

**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 Reconstruction Era and concludes with the changing nature of the American people from World War II to the present. Our history is explored chronologically from 1865 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:**

**Anticipated student outcomes:** *Student outcomes for the social studies curriculum can be found at*

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/new-york-state-k-12-social-studies-framework>.

**MATERIALS:**

**Textbook:**

TCI History Alive through the Modern World

**Media Resources:** PBS Learning Media

**Supplies:**

- Classwork Folder (Kept in the classroom)
- 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:**

### **Opportunities for Enrichment:**

#### *Books*

- Various historical fiction and non-fiction books are available for students to read in our classroom and library.

#### *Online Resources*

- **History Channel:**  
[History.com](http://History.com)
- **Crash Course US History:**  
[US History - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXma0010A0P5vD9iWm0Lbw)
- **PBS Learning Media:**  
[PBS Learning Media](http://PBS Learning Media)
- **Immigration Museum:**  
[Tenement Museum: Immigration Museum NYC](http://Tenement Museum: Immigration Museum NYC)
- **Official Ellis Island Website:**  
[Ellis Island | Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island](http://Ellis Island | Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island)
- **100 Essential U.S Historical Documents:**  
[100 Milestone Documents](http://100 Milestone Documents)
- **Library of Congress:**  
[Library of Congress](http://Library of Congress)