7th & 8th United States History 2020-2021
Rogers Adventist School
Mr. Andersen
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**Class Description**

This year in Social Studies we will be studying the history of the United States from the 1600s through the 1800s. During each unit we will focus on historical events and how they relate to modern life. Students will experience the major changes in the country brought about by the founding, industrialization, wars, reconstruction and reformation of our nation. This class will focus on the use of primary sources to inform our opinions of historical events.

**Student Expectations & Requirements**

In this class students will focus on the following skills: citizenship, research, analysis, critical thinking, critical reading, and writing. At the end of each unit a test will be given. Tests will be announced at least one week in advance.

**Weekly Current Event Report**

Each Friday students will turn in a typed, ½ page summary of a current event and their reaction to it. Sources can be from a news network or independent news source. Mr. Andersen’s website has a few source suggestions.

**Grading Policy**

 Grades will be determined as follows at the end of each quarter. Homework, classwork, and tests & quizzes are all worth a different percent of the final grade.

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| A | 93-100% | **Category Weights** |
| A- | 90-92% | Homework & Weekly Report- 30% |
| B+ | 87-89% |
| B | 83-86% | Classwork & Projects- 45% |
| B- | 80-82% |
| C+ | 77-79% |
| C | 73-76% | Tests & Quizzes- 25% |
| C- | 70-72% |
| D+ | 67-69% |
| D | 63-66% |
| D- | 60-62% |
| F | 59% and below |

**Late Work**

Unexcused late assignments receive an automatic 30% deduction if turned in after the due date. Generally assignments will be due one week after they are assigned, but there will be exceptions for things like projects. One week after the due date, assignments not turned in will receive an automatic 0%.

**Unit Overview**

**Unit 1: A living History**

Driving Question: Should we learn from history, or leave the past behind us?

**Unit 2: A New World & Colonial Life**

Driving Question: What can life in the colonies tell me about life today?

**Unit 3: Civics & Government**

Driving Question: Is voting a right, responsibility, or privilege?

**Unit 4: Revolution!**

Driving Question: What values held by the colonists have most impacted American values today?

**Unit 5: Industrialization**

Driving Question: What technological invention had the biggest impact on the Industrial Revolution?

**Unit 6: Westward Expansion & Pioneering**

Driving Question: TBD based on student projects

**Unit 7: The Civil War**

Driving Question: Was the South’s secession from the Union justified?