



# Course Outline

## Mr. C's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies

### First Semester

#### **Unit I: Americas Beginnings (7.11)**

- A. American Indians
  - 1. Location
  - 2. Environmental Adaptations
- B. Exploration
  - 1. European Explorers
    - a. Motivations, Obstacles, Accomplishments
    - b. Explorers discoveries
  - 2. European Interactions
  - 3. West African Societies

#### **Unit II: The Thirteen Colonies (8.2)**

- A. Early Settlers
  - 1. Roanoke, Jamestown, Plymouth
- B. New England/Mid-Atlantic/Southern
  - 1. Geography/Climate
  - 2. Economy
  - 3. Social Life, Political, and Civic Life
- C. People in the Colonies
  - 1. Large Landowners
  - 2. Farmers
  - 3. Artisans
  - 4. Women
  - 5. Indentured Servants & Slaves

#### **Unit III: Establishing a New Nation (8.1, 8.3 & 8.4)**

- A. Road to Revolution
  - 1. Political and Econ. Relationships
  - 2. Issues of Dissatisfaction
    - a. England's Reasons for Control
    - b. England's Reasons for Taxation
    - c. Colonial Dissatisfaction
- B. Declaration of Independence
  - 1. John Locke
  - 2. Key Philosophies
- C. The American Revolution
  - 1. Key Individuals
  - 2. Key Events
  - 3. Colonial Advantages
- D. Creating a Nation
  - 1. Federal System
  - 2. Separation of Powers
  - 3. Checks and Balances
  - 4. Bill of Rights

#### **Unit IV: The New Republic (8.3 & 8.4)**

- A. Birth of Political Parties
  - 1. Jefferson vs. Hamilton
- B. The First Five Presidents
  - 1. Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe

### Second Semester

#### **Unit V: The Nation Expands (8.5 – 8.9)**

- A. Manifest Destiny
  - 1. Louisiana Purchase
  - 2. Florida & Texas
  - 3. Oregon & California
  - 4. Geographic and Econ. Factors
- B. War of 1812
  - 1. Causes
  - 2. Emergence of National Identity
- C. The First Industrial Revolution
  - 1. Interchangeable Parts, Cotton Gin
- D. Jacksonian Era
- E. The Spirit of Reform
  - 1. Abolitionist Movement
    - a. Tubman, Garrison, Douglass
  - 2. Suffrage Movement
    - a. Truth, Anthony, Stanton

#### **Unit VI: Rift and Reunion (8.10 – 8.11)**

- A. Sectional Differences
  - 1. Slavery
  - 2. Cultural Differences
  - 3. Economic Differences
  - 4. Constitutional Interpretations
- B. Compromises
  - 1. Missouri Compromise
  - 2. Compromise of 1850
  - 3. Kansas-Nebraska Act
- C. The Civil War
  - 1. Election of 1860/Southern Secession
  - 2. The States Choose Sides
    - a. Confederate States
    - b. Border States/Union
  - 3. Civil War Leaders
  - 4. Major Battles and Events
  - 5. Location and Topography
- D. Reconstruction
  - 1. Effects of the War
    - a. General Effects
    - b. Lincoln Assassination
    - c. Effects on African Americans
  - 2. Amendments (13, 14, 15)
  - 3. Reconstruction Problems

#### **Unit VII: An Industrial Society (8.12)**

- A. Working Conditions – Adult & Child
- B. Growth of Unions
- C. Effect of Big Business on Politics & Industry
- D. Urbanization & Immigration
- E. Inventors Stage a Second Industrial Revolution
  - 1. Edison, Bell, Wright Brothers