessments (tests/quizzes at the end of instruction). This will include items such as: tests, quizzes, projects, or papers.
- 20% of the grade will be based formative pieces along the way. These could be homework assignments, daily classwork, group activities, small quizzes, discussions, etc.
- Although homework (formative practice) will be given and remains extremely important, it only accounts for 20% of your overall class grade.
 - Not all formatives receive a grade
 - You will receive feedback to guide your practice
 - In PowerSchool, you will see either a grade, a green check (if it was just for completion), or an orange exclamation point (if it is missing)
 - The purpose of formative work is to practice the standard or skill being assessed.

Sign-up for Mr. M's parent newsletter!

Scan the QR code below or go to Mr. M's website at <https://hmathias.weebly.com/newsletter.html>



I can teach it	I get it		I kind of get it		I still need help		I do not understand	
Level 4	Level 3½	Level 3	Level 2½	Level 2	Level 1½	Level 1	Level ½	Level 0
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%

SIGN ME UP



Retake Opportunities

If you receive lower than a 4 on a summative assessment, you have the option to retake it – in fact, it is encouraged that you do so! Woo-hoo!

Generally speaking, you will be able to retake an assessment up to one week after the original being graded. Exceptions can be made, but focusing on a retake after that point will get you further behind on the current material.

Follow these easy steps to take advantage of this opportunity!



- **Step 1: Complete retake form** – You must complete a retake form and submit it to Mr. Mathias.
- **Step 2: Teacher conference** – You must conference with Mr. Mathias regarding your retake and what you need to do to master the standard.
- **Step 3: Submit any missing work** – All missing assignments must be turned in for the retake to occur.
- **Step 4: Schedule a time** – You will schedule a time with Mr. Mathias to complete the assessment at a later date.



Remind is a one-way text messaging system. It is a simple way for you and your parents to stay informed and up-to-date with what's happening in my class. Don't worry – your phone number will not be shared with the teacher or anyone else in the class. **You do not need the app for this free service.**

Simply text the message @hmathia to the number 81010 to be added to the list!

Be sure to check Canvas!



Please make sure you are checking the calendar in Canvas regularly. This is an excellent way of keeping track of all of your assignments and important upcoming dates in all of your classes – not just Social Studies!

Also, be sure to check modules inside the Social Studies course. All electronic copies, links, and files for the course will be stored there.

Please keep all toys, such as pop-its, putty, slime, etc. at home.

They have no place in this classroom.



YOUR FIRST ASSIGNMENT:

Please read, sign, and bring this syllabus back to class with you TOMORROW (Thursday, August 19, 2021).

(Student signature)

(Parent/guardian signature)

