

DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT: Individuals and Societies

GRADE: 8

Offered: Full Year

Type of Course: Required

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is the second year of a two year survey course focusing on American History. The Social Studies Skills taught in Grade 7 are expanded upon in Grade 8. The course begins with the study of the Civil War and concludes with the changing nature of the American people from World War II to the present. Our history is explored chronologically from the 1850's to the present. Connections are made between the historical periods being studied and the nation and world we live in today. Two areas of inquiry for the school year are "*Global interaction and the exchange of ideas, goods, and services have had both negative and positive consequences for humans and the natural environment,*" and "*Nations Have Global Interactions That Can Lead to Conflict, Cooperation And The Need For A Lasting Peace*".

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES:

By June of this year, students in this class will be able to:

- Comprehend the growth of the United States as an industrialized nation, as a world power and as a nation with ongoing changes.
- Develop a geographic knowledge of the United States and of the areas of the world in which the United States has historically been involved.
- Understand the national political process and Constitutional changes.
- Evaluate evidence through exposure to Primary and Secondary sources.
- Write an effective "Document Based Question" (DBQ) Essay.
- Successfully answer Multiple Choice Questions based on the type encountered on the Grade 11 U.S. History Regents Examination.
- Cultivate civic responsibility and awareness so that students become active and informed participants of a democratic society.
- Expose students to the diversity of multiple perspectives and foster the historical thinking skills necessary to develop our understanding of the past.

MATERIALS:

Textbook: TCI History Alive through the Modern World

Supplies:

- Classwork folder
- Highlighter
- Pen/pencils
- Chromebook
- Headphones

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT:

Grades are based on total points earned per quarter. Grades will be the percentage of total points earned, out of the total possible points. Students' grades will reflect their participation and performance on projects, quizzes, tests, and homework assignments. Assessments and projects make up 65% of the grade. All other assignments count for 35% of the grade.

Graded work is posted on the Parent Portal. When assignments are submitted, the code "AR" indicates that I have received the assignment. If an assignment is not submitted, the code "MA" indicates the assignment is missing. If a student is excused from an assignment, the code "EX" will be entered, along with a comment indicating why the student was excused from the assignment. Please check the Parent Portal periodically, to ensure that your child is up to date with their work.

STUDENT/PARENT RESOURCES:

- 1) **Avalon Project:** Documents In Law, History, And Diplomacy: [Avalon Project - Documents in Law, History and Diplomacy](#)
- 2) **Immigration Museum:** [Tenement Museum: Immigration Museum NYC](#)
- 3) **Official Ellis Island Website:** [Ellis Island | Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island](#)
- 4) **100 Essential U.S Historical Documents:** [100 Milestone Documents](#)
- 5) **Library of Congress:** [Library of Congress](#)
- 6) **Digital History:** [Digital History: UH](#)