8th Grade Social Studies with Mrs. Judson 2018-2019

“The Year of Service”

Course of Study - 8th graders in the Archdiocese of Baltimore study American history from the American Revolution through Reconstruction. We begin with a unit on Social Studies Skills and Processes, during which we learn how to read documents with a critical eye towards what was happening when primary sources were created. The remainder of the units are Roots of American Democracy, the Constitution, Early Republic, Age of Jackson and National Expansion, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. Geographic, political, economic, and cultural standards will be met in each unit.

Homework - Homework is given two to four times per week and is usually due the following class unless an exception has been stated. Having your student write in his/her planner will keep them and you aware of deadlines. Homework shouldn’t take more than fifteen minutes to complete. Homework counts for about 10% of the student’s grades.

Classwork - Classwork counts for about 25% of the student’s grade because it’s based on what we are learning and discussing. It can be written or oral, and is designed to be done so that students have something from which to study for tests. Immediate feedback is given in class.

Quizzes/Tests - Quizzes and tests account for approximately 50% of your student’s grade. Formative assessments are given throughout the week to ensure students have all they need in order to be successful. However, studying for tests and attending class is the student’s responsibility. Students may NOT retake quizzes and tests.

Special Projects - There are three special projects for 8th graders, one per trimester. They include a three-page research paper (topics to be handed out soon), a Black History month project (options given for format), and the creation of a Farcebook page for American Presidents (group project). This comprises about 15% of the student’s grade.

My Expectations for your student - I expect your student’s best efforts. That applies to being prepared for class, being present for class, demonstrating good manners, their treatment of others, completing homework on time, participating in class, and test preparation. As our class centers around many discussions AND makes use of handouts and online activities, it’s absolutely essential that your student come to school every day (illness and emergencies obviously excepted). Tardiness and frequent absences have kept students from being admitted to high schools of their choice, and creates gaps in learning that are difficult to overcome.

Help Offered - I am often available to help your student outside of class. I am usually at school by 7:30, but can arrive earlier if arrangements are made by 10pm the previous evening. I will take emails up until 10pm (***students should copy parents on any emails to me***). Additionally, I’m available after school until 4pm if I don’t have faculty meetings or after-school clubs to mentor.

Extra Credit - Extra credit assignments are located in the back of the class. Students have access to them throughout each trimester. 10 points maximum per trimester are given for correctly done work ONLY IF STUDENT HAS TURNED IN ALL OTHER ASSIGNMENTS.

Contact Information - I check my email at least three times a day and will respond to you within 24 hours. My email address is LJUDSON@OLVMD.ORG. You may also call the office at (410) 242-3688 and ask for me between the hours of 8am and 3:30pm

Website - I have a new website this year. Please add <https://mrsjudsonolv.weebly.com> to your favorites. I will post homework on this site as well as provide course updates and events.

Service - Our theme this year at both Our Lady of Victory Catholic School and within the Archdiocese of Baltimore is centered around service. Students are always encourage to reach out and help others. However, before they can serve others, they must be able to care for themselves. Please remind them to be responsible for themselves, which includes bringing a water bottle, knowing whether they are buying or bringing a lunch, eating healthy, getting enough sleep at night, pray regularly, and getting to school at time. When students are nourished both in body and in soul, then they are able to more easily reach out to help those in need.

Survivor Challenge - Does your student want to strive for independence? If he or she shows up for class each day with homework completed, gets to class on time, is ready to learn, waits patiently, treat others with respect, takes care of his or her workspace, and comes prepared with all materials, your student will move forward in the challenge. Ask your student about his or her progress often!

Please keep this paper and return the attached paper to acknowledge receipt of this handout.

I’m looking forward to a great year with your student! If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me. I will of course do the same. Our partnership is important to me!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Linda Judson

Return to Mrs. Judson 8th Grade Social Studies

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent name(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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After school plans - please check all that may apply to your student

 \_\_\_\_walk home \_\_\_\_car rider \_\_\_\_\_bus \_\_\_\_\_\_ Extended Care

Best way to get in touch with you

 Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (best time to call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

 Second phone number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 (best time to call \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

Does your student have any allergies I need to be aware of? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Anything special you would like me to know about your student? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_