**COACH EVANS G201 2018-2019**

**Welcome to 8th Grade Social Studies at Spring Forest Middle School!**

**Learning Journey**

**The curriculum for 8th grade U.S. History follows a basic chronological path along with other added knowledge sprinkled throughout. The path flows from exploration and colonization to pre-revolution and build up to the revolution (causes), Revolutionary War, beginnings of expansion of the United States, government and Constitution, first 5 presidents, manifest destiny, industrialization and reforms movements, build up to the Civil War, Civil War, and concludes at the end of Reconstruction of the Union.**

**Why is it important to know United States history?**

**That’s a good question. The answer is that any type of history that has a direct or indirect effect on your lives is good to know. We need to know where we come from and where we are going. It is impossible to know ALL history and EVERYTHING that could possibly have happened, but we try to decipher what you will need not only for STAAR at the end of the school year, but what can help you better achieve your Learner’s Journey into post-secondary studies. The famous author Michel Crichton said, *“If you don’t know history then you don’t know anything. You’re a leaf that doesn’t know it is part of a tree.”***

**How will the grading work?**

**We follow a general guideline for grading. The letter grades are as follows:**

**A – 90-100**

**B – 80-89**

**C – 70-79**

**F – 69 and below**

**Daily/Quizzes – 50%**

**Tests/Projects – 50%**

**Test Retakes**

**If you fail a single test, you have 10 days (two school weeks) from the day you receive your grade to make it up. You do not have longer than 10 days UNLESS there are unforeseen circumstances that you have already discussed with me.**

**In order to make-up a test, you have to come to tutorials first and be retaught the information or correct the work, etc. This is pretty standard and hopefully not hard to understand. Basically, we don’t want you reattempting a test that you just failed without any intervention having taken place or you just might end up making the same grade or worse. The HIGHEST grade you can make on a retake is 70%, no questions asked. I can guarantee that the retake will be harder than the original test.**

**Cheating Policy**

**It is in the student handbook and is not tolerated. You will receive a zero if you cheat. Don’t cheat. I do monitor. Before you get tempted, raise your hand and ask questions. It’s not worth it to cheat. You can be disciplined for a cheating infraction as well.**

**Progress Reports**

**You will get them at specified periods just like many of you are used to and it will show progress measured halfway between the beginning a grading cycle and the issuance of a report card. If you need a report in between the official report card, we can work that out on an individual basis. I will not be giving out progress reports to whole classes just because you want them. It is your responsibility to keep up with your grade in my class. You also have access to Skyward online. If you don’t know how to access it, ask.**

**Projects**

**Projects will be assigned periodically on an as-needed basis for regular project/test grades and for extra credit. You will have plenty of lead time when projects are assigned before you have to turn them in. When I assign a project for “at home,” it means just that, at home. Class time will not be used. If we have an in-class project, then the same applies, it will be in-class.**

**Late Work Policy**

**10 Points a day until the third day in which the highest grade will be a 70. After the third day, you had better have a good excuse. If I accept it, it will be at my discretion, and only for a very good reason.**

**(Note: Stratford has a no late work policy if I’m not mistaken.)**

**Cell Phone Policy**

**You can have a cell phone. You cannot use it during my class for personal use. If it goes off, I’m going to give you a warning. If it is a distraction for you, I will take it away from you and hold on to it until class is over or turn it into the front office for your parent to pick up. You can have earbuds for and if we need to use computers, but keep them out of sight. You can’t have them around your neck or hanging out of your shirt or pockets.**

**(Note: If I ask to have your phone, don’t be difficult. Just give me your phone and I’ll give it back most likely. If you become difficult though, I will reciprocate.)**

**Classroom Rules/Norms**

1. **Be on time. It shows character and respect.**
2. **Be respectful to everyone in the classroom (verbal and non-verbal).**
3. **Be engaging. Get involved. You’re not here just to sit.**
4. **No electronic devices other than cell phones out at all.**
5. **No fidget spinners or ear buds out at all (cell phones can be used if I ask you to use them).**
6. **Be prepared with school work and needed supplies.**
7. **Truly think about your questions before you ask them.**
8. **If you have a personal request or issue, speak with me privately on your time. It does you no good to confront me in a public setting.**
9. **If your parents have an issue with anything, HAVE THEM CONTACT ME FIRST!**
10. **Your job in life right now is to learn as much as possible. Anything that distracts you from that…don’t do it please.**

**Discipline Procedures \*serious offenses require immediate referral to administration (see Student Code of Conduct)**

**Step 1 - Warning**

**Step 2 - Lunch Detention**

**Step 3 - Parent Contact**

**Step 4 - Referral to Administration**

**Class Website**

[**http://sfbobcathistory.weebly.com/**](http://sfbobcathistory.weebly.com/)

**Remind App**

**Each class will have the opportunity to have access to messages from me using the Remind app on your cellular phones.**

**Items you need to bring**

**1 Kleenex box**

**1 Bottle of sanitizer**

**1 Ream of copy paper**

**1 Pair of scissors**

**1 Box of map colors**

**1 Black pen (preferably very thin Sharpie for labeling)**

**2-3 Colored highlighters**

**1-2 Glue sticks**

**2 Wide-ruled composition notebooks**

**1 Roll of clear packing tape**

**1 Folder (to keep notebook paper or handouts in that won’t go in Composition Notebook)**

**1 Package of loose notebook paper**

**Contact Information**

**If you need to contact me, my number here at Spring Forest is 713-251-4741. My preferred method of contact is by email, as I can check it anywhere. You can use my teacher website to contact me directly.** **Gregory.evans@springbranchisd.com**

**United States History Course Syllabus**

**Coach Evans 2017-2018**

**Please return this bottom portion to me with your names clearly printed, signed, and dated stating that you have read these policies and you are aware of the procedures in my classroom. These will be turned in NLT Aug. 25, 2017.**

**I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (student) have read and understand the policies and procedures as outlined in the syllabus for Coach Evans’s class. I will, to the best of my ability, follow all of the guidelines set forth in the syllabus.**

**Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**