



8th Grade Social Studies: American History
International School of Sosua
Mr. Calkins
mcalkins@issosua.com

Overview: Social Studies is the integrated study of the social sciences to prepare young people to become responsible citizens.

The purpose of Social Studies is to develop social understanding and civic efficacy (the readiness and willingness to assume citizenship responsibilities and to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a democratic society).

The Social Studies curriculum at ISS builds four capacities in young people: disciplinary knowledge, thinking skills, commitment to democratic values, and citizen participation.

Curriculum Overview: ISS has adopted the American Education Reaches Out (AERO) Standards and Performance Indicators for Social Studies. Their standards were designed by the US state Department for implementation in American international schools to ensure vertical alignment of skills and content delivered in Social Studies courses. The AERO framework is aligned with research-based trends in the development of curriculum worldwide, and particularly with the Common Core initiative in the United States. Social Studies classes at ISS will require students to develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills in the context of relevant “real world” engaging issues. In addition, these classes will prepare students to be effective, contributing members of their local community and to be informed, active citizens of their country and of the world.

Standard 1 (Time, Continuity, and Change) Students will understand patterns of change and continuity, relationships between people and events through time, and various interpretations of these relationships.

Standard 2 (Connections and Conflict) Students will understand causes and effects of interaction among societies, including trade, systems of international exchange, war, and diplomacy.

Standard 3 (Geography) Students will understand the interactions and relationship between human societies and their physical environment.

Standard 4 (Culture) Students will understand cultural and intellectual developments and interactions among societies.

Standard 5 (Society and Identity) Students will understand social systems and structures and how these influence individuals.

Standard 6 (Government) Students will understand why societies create and adopt systems of governance and how they address human needs, rights, responsibilities and citizenship.

Standard 7 (Production, Distribution, and Consumption) Students will understand fundamental economic principles and ways in which economies are shaped by geographic and human factors

Standard 8 (Science, Technology, and Society) Students will understand how societies have influenced and been influenced by scientific developments and technological developments .

United States History is a yearlong course that explores important people, events, relationships, and themes in the history of the United States starting with the Native Americans and extending through the Industrial Revolution. Students will look at how the United States became a nation and understand its role in history, both positive and negative. Upon completion students should be able to explain its role in history as a nation, as well as how it impacted other nations and world politics.

Materials-

-Provided by the school

-Textbook History Alive “The United States Through Industrialism”

-Provided by the student

-Notebook/Folder

-Personal device (laptop or tablet) every day

-Positive attitude

Student Evaluation:

Most work will be completed in class, such as reading of the textbook, writing assignments, worksheets, daily warm up (bell ringers), and journal entries. Periodically reports, presentations, and projects will be given for specific units.

Presentations and projects may need to be completed at home.

All work will be used to assess student progress toward learning targets.

Students cannot pass without being at least proficient at all given Learning Targets for every unit. Students who are not at least proficient in one or more Learning Targets will need to continue to work toward mastery, even if the class has moved on to the next unit.

Emerging : Student is in the beginning stages of understanding concepts and procedures and requires consistent support.

Developing : Student accomplishes part of the task independently. Student can sometimes explain or demonstrate the process but may need prompting to complete it.

Proficient : Student demonstrates proficiency of targeted grade level standards and is confident and competent.

Mastering : Student demonstrates proficiency of targeted grade level standards with evidence of application to new contexts.

Class Rules:

Follow the Golden Rule (Treat everyone as you would want to be treated)

-Be Respectful

-Come to class prepared ready to learn

-Follow directions

School Academic Honesty Policy

All students are expected to adhere to the school's Academic Honesty Policy. Any student caught cheating or plagiarising (either purposefully or due to ignorance of plagiarism) will not be given credit until the assignment is redone. Redone assignments will be given minimum credit. Plagiarism is copying another's work or having someone else complete your assignment, or a portion of it, for you and submitting it as if it were your original work. Test dishonesty is the use of any means deemed unacceptable by the teacher to obtain answers to a test or a quiz. Test dishonesty includes giving, receiving, passing or using specific information about a test or quiz, whether in oral or written form. Working together or copying someone's work on individual assignments is considered cheating. Infractions will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, but may include a zero on the assignment, discussion with principal/director, parent contact, detention, etc. Please refer to the student-parent handbook for more information.

Technology in class

As a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) school, it is expected that students bring their own device to class daily (not a cellphone). Devices must be fully charged and functional and headphones are strongly recommended. Students may not share a device, and at the teacher's discretion, a student may be asked to complete the assignment handwritten. During class, chat functions and distracting apps, of any type, are not permitted. Please read all ISS BYOD guidelines and policies in the parent-student handbook.

MASTERY OF WORK HABITS

At ISS, our job as a community of students, teachers, parents and other adults in the school is not only to help students acquire the content knowledge necessary to be adequately prepared for their next level of education, but also to teach the habits, skills and character necessary to be a successful life-long learner and productive member of the communities in which they will live.

As such, students will not only be assessed on their progress toward mastery of the Social Studies Learning Targets, but also of their progress toward mastery of the Work Habits that are necessary for success in school and life. Students will receive a rubric for the work habits.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date