

# UNITED STATES HISTORY

## TURN OF RIVER M.S. – 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

**Ms. Lorenz** – Room 208

**Email:** hlorenz@stamfordct.gov

**Reminders:** Remind (See instructions below)

### A. CLASS DESCRIPTION

In this class, we will be studying the history of the United States from the Drafting of the Constitution through Reconstruction. We will focus our study around five major themes: Causes of Revolution; The Constitution; the Early Republic; Expanding the Republic; and Civil War.

### B. DAILY ASSIGNMENTS

Homework assignments and long-range projects and assignments will be posted in your teacher's classroom and on your teacher's website daily. I will be using **Remind** to provide information to parents and students regarding assignments. Students are expected to write down their assignments in their planners each day (in the event there is no assignment you should write "No HW"). Should you need to double-check the assignment, Reminders via **Remind** are available to students and parents/guardians to keep track of assignments and ensure students are completing assignments in a timely manner. Lastly, when you are absent, you should check for Reminders regarding your make-up work. It is expected you will have access to a computer in the afternoons/evenings either at home, at a relative's house, at school or at the City Library. In the event you do not believe you will be able to have daily access to a computer, you **MUST** see Ms. Lorenz by September 9, 2016, to discuss an alternative.

1. **Remind 101:** Both students and parents/guardians may sign up to receive either Email or Text Reminders of assignments. Please follow the instructions on the attached flyer.

## C. REQUIRED MATERIALS

In class you are required to have the following materials each day (unless told otherwise):

1. Planner
2. Your COMPLETED Homework
3. Vocab, HW and CW – **single subject notebooks**
4. Binder
5. Two-Pocket Folder
6. Teacher Handouts/Directions
7. Assignments
8. Pens, Pencils AND highlighters  
Container for Writing Instruments (Suggested)

\*\* Additional optional materials include coloring pencils, glue sticks, safety scissors and/or pencil sharpener. At home - a dictionary & thesaurus is helpful, or online access.

At times we will use a textbook in class: Creating America: A History of the United States. These books are **VERY** expensive to replace (\$50-100) so please be very careful with them. For at home use, here is a link for the 8th grade textbook:

<http://www.gcisd-k12.org/Page/9434>

## D. GRADING PLAN

1. Homework	10%
2. Classwork *	25%
3. Projects/Long-Range Assign.	30%
4. Quizzes/Tests/DBQs	35%

\* This grade includes your work and actions in class including completing opening assignments, being prepared for class with all materials and assignments, an attitude for success, full effort in class, full participation in group assignments, and participating in activities and discussions.

### Extra-Effort

EFFORT in class will be rewarded! I do not provide traditional Extra-Credit assignments. You may, however, earn EXTRA EFFORT points by bringing in a relevant news article, magazine article, book, etc. for the class to discuss. You can also arrange for a guest to come to class or other actions that are above the “call of duty.” Extra Effort points are used at the end of the quarter when a student is on the verge of the next best grade. If the student has shown Extra Effort, I will bump them up to the next grade!

## E. ATTENDENCE

1. Importance

Keep in mind this is a class in which we are ACTIVELY learning about the material each day. Make-up work at home does not substitute for the learning that takes place in our class. Also, we do a lot of group project work in which classmates rely on each other. Therefore, attendance is important for you to be as successful as possible.

## 2. Tardiness

Tardiness without a pass will result in ATTENTION by Ms. Lorenz. More than 2 will result in additional ATTENTION by Ms. Lorenz and a possible phone call home if I deem it necessary. If you MUST be late because a teacher wants to speak to you, please get a pass from the teacher. When you arrive, please sign your name to the Tardy Box on the board, take your seat and get started and I will discuss your tardiness at a suitable time.

## 3. Extra-Help

Set up an appointment to see Ms. Lorenz for extra-help.

## F. CLASSROOM CODE OF CONDUCT

### 1. 5 P's

We expect students will follow the 5P's Code. The 5P's are:

**BE PROMPT, BE POLITE, BE PRODUCTIVE, BE PATIENT,  
BE PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE**

Within the 5P's, students are expected to follow numerous procedures/norms which we will discuss in class and post on our classroom's walls. The inability to follow these procedures may result in a reminder, discussion, or dealt with according to the TOR Code of Conduct. Each of the 5 P's incorporates a multitude of procedures that, as 8<sup>th</sup> graders, you should be aware of and are following on a daily basis.

### 2. TOR Code of Conduct

Students will be required to follow the TOR Code of Conduct. This includes (but is not exclusive) the school's Dress Code policy and the NO Weapons, Vandalism and Electronic Devices policies. Notably, **any electronic devices** seen or heard in the classroom may be confiscated.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social  
(name of student/nombre de estudiante)

Studies' class syllabus. I understand the information contained within the syllabus and I agree to abide by the classroom procedures/norms and school rules and to utilize my teacher's website to ensure my success in Social Studies. I also agree to seek extra-help from my teacher, my parents/guardian, or another source, if I need it, so that I can be successful.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of student/nombre de estudiante)

As the parent(s)/guardian(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, I have  
(name of student/nombre de estudiante)

also reviewed the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies syllabus with my child and understand what is expected of him/her and that I can access homework and project information on the teacher's website. If I have further questions or concerns, I agree to contact my child's teacher as soon as they arise so that I can help my child to be as successful as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature(s) of parent(s)/guardian(s) firma de padres/guardianes)

**Parental/Guardian Contact Information**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Method of Communication: Text  Phone Call:  Email

# Sign up for important updates from Ms. Lorenz.

Get information for Turn Of River School right on your phone—not on handouts.

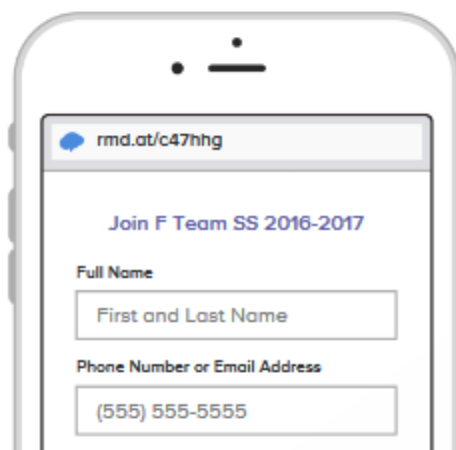
Pick a way to receive messages for F Team SS 2016-2017:

**A** If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

[rmd.at/c47hhg](http://rmd.at/c47hhg)

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.



**B** If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message @c47hhg to the number 81010.

If you're having trouble with 81010, try texting @c47hhg to (646) 699-4482.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to [rmd.at/c47hhg](http://rmd.at/c47hhg) on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.