

U.S. History
8th Grade
Mr. Bland

Textbook: *The American Nation*

Overview: This course is designed to give students a general overview of the events that have shaped our nation. Special emphasis will be given to the American Revolution. Students will also be required to successfully pass the U.S./Illinois Constitution test.

Current Events: We will discuss current events on a daily basis. I will expect students to contribute in class discussions of current events as well as take notes on the discussions. Current events quizzes will be given each week on Friday (unless it is a test day).

Homework: Students will periodically receive homework assignments. Due dates will be given in class and students are expected complete the assignment by the due date. Students that fail to hand in their assignment will receive an **academic detention** (as outlined in the school handbook).

Grading: Students will be graded in the following categories.

Note: Assignments and grade values are subject to change. If a change is made, students will be notified.

Participation
Current Events Quizzes:
Homework Assignments:
Projects/Papers
Tests

-Over-

Areas to be covered include, but are not limited to the following:

What is history?

-Why do we study it?

Early America (Pre-Columbus)

-Who were the first Westerners to colonize America?

The Seven Years War/French and Indian War

-Why was this war an important step toward American independence?

The American Revolution

-The war that made America

The Birth of a Nation (Post American Revolution)

-How did our nation survive after winning independence?

The Constitution (Including the Constitution Test)

-What rights do I have under the US/Illinois Constitution?

The War of 1812

-How did this war solidify America's place as a stable country?

Westward Expansion

-Why was it important for the U.S. to expand its territory?

Slavery in the Americas

-What kind of effect did this have on race relations and American opinion?

The Civil War

-The war that tested America's harmony.