

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Syllabus

Teacher: Loretta Romero

Text: American Journey "The Early Years"

Curriculum: America Meets World: Beginning through Civil War & Reconstruction

**Course Description:** This course is designed to give the student an understanding of major influences on the development of the United States from the age of exploration through the Civil War and Reconstruction.

**Required Supplies:** Students are required to keep their "Do Now" notebook in class. Students need paper and pencil pouch with markers, colored pencils, erasers, highlighters, rulers, pens, pencils, sharpener, glue sticks etc., journal cost \$5.00 and is paid in class.

**Course Objectives:** This course will address the categories of Social Studies set forth by the New Mexico Public Education Department which includes: *Geography, Civics & Government, History and Economics.*

1. *Geography Objective - The student will understand how geographical location affects how and where people live.*
2. *Civics & Government Objective- The student will understand the rights and responsibilities of the United States Citizenship and their role as citizens.*
3. *History Objective - The student will identify and analyze the impact events and influential people had on the development of the United States.*
4. *Economic Objective - The student will understand basic rules which guide our economy and market system.*

**Planned Course Activities:** The students will participate in a variety of GLAD strategies in group activities, paired activities, individual participation, oral presentations, writing short stories, creating folables, writing poems, creating cartoons, and entering vocabulary words and geography into their journals throughout the course of the school year.

**Schedule:**

August - September -Basic Geography, Age of Exploration

October - November - Colonial America

December Revolutionary War

January - The Constitution

February - Early Presidents and their impact on our nation

March - Manifest Destiny and Westward Expansion

April - Civil War

May - Current events that impact our economy

**This schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.**

**Assessments:** The students will be evaluated by Participating in GLAD Strategies, tests, paired work and individual work. Students who are enrolled in program (Special Education) will be given a modified exam taken with their case worker.

**Classroom Rules & Expectations:** The students are expected to come to class daily prepared with their book and supplies. We use the Classroom Discipline form for classroom infractions. Students will adhere to the PRIDE banner for their classroom rules and those that misbehave with a substitute will serve lunch detention with me.

**Cheating/Plagiarism:** Students caught cheating will receive a zero on the assignment and a parent will be called. Students who engage in verbal conversation during a test will be given a

zero and a parent will be called. Plagiarism will result in a zero and the parent will be called refer to (Pojoaque Valley School Student Handbook)

**Grading Policy:** Grades are based upon a point system. Points will be given for each assignment. Some assignments will be accompanied with a rubric so students know what the expectations are for that particular assignment/project. I do not encourage extra credit however this year I am implementing GLAD strategies and I give out literacy awards for extra credit. I do expect the students to complete work that is assigned to them cooperatively/individually. Work turned in late, I only give half-credit.

**Make Up Work Policy** - Refer to the Student Hand Book for details on make-up work.

Students who are suspended are allowed to make up work. Students are allowed make up work, the teacher determines the amount of credit given.

**Behavior Expectations for Substitute Teacher** - Students are expected to treat the substitute teacher/student teacher as they would me. Students who misbehave with the substitute will deal with me upon my return and the consequences will be determined by the severity of the misbehavior.

**Seating chart/Assignments** - Every nine weeks students will be reassigned to a different seat.

**Rewards/Consequence** - Students will receive PRIDE slips, pencils, sharpeners & erasers for their work and behavior in class.

(This schedule is subject to change to ensure the maximum learning for all students)