

Lexington Junior High School
Grade 8 U.S. History Curriculum Guidelines
2021/2022

Instructor: Leonel Ramirez Valadez (ramirezvaladez_1@auhsd.us)

Purpose:

Welcome! It is my pleasure and honor to be your teacher this year and I am so excited to work with you. At its core, history is the development of human cultures. We'll journey together to better understand ourselves and others. This course is designed to familiarize students with an understanding of the significant events and critical turning points of United States History as well as the geography of the country. The course will begin with a review of exploration and the American Revolution. We will then focus on the Constitution, Westward Expansion and the subsequent conflicts leading to the American Civil War.

The 5 C's:

Lexington JHS is committed to helping students prepare for College, Career and beyond. Employers are seeking students who not only exhibit mastery in traditional academics, but who also have competencies in Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, Creativity and Character. All the content in this course has been incorporated into lessons and activities designed to develop the 5 C's.

Materials Provided During School Hours:

- McGraw Hill - US History & Geo Text
- Chromebook

Materials you may want (optional):

- Lined paper (for writing)
- Pencils, Colored pencils, markers, scissors
- Student Planner/Binder or class folder

Grades

All grades will be based on a straight percentage: 90% and above = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; 59% and below = F. Grading will be based on: homework, projects, quizzes/tests, and Common Core 5Cs (collaboration, communication, creativity, critical thinking, and civic-mindedness). **Student grades and progress are recorded and kept up-to-date on Aeries (*not eKadence*).**

Attendance

Each week students are expected to be present *and* participate in class. Students should enter class prepared (*write the daily agenda and work on the Do Now*).

Projects, Assignments, and Extra Credit

Assignments and projects are posted in *eKadence* (Learning Management System). In order to assist your child with the assignment expectations of this course, it is suggested that students use their weekly planner to keep track of dates/deadlines. It is expected that students will do their own work on all assignments. The Lexington Junior High plagiarism policy will be enforced.

1. Assignments/Projects are due on or before the provided deadlines and if students need more time, they need to communicate with me *before* the deadline.
2. Written homework will be assigned from time to time, but in general, students will only have homework if work is not completed in class. Students should be able to finish classwork in class if they are using their time wisely.
3. Extra credit assignments will not be provided to make up missing assignments. Students should complete the course work when it is assigned.

Classroom Behavior: Lexington Junior High School is a teaching and learning community. All adults and students work together to create a safe, warm, and orderly environment that supports academic excellence and good citizenship. Each member of our community is expected to contribute as well as to take responsibility for his/her own behavior.

When students intentionally disrupt our learning community they may be subject to consequences such as loss of privilege of participation, detention, parent conference, a worksheet analyzing their behavior,

letters home, or an N or U in citizenship.

We want our classroom to be encouraging and conducive to learning at all times. In this way, young people develop behavioral skills which are necessary for successful lives.

Teacher/ Parent / Student Contact

I am very interested in having strong relationships and open communication with parents. To contact me, please email @ ramirezvaladez_1@auhsd.us. Feel free to contact me anytime regarding your child's progress.

Please sign and return

Leonel Ramirez V. (Instructor)

Student Name (printed)

Parent/Guardian Name (printed)

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature