



# Mrs. Anderson (8B)

## Grade 8 – American History

### **Course Description**

*This course explores American History from the first native peoples through reconstruction after the Civil War. We will explore the colonization of North America, the establishment of the British colonies, the American Revolution, Industrial Revolution, Westward Expansion, and the Civil War. If course time remains we will touch upon World War I and World War II.*

### **Units of Study**

August – The Earliest Americans	January – Industrial Revolution/Westward Expansion
September – Europe Looks Outward	February – The Civil War
October – The Colonies	March – Reconstruction and The Gilded Age
November – The American Revolution	April – World War I and The Great Depression
December – A New Republic	May – World War II

### **Textbook**

Pearson’s America: History of Our Nation (print and digital)

### **Required Materials/Supplies**

- School-issued iPad (charged)
- 3-ring binder (shared with other classes) with loose leaf paper
- Pen, pencil, Colored pencils and highlighters
- Scissors, Tape or glue stick

### **Organization**

1. Handwritten notes will be a part of our daily routine. Writing by hand has been scientifically proven to increase knowledge and retention. We will be learning how to outline the chapter and identify key points.
2. Handout and worksheets will also be utilized. iPads will be used in classroom for research and online assessments.

### **Additional Assistance**

I will be available by appointment only, before school, study hall during recess and after school. These extra help sessions must be scheduled in advance by minimum of one day. No same day appointments will be made. Please plan ahead and communicate your needs early. These sessions will be to answer specific questions, not to reteach an entire unit.

### **Attendance**

Students are required to make up work following an absence, and it is the student’s responsibility to see that the work is completed.

- Assignments: The student will have 3 calendar days to complete and submit missed assignments. Following 3 calendar days, the makeup work is late and a grade of zero will be recorded.
- Summative Assessments: Any student who is absent on the day of a scheduled summative assessment will be expected to make it up upon his/her return to school. For every day a student is absent, he/she has that number of days to make up the summative assessment (Ex. 1 day missed = 1 day for summative assessment.)

### **Behavior**

- *Respect for each other, yourself, our space, and our time is expected.*
- All students are expected to arrive on time and be prepared for class to begin.

- Disruptive behavior only distracts the learning process and will not be tolerated. Consequences will follow the Middle School Behavior Management System.

### **Late Work**

All assignments are to be turned in on the due date. Assigned work is due at the beginning of class. An excused absence will be the only time late work will be accepted without ATL penalty. Late work turned in after it is due will be noted in the ATL sheet per day **and** will not be accepted after 3 calendar days for full credit. After 3 calendar days, a mandatory after-school study hall will be issued with the expectation that the work will be completed during that time for a grade of 50%.

### **Grading Criteria – based on Diocesan Best Grading Practices in the Family Handbook**

#### **Summative Assessments: 70%**

Tests will be announced at least one week in advance. Each test will cover the notes, study guides, and vocabulary completed since the previous test. Projects will be graded using a rubric, which will be provided with the project is assigned.

#### **Formative Assessments: 30%**

Quizzes, homework and classwork are considered formative assessments.

Grading Scale and Retake Policy can be found in the Diocesan Best Grading Practices in the Family Handbook.

- Criteria for Summative retake eligibility
  1. All notes must be complete.
  2. All classwork/ homework assignments must be completed & corrected.
  3. Formative assessments must be completed & corrected.
  4. The original test must be corrected. Multiple choice questions should include an explanation on why the answer is correct over the others.
  5. #1-4 must be completed and submitted to the teacher no later than lunch time the day before the retake or the student will not be eligible for the retake.
- Retake schedule – Tuesdays only and only at the following times:
  - 7:00- 7:30 am in the Technology Lab
  - 3:15 – 4pm rotating location based on teacher in charge – students will be informed
    - **any student in clubs or after-school athletics will be required to attend the morning retake**

### **Trimester dates**

Trimester 1: Aug 9 – Nov 2

Trimester 2: Nov 5-Feb 20

Trimester 3: Feb. 21 – May 29

### **Communication**

- E-mail: [manderson@mtctampa.org](mailto:manderson@mtctampa.org). I will respond to emails within 24 hours, except on weekends.
- Homework will be posted on Education pages, accessible via MTC - Parent site
- Parent-Teacher Conferences are Sept. 21 from 1pm – 4pm and Mar. 27 from 4pm – 8pm.
- Grades are updated weekly and available through RenWeb. Progress Reports, and Trimester 1 & 2 report cards are emailed. Trimester 3 report card will be sent home with students on the last day of school.

### **Field Trips**

St. Augustine – Explore the Fort, Old Town and the site of the first Catholic Mass in the New World. October 12, 2018.  
Washington D.C. – Parent organized trip scheduled for April 5-8, 2019.

**Water bottles** Only clear plastic water bottles are allowed in the classroom. Nothing other than water should be consumed in the classroom unless provided by the teacher.