

## **Eighth Grade Social Studies Information Sheet**

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### Description

Students will study World Civilizations to uncover trends from prehistory to present day. Students will learn what defines civilizations and how geography played a factor in the exchanges, expansion, and formation among and between them. Students will inquire about the various social hierarchies of world civilizations and the changes and continuities of social systems. Students will learn about ancient and classical civilizations and explore their enduring cultural, intellectual, and technological influences. Students will learn about how increased global interactions led to transformations among and between world civilizations. Students will inquire into the development of world civilizations past and present and the connections between Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe. Students will continue to explore how these global interactions and exchanges led to cultural, intellectual, and technological advances that have continued to increase societies' global interconnectedness with one another.

### Requirements

Each unit of study will include daily lecture and discussion, various classroom activities, homework, quizzes and chapter tests. Students should have necessary supplies every day. Students will be required to read regularly and be able to discuss in class readings that they've done at home. Web based reading and discussion will also be increasingly used throughout the year.

### Major Grades

These include Tests, "SC Places" papers and major projects. Tests will be given periodically and will usually follow a format of Matching, Multiple Choice, Short Answer, and fill in the blank. Occasionally, there may be a short essay question.

### Minor Grades

These will include quizzes (40 points per quiz) and Classwork/Homework grades (40 points per assignment). Quizzes will generally be given weekly. Most quizzes will be based on the previous night's reading assignment. Students may take notes and home and have them out to use for quiz. Most Quizzes will be verbally administered and will be feature six questions with the chance to get 1 wrong and still get a 100. Homework will be given weekly and will be written on the upper right hand corner of my board. I will also explain homework verbally to the class. While my website is a good backup source, my classroom should be the first point of contact with any homework assignment. Late homework will be counted as a "0". OOPS passes can be used unless otherwise stated.

### Projects/Papers:

Throughout the course of the year, you will be required to submit several papers and projects, which will be explained at the time of their assignment. All papers should be written using 12 point "Times New Roman" font and standard margins. Please turn them in promptly, as for each day late, one letter grade will be deducted from your score. Typically projects will be worth a test grade.

### Supplies for Each Day

-Pencil, Blue or Black Pen, Red Pen, Notebook or dedicated file for social studies notes and handouts  
(All above information is subject to change)

Topics we'll cover this year (Subject to Change)

Origins of Civilization	Civilization in East and Southeast Asia
Civilizations and People of the Fertile Crescent	Early Civilizations of the Americas
Ancient Egypt and Kush	African Civilizations
Early Civilizations of India	Renaissance and Reformation
Early Civilizations of China	Global Convergence
Ancient Greece	Absolutism and Enlightenment
The Roman Republic	The Revolutionary Era
The Roman and Byzantine Empires	The Modern World
The Medieval Periods	
The Islamic World and South Asia	

Rules:

All school wide rules are to be followed in Social Studies Class. Mr. Griffin retains the right to add or amend any of the following rules:

When you enter my classroom:

Be mentally and physically ready for class

Sit down at your desk quietly and make sure you have everything you need for the class

Write your homework assignment down and begin bell work (if given)

Observe regular classroom rules (like raising hands and not talking over others)

Actively Participate! Class is more engaging when people ask questions, contribute ideas, etc.

Don't interrupt with something off topic unless it is an emergency that cannot wait.

Homework/Classwork:

As per school policy, late homework will be counted as a ZERO.

Do not abuse the privilege to use oops passes. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to place any late work in the OOPS/ABSENT tray at the front of my desk by the following school day. It is your responsibility to do this- I will not ask for it.

I retain the option of choosing not to honor your oops pass.

Absent policy:

If you are absent, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to come see me before or after class on the day you return to see what you missed. You will have 1 week to turn in absent work before it is counted late but the sooner the better!

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to Put all absent work in the tray at my desk. I will not ask for it from you.

If you missed notes, see me or find a responsible classmate who will let you borrow theirs.

Bathroom policy:

You may use the bathroom in the back of my room when needed. Please clean up after yourself And DO NOT ABUSE THE PRIVILEGE IN ANY WAY. You are old enough to know what that means.

General Classroom rules:

Clean up after yourself and put things back where you found them.

Don't go in my cabinets without asking

Don't go behind my desk area or inside my office

Don't open, Close or touch in any way the curtains over the windows

Don't touch anyone else's property in the class without permission

Don't write on my whiteboard

Cheating/Plagiarism/Dishonesty

Cheating and Plagiarism and any other form of dishonesty will be treated very seriously. It will result in a "0" Grade and disciplinary action including parent contact