

8th Grade Social Studies Syllabus

Teacher:

DeEtte Wick – dwick@aep.latech.edu

Attendance:

Roll will be taken daily and all absences and tardiness recorded.

Overview of the Class:

Social Studies in 8th grade is a 51-minute class that covers Louisiana History. To be productive members of society, students must be critical consumers of information they read, hear, and observe and communicate effectively about their ideas. They need to gain knowledge from a wide array of sources and examine and evaluate that information to develop and express an informed opinion, using information gained from the sources and their background knowledge. Students must also make connections between what they learn about the past and the present to understand how and why events happen and people act in certain ways.

To accomplish this, students must:

1. Use sources regularly to learn content.
2. Make connections among people, events, and ideas across time and place
3. Express informed opinions using evidence from sources and outside knowledge.

Students will have instructional opportunities to delve deeply into content to develop and support claims about social studies concepts.

In grade 8, students explore economic, political, and social changes that have formed Louisiana's identity as they study the following units:

- Unit 1: Pre-Colonial and Colonial Eras
- Unit 2: Louisiana Purchase through Battle of New Orleans
- Unit 3: Antebellum Era through Reconstruction
- Unit 4: Jim Crow through Huey Long
- Unit 5: World War II and the Civil Rights Movement
- Unit 6: The Modern Era

These units are provided by the Louisiana Department of Education and are aligned with the Grade Level Expectations for 8th Grade Social Studies. Each unit is divided into two or more topics, covers priority content and concepts specifically connected to state standards, and concludes with an extended writing essay that utilizes information used throughout that unit.

Grades:

Students will be given ample opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned each quarter through a variety of formal and informal assessments. All grades will be done on a point system.

Grades can be taken on class discussion, small group discussion, classwork, quizzes, tests, constructed response paragraph writing, and extended response essay writing.

There will not be regular homework for this class. Homework will be assigned as needed for extended time or long-term work. Students are responsible for keeping track of any homework assignments through the use of a planner.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class on the date they are due.

Curriculum and Standards:

The Social Studies curriculum can be found at www.louisianabelieves.com.

The Social Studies standards can be found at <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/academic-curriculum/standards---k-12-social-studies.pdf>.