

Social Studies 8 Course Overview

Unit	Major Concepts	Skills	Summative Assessment
Introduction to U.S. Geography	U.S Physical Features Major U.S. Bodies of Water U.S. State Abbreviation and Labeling	Analyze maps, photographs, and different regions of the United States Understand why certain places and areas developed the way they did Differentiate between towns, cities, metropolitan areas	"My Town" Choice Assignment
9/11 Investigation and Interview Project	Evaluating Multiple Perspectives on the same event Investigate a Current Event and how it connects to our life today	Exhibit understanding of how history is affected by continuity and change	Interview Project
Colonial Foundations and Developing A Nation Through Conflict: (Discovery of New World-American Revolution)	The origins and purpose of government The potential for the abuse of power Systems and strategies designed to prevent the abuse of power	Analyze primary sources Analyze cause and effect Analyze the ethical implications of choices in history Assume and analyze different perspectives Formulate and express their own perspectives on complex issues Interpret initial United States Geography	Join or Die: Colonial Poster Project Women of the Revolutionary War Group Project DBQ Essay: Causes of the Revolutionary War

<p>Constitutional Foundations (Articles of Confederation - Abolition Movement)</p>	<p>The development of the U.S. Constitution</p> <p>Origins of conflict and approaches to building peace</p> <p>Forms of violent and nonviolent action/resistance</p> <p>What it means to make informed decisions in the context of conflict and conflict resolution</p>	<p>Research and present results to the class</p> <p>Participate in group discussion</p> <p>Work in groups/teams</p> <p>Write considering multiple perspectives</p>	<p>Constitutional Convention Simulation</p> <p>War of 1812 Investigation</p>
<p>Manifest Destiny</p>	<p>The Development of the United States Geographically, socially, and politically</p> <p>Issues over</p>	<p>Utilize graphs and maps</p> <p>Analyze and Interpret how history affects people differently</p> <p>Interpet periods of continuity and change throughout history</p>	<p>Manifet Destiny Summative Choice Assessment</p>
<p>The Civil War: A Nation Divided</p>	<p>Several different factors lead to the division of the United States.</p> <p>Ethics of war</p> <p>Changes in legislation.</p> <p>Failed efforts to peacefully resolve a conflict, make war the final option.</p>	<p>Analyze media (Digital, Graphic Novel, Short Stories)</p> <p>Re-evaluate American Geography and its Implications</p> <p>Analyze primary and secondary sources</p>	<p>Civil War Summative Choice Presentation</p>

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Reconstruction	<p>Conflict resolution</p> <p>Changes in society influenced the government</p> <p>The present day would be different without the influence of past events</p>	<p>Engage in respectful argumentation/debate based on an understanding of non-violent communication and discussion facilitation</p> <p>Speak effectively in public</p> <p>Analyze primary and secondary sources</p> <p>Analyze and construct media</p> <p>Analyze the ethics of war and conflict</p>	Reconstruction Summative Assessment
America Pushing Forward: Industrial Revolution and Progressive Era	<p>The evolution of ideals through United States history</p> <p>Human responses to difference</p> <p>Origins of prejudice and discrimination and how those forces impact different groups through U.S. history and in the world today</p>	<p>Analyze/Create Media</p> <p>Read, analyze, and interpret primary source documents</p> <p>Evaluate Different Perspectives and Cultures</p> <p>Interpret culture and identity throughout history</p> <p>Interpret Societal Problems</p> <p>Evaluate changing economies</p> <p>Analyze Reform Movements</p> <p>Consider multiple perspectives when analyzing one issue</p>	Identity project: Immigration and Urbanization
Becoming A Global Superpower: (Pre WWII-Cold War)	<p>Numerous factors lead to the United States becoming a World Super Power</p> <p>Forces that shape American foreign policy</p>	<p>Analyze the ethics of war and conflict</p> <p>Interpret primary and secondary sources</p> <p>Evaluate Civic Participation and its importance</p>	Interdisciplinary Assessment (Art): World War I Propaganda Posters
The American Experience: (1960s-Present)	<p>Ways in which individuals can play a role in the struggle for social justice</p> <p>The concept of progress in the context of personal choice, society, quality of life, and social justice.</p>	<p>Analyze the social justice implications of choices and policies in history and today</p> <p>Engage in self-reflection regarding the interplay of their own identities, choices, and impacts on the world</p> <p>Analyze primary and secondary sources</p> <p>Analyze and construct media</p> <p>Outline and write research essays</p> <p>Analyze different perspectives on progress in a variety of contexts</p>	<p>Social Issue Investigation and Presentation</p> <p>Notable Historical Figure Project</p>

<p>8th Grade Inquiry Based Research Project</p>	<p>Develop a Research Question that is arguable and proveable Support a self developed thesis statement with credible and accurate sources Construct an accurate bibliography</p>	<p>Analyze and interpret sources to determine bias and point of view Develop an argument and support it with examples from non-fiction texts</p>	<p>Interdisciplinary (ELA) Summative Assessment: Research Paper</p>
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