7TH GRADE AMERICAN HISTORY CURRICULUM MAP

Course Description:

- **Unit One**: ‘Intro to Geography’ and ‘what is social studies?’
- **Unit Two**: United States and New York State Geography
- **Unit Three**: Three Worlds Meet
- **Unit Four**: Colonization and Settlement
- **Unit Five**: Revolution and the New Nation
- **Unit Six**: Expansion and Reform

Class Policies:

- It is the student’s responsibility to obtain and complete work missed due to absences.
- Tests and quizzes missed will be made up on the first day back, barring an extended absence.
- Extra help is available daily during lunch, prep or after school upon request.

Grading:

- 25% Quizzes and short term projects
- 25% Tests, Finals and long term projects
- 25% Homework
- 25% Class Participation/Classwork

Curriculum Mapping

Greenburgh North Castle UFSD has made every attempt over the recent years to enhance curriculum. It has been our initiative to offer our students a comprehensive curriculum that is parallel to the NYS core curriculum in each content area. In 2006/2007 curriculum teams were formed to create curriculum guides complete with course outlines, core curriculum, glossaries and course descriptions. A component that we are adding is curriculum mapping. This should provide teachers, administrators, parents and most importantly the student with a “road map” as to what to expect in each course. This map is a suggested guide to be used as a reference. All parties involved should be aware that the teachers are obligated by individual student needs to modify curriculum and instruction to best suit each student. Adding these curriculum maps will provide more structure to delivery of instruction and help to better prepare our students for exams, college and most importantly life.
COURSE OUTLINE

I. Unit One: ‘Intro to Geography’ and ‘what is social studies?’
(4 weeks; 2 quizzes & 1 test or 1 project)

1. Geography:
   • connections between history and geography
   • five themes of geography: location, place, region, movement and human/environment interaction

2. What is social studies?
   • eight areas of Social Studies (history, geography, economics, political science, anthropology, philosophy, psychology & sociology)

II. Unit Two: United States and New York State Geography
(4 weeks; 2 quizzes & 1 test or 1 project)

1. Regional geographic features
   • United States: states and major cities, the nations capital,
   • New York State: boroughs, counties and capital.

2. Physical geographic
   • United States: bodies of water (oceans, Great Lakes, and major rivers), coastlines, river valleys, lakes, islands, mountains canals, plateaus, borders, climates and natural resources
   • New York: bodies of water (oceans, Great Lakes, and major rivers), coastlines, river valleys, lakes, islands, mountains canals, plateaus, borders, climates and natural resources

3. Relationships between people and environments and the connections between people and

III. Unit Three: Three Worlds Meet
(3 weeks; 4 quizzes & 2 tests or 1 project)

1. The First Americans – Beginnings to 1607
   • the earliest Americans
   • how geographic features affected the settlement patterns and living conditions of the earliest Americans
   • Mayans, Aztecs, and Incas)
   • Northwestern Woodlands, Southeastern Woodlands, Plains, Southwestern, Great Basin/Californian, Pacific Northwest Coast)
   • worldview of the Native Americans (ideas towards the land, animals, religion, storytelling, etc.)
   • the Iroquios and Algonquin tribes (Major New York)
2: Exploration – 1400 to 1607
- Europeans prior to 1500 (Ethnocentrism combined with the desire for trade and wealth)
- ‘northwest passage’ & trade
- new technology in early navigation and exploration (compass, astrolabe, mapmaking)
- the major European explorers and the areas they explored (Marco Polo, Columbus, Cortes, Drake, Vespucci, Magellan, Cartier, Hudson, de Leon, Balboa,)
- impact of the Europeans arrival
- the first European colonies
- the varied perspectives of early exploration (Were the natives as excited about the Europeans arriving on their land as the explorers were?)

VI. Unit Four: Colonization and Settlement
(3 weeks; 4 quizzes & 2 tests or 1 project)

1. English Colonies Are Created – 1607 to 1733
   - geography
   - the French, Dutch and English
   - the effects of European settlement on the natives (introduction to new disease, acquisition of native land, etc.)
   - Jamestown colony
   - New Netherland
   - European immigration to the new world (lack of religious freedom, lack of land, etc.)
   - Pilgrims and the Puritans
   - the Mayflower Compact
   - the English colonies
   - the New England, middle, and southern regions
   - the Iroquois Confederacy

2. A Struggle for Power – 1700 to 1763
   - mercantilism
   - triangle trade
   - the French and Indian War
   - Benjamin Franklin, George Washington
   - the Enlightenment and predict how they may influence the colonists perspectives in the New World
V. Unit Five: Revolution and the New Nation

(9 weeks; 5 quizzes & 2 tests or 1 project)

1. A New Nation Begins to Grow – 1763 to 1775
   - the Proclamation of 1763
   - taxation without representation
   - ‘pro-independence’ thinking
   - loyalists and the patriots
   - the Boston Massacre
   - the Boston Tea Party
   - the First Continental Congress
   - Lexington and Concord
   - slavery in the north vs. slavery in the south (market vs. plantation) and the
     slaves role in the Revolution

2. The American Revolution – 1775 to 1783
   - the events immediately following Lexington and Identify what actions the
     Second Continental Congress took
   - the ideas behind the Declaration of Independence (John Locke,
     Enlightenment); Common Sense
   - the writers of the Declaration of Independence
   - the Declaration of Independence (the purpose of government, inalienable
     rights)
   - the important leaders of the Revolution
   - the colonists vs. the British
   - the Revolutions path through New York State (Road to Trenton)
   - the Battle of Saratoga
   - the Battle of Yorktown, and the geography of the war
   - the 1777 creation of the Constitution of New York State

3. A Government is Formed – 1783 to 1791
   - Articles of Confederation & federalists vs. pro-state
   - Examine Shay’s rebellion
   - the Constitutional Convention
   - the New Jersey Plan, the Virginia Plan and the Great Compromise
   - the writing of the constitution and living in a democratic society
   - uniqueness of the US Constitution
   - ratifying the United States Constitution
   - the Bill of Rights
   - constitutional rights for slaves (or lack thereof)

4. Political Parties Develop – 1788 to 1809
   - Alexander Hamilton
   - Washington’s as the first president (security through neutrality)
   - the location of the first White House (Manhattan)
   - development of political parties as a response to concerns at the local,
     state and national level
   - the Federalist party; John Jay
   - John Adams
   - the Alien and Sedition Acts
• the election of 1800, and the electoral college
• Thomas Jefferson & his intellectual pursuits and how his interests affected the expansion of the
• the Louisiana Purchase; Lewis and Clark
• important Supreme Court cases (Marbury vs. Madison – Judicial Review)

5. The Young Nation Goes to War – 1809 to 1815
• James Madison & his policies
• the War of 1812 & how it affected NY
• Native American perspective in this time period (concessions and treaties)

VI: Unit Six: Expansion and Reform
(9 weeks; 8 quizzes & 2 tests or 1 project)

1. The Spirit of Expansion – 1816 to 1824
• Settlement of the west
• Industrial development of the North and South
• Impact of the invention of the cotton gin
• the “Era of Good Feelings” (political unity)
• the Missouri Compromise, and it’s key points
• the Monroe Doctrine
• the election of 1824

2. Political Changes Take Place – 1825 to 1838
• Andrew Jackson & ‘Jacksonian Democracy’
• the abolitionist movement and it’s key figures, Nat Turner
• the Indian Removal Act and the “Trail of Tears”
• the struggle for Texas’ independence
• the election of 1836 and the Panic of 1837

3. America Becomes More Democratic – 1825 to 1858
• major inventions (mechanical, transportation, canals, railroads) the growth of industry
• early labor unions
• developments in transportation (steam engine, railroad)
• major developments in communication (water travel, telegraph, pony express) and their impact on life at that time
• immigration contributed to population growth and affected cities
• changes in education and literature, and how it impacted social issues

4. The Country Grows Larger – 1841 to 1850
• Manifest Destiny
• Oregon Territory
• the Mexican War
• the discovery of gold in California

5. The Slavery Problem Grows – 1850 to 1854
• perspectives held by the North and the South
• life as a slave
• the Underground Railroad
• “Uncle Tom’s Cabin”
• the Compromise of 1850
• the Fugitive Slave Law
• the importance of cotton
• the Kansas-Nebraska Act

6. The Country Separates – 1854 to 1861
• the Dred Scott case
• the Lincoln-Douglas debates
• John Brown’s raid on Harper’s Ferry
• the history of slavery in New York State
• Abraham Lincoln
• the election of 1860

7. The Civil War – 1861 to 1865
• Secession of the south
• the Union and the Confederacy
• attack on Fort Sumpter
• the impact of the Civil War on New York State (political opposition in NYC and Conscription laws)
• the major events and important people of the Civil War
• geographic influence on the war
• the Emancipation Proclamation
• important battles of the Civil War
• the end of the Civil War

8. Reconstruction – 1865 to 1877
• the assassination of Abraham Lincoln
• the problems faced by the South after the Civil War
• the 13th Amendment & 14th Amendment
• Andrew Johnson’s conflicts with Congress and his impeachment
• the effects of Reconstruction on the American Indians
• the social and economic changes in the South during Reconstruction, and the changes in the status of women
• the 15th Amendment, the problems of Grant’s administration and the end of Reconstruction