

# **8th Grade American History to 1877**

**Mr. Shipps**



## **Teacher Contact Information**

Kenny Shipps

kshipps@drexelbobcats.net

School phone number- (816)619-2287 ext. 4111

Plan Hour- 1st (8:00-8:54)

\*Students can view their grades by accessing their Tyler account. Please contact me if you have any questions.

## **Supplies Needed**

- Writing Utensils- ONLY pencils and black and blue pens only!
- 1 3-ring binder with paper
- Chromebooks

\*Optional- Note Cards to make flashcards of key topics

## **Course Description**

This course explores American History before 1877. Students will cover a variety of historical topics that took place in our country before 1877. The class will start with the first Americans and Colonial America. From there we will move on to a variety of topics that include: the road to independence, American Revolution, creating a new Republic, Jefferson Era, Jackson Era, Manifest Destiny, and the division between North and South. We will close the year with the Civil War.

## **Classroom/Instructional Philosophy**

In the classroom the students will learn to understand the history of their country and why this information is important. We will also how this information has shaped the country we live in today and how it affects our daily lives.

I will use a variety of teaching methods when presenting this information to the students. I will use instructional based information through the use of PowerPoint and other multimedia as well as direct instruction through lecture. We will also interact in group discussion that all students will be expected to participate in. Students will also be expected to use independent learning and research multiple topics throughout the year.

## **Classroom Procedures**

- Students are to come to class prepared everyday and in their seat when the tardy bell rings.
- Homework is due on the assigned date. The assignment will still need to be handed in to ensure the student learned the content or if extra help is needed. A

Mandatory Educational Learning Opportunity (MELO) or After/Before School Detention will be assigned for missing assignments. Assignments not turned in after a detention or Private Dining time will be entered as a zero and will not be able to be made up.

- If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to get the make-up assignments. Check the Google Classroom for notes, and/or homework assignments. You will have one day to complete the make-up work for each day that you are absent, unless other arrangements are made with the teacher on the DAY YOU RETURN. If you are absent due to a school function (field-trip, athletic event, competition, etc.), it is your responsibility to ask for the assignment in advance. The assignment will be due the next time you return to class.
- There will be two drop assignments per six week term. Drops allow a student to get an exempt on an assignment. The assignment must be dropped on the day it was due or the day the students find out the grade on the assignment. Students are not allowed to drop quizzes, tests, projects or anything designated by the teacher. The ability to drop an assignment may be revoked by the teacher at any time.
- Students are expected to be actively engaged in the lesson and participate in classroom discussion.
- Multimedia devices (iPod, MP3 player, cell phone, etc.) are only tolerated at the appropriate time in the classroom. Cell phones are not to be out during class time. If you are caught with a cell phone, it will be confiscated until the end of the hour. Second offense the cell phone will go to the office to be returned at the end of the day. Continued offenses will result in the cell phone being placed in the pockets at the front of the class and may be retrieved at the end of class.
- NO food or drinks will be allowed in the classroom unless it is provided by the teacher. A student will be able to have a CLEAR bottle of water or a container with a securable lid.
- The bell doesn't dismiss you, the teacher does. Please remain seated until the teacher dismisses you.

### **Student Expectations**

1. Be Respectful
2. Be Prepared
3. Be Flexible
4. Obey All School Rules

### **Discipline Policy**

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense-Verbal Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense- Conference with the teacher and the student. A call to the student's parents will be made.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> offense- Discipline referral and the student will be escorted to the principal's office. A call to the student's parents will be made.
- 4<sup>th</sup> offense- Discipline referral and the student will be escorted to the principal's office. A conference between the teacher, student, and student's parents will be scheduled.