

Course Syllabus

Social Studies – U.S. History 1

Classroom: P2C1

Instructor: Fallon Farokhi

e-mail: ffarokhi@mariamontessoriacademy.org

Course Description: Social Studies is designed to be a United States history and geography course. It aims to guide students in the interpretation of geography and how it shaped United States history from the Age of Exploration through Reconstruction and the western movement, emphasizing the 18th and 19th centuries. Through the use of readings, discussions, simulations, and inquiry, students' ability to ask historical questions; analyze historical information; and answer questions about the varied perspectives represented in historical records will be developed. Students also learn about the methods historians use and apply those to current events.

Course Objectives:

- ⇒ Determine how geography affected the development of the United States (5 themes of geography)
- ⇒ Utilize geographic skills as they relate to the study of the United States (physical and political features)
- ⇒ Develop an awareness of current events (various media, fact and opinion, bias)
- ⇒ Analyze how contemporary concerns and events affect and are affected by history (use the news to discuss past events)
- ⇒ Explore life among the various American Indian nations of North America (major regional American Indian nations, their cultures)
- ⇒ Analyze the reasons for European exploration (economic, political, social reasons and key individuals)
- ⇒ Assess the impact of European exploration on African slaves and American Indian nations (reasons for slavery, beginnings of the slave trade, transportation of slaves, destruction of American Indian cultures)
- ⇒ Explain where and why European countries colonized North America (motives, geographical regions, contributions of European powers)
- ⇒ Assess the reasons for settlement of the English colonies (New England, Middle, Southern colonies, key individuals and groups, reasons for conflict between the European powers in North America, the French and Indian War)
- ⇒ Examine the economic, political, and social patterns in the development of the 13 English colonies (economies, geography's impact on the economies, self-government in the colonies, lifestyles and cultures of the colonies)
- ⇒ Analyze what ideas and events led to the Revolutionary movement (Declaration of Independence)
- ⇒ Assess the factors affecting the course of the war and contributing to American victory (effects on the colonists, European aid, advantages and disadvantages of the Continental Army)
- ⇒ Evaluate the contributions of key people and groups to the Revolution (colonial leaders, political and social groups)
- ⇒ Examine the effects of the Revolution on the United States (Treaty of Paris, Articles of Confederation, problems that faced the emerging nation, effects of the Revolution on people)
- ⇒ Assess the foundations and principles that led to the development of the Constitution, and to the United States (Constitutional Convention—ideas, documents, philosophies)
- ⇒ Analyze the compromises that led to the ratification of the Constitution (Federalists and Anti-Federalists)

- ⇒ Examine the basic structure of the Constitution (elements, purpose, role and functions of the three branches of government, separation of powers, checks and balances, the role of the Constitution as a living document)
- ⇒ Analyze the rights, liberties, and responsibilities of citizens (Bill of Rights)
- ⇒ Describe the ideas and events that motivated the expansion of the United States (Manifest Destiny, Louisiana Purchase, explorers, groups of people that came west)
- ⇒ Examine the conflicts that arose during the American expansion (War of 1812, American Indian nations, Mexican War)
- ⇒ Analyze how new inventions and transportation methods stimulated western expansion (development and impact of inventions, transportation)
- ⇒ Assess the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the United States (factory system, growth of northern cities, effects on the North, South, and West, working conditions)
- ⇒ Investigate the development of the American political party system (Federalists, Democratic-Republicans, new political parties throughout the 18th and 19th centuries, third parties, the electoral process)
- ⇒ Analyze the evolution of democracy and extension of democratic principles (Supreme Court, sectionalism, national and state government relationship, changes in the political process)
- ⇒ Analyze the impact of social reforms on Americans during the 19th century (abolitionist movement, reforms in education, religion, prisons, and the treatment of the mentally ill, women's political and legal rights)
- ⇒ Analyze the differences and events that led to the Civil War (cultural differences between the North and the South, sectional economic differences, states' rights, failure of compromise, abolitionist movement, election of 1860)
- ⇒ Determine the factors that affected the course of the war and contributed to Union victory (advantages and disadvantages of the Union and the Confederacy, Emancipation Proclamation, key individuals, effects on all people)
- ⇒ Evaluate the Reconstruction period and how it affected the United States following the Civil War (purpose, social impact, economic and political changes)
- ⇒ Analyze the factors that brought people west after the Civil War (mining and ranching, railroads)
- ⇒ Analyze the settlement of the American West (changes in landscape, cities, impact on Native American Indians)
- ⇒ Investigate conflict among various groups involved in the settlement of the West (reasons and groups involved, consequences of conflict)

Attendance and Expectations: If you are absent from class, it is your responsibility to get the classwork that you missed. For every day that you are absent, you will have two days to makeup your missing work. You will use process skills, communication, creative thinking, problem solving, critical thinking, inquiry, conflict resolution, metacognition, research and presentations, and cooperation and social participation throughout this course, so it is essential that you are caught up on all classwork.

If you need extra time for an assignment, it is your responsibility to speak with me about an extension. If you fail to speak with me about it, you will be deducted 10% each day until it is submitted.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is using other's work, ideas, or passages and representing them as your own. This unethical practice of plagiarism either on a written/oral assignment or exam will result in a failing grade for the assignment and possibly the course.

Course Requirements:

- ⇒ Class attendance and participation
- ⇒ Exams based on in-class experiences, presentations, and reading assignments
- ⇒ Projects assigned throughout year
- ⇒ In class and homework assignments

Course Outline:

Cycle 0: Orientation:

1. Utilize geographic skills as they relate to the study of the United States.
2. Analyze how contemporary concerns and events affect and are affected by history.

Cycle 1- Structures

1. Determine how geography affected the development of the United States. (apply the 5 themes)
2. Develop an awareness of current events. (connected to Structure)
 - a. Utilize contemporary news to discuss past events.
3. Investigate the development of the American political party system (a-d),
 - a. analyze the evolution of democracy and the extension of democratic principles (a-d),
 - b. analyze the impact of social reforms on Americans during the 19th century (a-c)

Cycle 2- Forces:

1. Develop an awareness of current events (connected to Forces)
 - a. Utilize contemporary news to discuss past events.
2. Students will understand the development of the American West following the Civil War
 - a. Analyze the factors that brought people west --mining, railroads (a-c), analyze the settlement--landscape changes, city development,
 - b. Native American impacts (a-c)
 - c. investigate the conflict among various groups--ranchers/miners/farmers/American Indian nations/immigrants, consequences (a-b)
3. Determine the factors that affected the course of the war and contributed Union victory and evaluate the Reconstruction period and how it affected the U.S. after the Civil War.

Cycle 3- Power

1. Develop an awareness of current events. (connected to Power)
 - a. Utilize contemporary news to discuss past events.
2. Students will understand the changes caused by European exploration in the Americas.
 - a. Explore life among the various American Indian nations prior to European exploration of

- the New World,
 - b. Analyze the reasons for European exploration,
 - c. Assess the impact of European exploration on African slaves and American Indians
- 3. Analyze differences and events that led to the Civil War

Cycle 4- Changes

- 1. Develop an awareness of current events (connected to Changes)
 - a. Utilize contemporary news to discuss past events.
- 2. Analyze European colonization and settlement of North America
 - a. Explain where and why European countries colonized North American
 - b. Assess the reasons for settlement of the English colonies
 - c. Examine the economic, political, and social patterns in the development of the 13 Colonies
- 3. Explore the territorial growth of the U.S. before the Civil War
 - a. Describe the ideas and events that motivated the expansion of the U.S.
 - b. Examine the conflicts that arose
 - c. Analyze how new inventions and transportation methods stimulated westward expansion
 - d. Assess the impact of the Industrial Revolution on the U.S.

Cycle 5- Balance

- 1. Develop an awareness of current events (connected to Balance)
 - a. Utilize contemporary news to discuss past events.
- 2. Understand the significance of the American Revolution in the development of the United States
 - a. Analyze what ideas and events led to the Revolutionary movement
 - b. Assess the factors affecting the course of the war and contributing to American victory
 - c. Evaluate the contributions of key people and groups to the Revolution
 - d. Examine the effects of the Revolution on the U.S.
- 3. Understand the structure and function of the United States government established by the Constitution.
 - a. Assess the foundations and principles that led to the development of the Constitution, and

to the U.S. form of government, a compound constitutional republic

- b. Analyze the compromises that led to the ratification of the Constitution
- c. Examine the basic structure of the Constitution
- d. Analyze the rights, liberties, and responsibilities of citizens