

Mrs. Roman's U.S. History Class

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8th Grade United States History

I would like to welcome you to Early United States History – an integral and fascinating course I am excited to be teaching! In this course, students will learn early historical concepts through a variety of activities that make history “**come alive.**” My goals for the course are to help students develop a strong understanding and appreciation of early United States history, understand how early United States history influences life today, and have fun!

Course Overview



Textbook – Throughout the Early United States History course students will be using the text *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism*. Students will be assigned their own textbook for the school year but they can also access it through (1) “Online Student Textbooks” in SSO, (2) Canvas button in SSO, then click on the “Resources” folder in the left sidebar, or (3) by the following URL <https://browardschools.instructure.com/courses/236351/pages/secondary-social-studies>. In addition to our textbook, students will engage in cooperative group projects, role-play, and interactive simulations.



History Day – BMV takes great pride in our **student’s participation of** National History Day each year. **This year’s theme is** “Conflict & Compromise in History.” Final projects will be due by Dec 18th. More information will be forthcoming. If you are eager to get started early, check out <https://nhd.org/sites/default/files/2018themebook.pdf> for an overview of the theme and sample topics.



Geo Bee – Students can begin preparing for **this year’s National Geographic Bee (Geo Bee)** online at <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/bee/study/>. **This year’s** school-wide Geo Bee will be held by mid-January to determine our finalist for the state bee qualifying test. The National Geographic Bee is an annual competition where students will compete for a chance to win college scholarships and the glory of being the National Geographic Bee Champion.



JA Finance – All 8th grade students will learn important elements of personal financial literacy and career awareness throughout the Junior Achievement curriculum in their United States History class. This finance program helps students build a foundation upon which they can make intelligent financial decisions that last a lifetime, including decisions related to income, expenses, savings, and credit. The program culminates with an off-site field trip to JA

Finance Park on May 26th where students simulate careers and plan a monthly budget for themselves and their fictional families. Parents, please email me if you are interested in volunteering on our field trip date scheduled for May 9th.

Supplies – If you have supplies from last year, please reuse them!

Subject notebook or 1" binder with lined paper	Colored pencils
Folder with two pockets	Black tip marker (Sharpie)
Set of index cards (lined or not)	Novel of your choice
Pencils and/or pens (black or blue ink)	Healthy snack
Ruler	Reusable water bottle (optional)

Assignments and Expectations

Grading Scale – Assignments (40%), Projects (30%), and Tests (30%)

Assignments – Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Any unfinished classwork is expected to be completed at home and returned the following day.

- Late assignments are accepted; however, students will receive a 10% deduction each day that assignment is turned in late and up to 50% after day 5 that assignment is turned in late
- All homework and assignment due dates will be posted in Pinnacle
- Edmodo is an additional resource that will house project-based content, such as for the history fair, academic resources, plus more
- Students are expected to take thorough notes and spend a minimum of 10 minutes to review notes each week in addition to other assigned work

Absences – Students are responsible for completing all missed assignments.

- Please check pinnacle, your **classmates' planner and Make-up Work** folder for missed assignments
- Students are allowed two days for each day of absence to make up work. However, this policy does not apply to long-term assignments/projects.

Expectations – Students are expected to be ready to learn, follow directions, contribute to their classroom community, and always do their best. If throughout the year you have any questions about the class or your **child's progress, please feel free** to contact me at via email, phone 754-323-8050, or remind. See separate attachment for remind instructions.

Here's to a great year!
Mrs. Roman