

## US History Course Summary

Teacher	Conference	Telephone #	Email
R. Salas	4th - A days/2 <sup>nd</sup> B-days	381-5522	ruben.salas@stisd.net

**Purpose:** This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of American history. To accomplish this, students develop analytic perspectives for interpreting, understanding, and explaining historical events in this country. The subjects that the course covers include America in colonial times, America as a nation, the age of Jefferson, slavery, the Civil War, & Reconstruction.

**Objective:** Students will analyze the various social, economic, and political factors that influenced the development of colonial America through the Civil War.

**Text:** Mastering the Grade 8 Social Studies TEKS and History Alive!

**Supplies:** 2' three ring binder, pens and pencils

### Assignments:

- **Homework**—Homework will be assigned throughout the course in order to prepare the student for class discussions and quizzes
- **Quizzes**— Quizzes will be given over vocabulary, daily learning activities, or homework assignments. **A quiz may be announced or unannounced**
- **Exams/Projects/Interactive Notebook**—Tests will be administered at the end of every unit. Projects & Notebooks will be assigned/picked up throughout 9 weeks

*All assignments can be retaken before the unit test to show mastery of learning targets.*

**Grading Policy:** Grades for the course are based on a variety of exercises and assignments throughout the semester. The relative weights of these components are:

Quizzes.....	30%
Daily or Homework Assignments.....	20%
Exams/Projects/Interactive Notebook.....	50%

The weight for each nine weeks will be 37 ½% and the semester exams are worth 25%.

**Plagiarism/Cheating Policy:** Students that copy word for word from any type of academic source without giving credit to the true author will be given a ZERO for the assignment.

**Students that copy from a fellow student on any assignment, test, quiz, or project will also receive a ZERO with NO CHANCE FOR MAKING IT UP.**

**BYOD: Bring Your Own Device:** Electronic devices provided by the teacher are permitted in instructional areas with the instructor's permission; any inappropriate use of cell phone devices without teacher permission may result in a loss of privileges and/or disciplinary consequences. **Electronic devices are NOT permitted during examinations and their use may result in the student receiving a zero mark.**

### Make-up Work

If the student was told in advance of the due date of the assignment, then the assignment will be considered due upon his or her return to school. On some occasions there will be a need for makeup work assignments. Provisions will be made during class or tutorial for makeup work. Students may complete the makeup work form and secure my signature upon us discussing the assignments and due date(s).

**Late Work:** For all late work, refer to **Pyramid of Interventions**.

**Unexcused absences** will be considered late work.

**Formative Assessment**—Frequently during the year, formative assessments will be given. These may be in the form of homework, readings or discussion. Feedback will be given on these formative assessments. The formative assessments are critical to learning because they provide feedback as to what essential learning we will focus on next. They will help influence and shape the process of learning while we still have time to improve before tests or grades are given.

**Projects/ Presentations**

The student will be given ample time to work on projects and presentations, but it is imperative that the student prepares well. Project grade will be penalized for each day past the due date.

**Tests:** Students will be tested at the end of every unit. In any case, the student will be responsible for any material taught in class. Students with an excused absence will be given opportunities to make up missed tests; unless

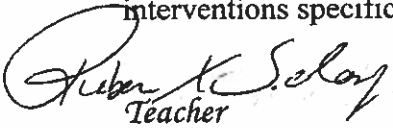
1. A student present for the review but absent on the day of the test, he/she will be expected to take the test on the day he/she returns to class.
2. A student is absent for review; then he/she will be expected to take the test after a day of review.

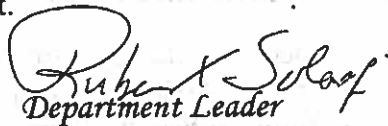
**Retesting:** A student may retake a test that he/she has failed. To be eligible for a re-test, the student must fail the original test, correct the failed test, and attend one scheduled tutorial and re-test. The highest grade that can be made on a re-test is 70. The average grade or 70% will be used to replace the original grade.

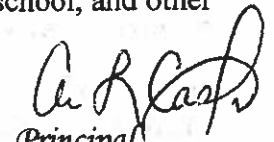
**Tutoring:** As an eighth grader, you will be confronted with a harder workload. Do all you can to stay on top of things as you begin the school year in an effort to help achieve this goal; I will be available before and after school for extra help. Don't hesitate to ask. You may gain help from me for exams, quizzes, keeping up with your notebook, and homework.

**Pyramid of Interventions**

The objective of this class is for every student to successfully demonstrate mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and the South Texas ISD Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO's) for US History. Students demonstrating success will have flexibility in class activities and out of class time. Students not successfully progressing will be assisted by the in class pyramid of interventions and the campus pyramid of interventions. These interventions may include special class activities and assignments, required tutorial during the school day or after school, and other interventions specific for the student.

  
Teacher  
Mr. Ruben Salas

  
Department Leader  
Mr. Ruben Salas

  
Principal  
Ana Castro

I have received a copy of this course outline, have been given the opportunity to ask questions, and understand the contents:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date