

# U.S. History

Mrs. Silva

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## Welcome to 8th grade U.S History

### Intro to U.S History

United States History is a two-semester course required for all 8th-grade students. The course content concentrates on the study of the main topics and events in United States History from the Pre-Colonial period to the Civil War.

This course will prepare students for High School US History, which covers the Civil War to the present.

### Required Course Materials

- Textbook / E-Book: Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States Early Years
- Chromebook: Charged Chromebooks are to be brought to class on a daily basis. If a student does not bring his or her Chromebook, the student is expected to continue participating in class and complete all class work.
- Color pencils, highlighters minimum two colors, glue stick, Kleenex and Clorox wipes, plastic folder, one notebook.

### Classroom Expectations

In order to demonstrate proficiency in course standards, students will need to:

- Participate in class activities like taking notes, contribute to group work, complete in-class tasks, ask questions, etc.
- Complete assigned homework as needed in order to practice and improve learning.
- Use formative assessments to track learning progress and identify strengths and weaknesses.
- Complete all assessments formative and summative.
- Students will be expected to adhere to policies established by the classroom, Larsen MD, and District U-46.

### Student Evidence/Assessments (grading)

Eighth grade U.S History will be using standards-based learning and assessment (SBLA). SBLA measures students' proficiency on a set of standards. Evidence of learning, both formative and summative, include any artifact that shows whether or not a student has achieved proficiency in a standard. These may include in-class work, formative events, and assessments. The 7th grade SBLA includes the following reporting strands which will be found on Infinite Campus:

- Change, Continuity, and Context
- Perspectives
- Causation
- Social Studies Skills

Standards-based rubrics will be used to determine students' level of proficiency, using the 0-4 scale based on set criteria.

Rubrics will be distributed at the beginning of a unit of study and referred to throughout the learning progression for the purpose of providing feedback.

Score	What does it mean?
4 = Mastery	Ability to apply extended thinking about the skills and knowledge of the standard
3 = Proficient	Demonstrates skills and knowledge of the standard
2 = Basic	Demonstrates a basic understanding of the skills and knowledge of the standard
1 = Below Basic	Below basic understanding of the standard and/or gaps in skills and knowledge.

0 = No Evidence	There is no, or insufficient, evidence of learning to assess the standard at this time.
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**Makeup Policy**

Any late work that a student may have must be turned in within the reassessment window. Once the reassessment window is closed, the work will no longer be accepted. Work that is missing will be marked with an “M” in Infinite Campus until completed. Automatic e-mail will be sent weekly through Infinite Campus notifying parents of missing work.

**Reassessments**

Students will have the opportunity to re-assess. All formative work must be completed before reassessment. The opportunity must be initiated by the student, but always at the discretion of the teacher. Reassessments must be completed within 2 weeks of the original assessment.

**Extra Credit and Bonus Points**

To ensure that grades reflect progress toward and achievement of the standards, giving extra credit points or bonus points will not occur in this class. The vision of U-46 is that behavior/participation will be reported separately from academic achievement and is not a component of a student’s academic grade.

**Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism Policy**

Academic dishonesty refers to cheating, copying, plagiarizing, or otherwise representing the work of others as one’s own through verbal, written, graphic, electronic, or other means. Students determined to have been academically dishonest are subject to disciplinary action. Consequences will depend on the severity of the offense, the number of offenses, the impact on other students and teacher, and/or the curriculum. Academic dishonesty undermines the learning process and will not be condoned.

**School Name • 2019-2020**

Parent Signature Form

**U.S. History**

**Mrs Silva**

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Please share with your parents or guardians and have this signed and returned by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Students:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the syllabus and agree to bring my best attitude and effort to this class every day.

**Parents/Guardians:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understand the syllabus.

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian preferred language: \_\_\_\_\_

How would you prefer to be contacted? (You may select multiple methods)

\_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Email

1. What is the best time of day to reach you by phone?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Is there anything I should know about your student's learning process?

Martha A Silva  
8th Grade Dual