Mr. Pinckley’s 8th Grade Georgia Studies Syllabus

Perry Middle School, Room 801

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**Course Description:**Students trace the history of Georgia in the context of the development of the U.S. as a whole. After an examination of the characteristics of Georgia’s geography, we will start a chronological focus includes a look at pre-historic Georgia, through the foundations of Georgia in the 1700s, growth and conflict in the 1800s, and the state’s development in the 20th century. Students also, state government, public issues, and citizen rights and responsibilities. In addition, they explore contemporary and historical comparisons of state and national political institutions.

**Benefit to Students:** In eighth grade, students study Georgia geography, history, government, and economics. While the four strands are interwoven, many opportunities is provided for in-depth study of the geography of Georgia and the government of Georgia. U.S. historical events are included, as appropriate, to ensure students understand Georgia’s role in the history of the United States.

**Required Materials:** Students will be provided with a three-inch 3-ring binder and a set of dividers and paper. One section of this binder should be devoted to social studies.

**Recommended Materials:** Students will be provided with colored pencils or crayons, personal pencil sharpener.

**Textbook:** We will have a classroom set of the hardback Georgia History textbook and will also be using a digital text book that is provided free by Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB). Here is a link to this fantastic digital textbook: <http://www.gpb.org/education/georgia-studies/digital-textbook>

**Grading**

Major Assignments (includes tests and projects) 40%

Minor Assignments (includes quizzes) 30%

Daily Assignments (includes classwork and homework) 15%

Semester Final 15%

A major portion of Georgia History class is learning how to take notes. Note taking skills are important to this class. The first step to improved note taking is improved attention and listening skills. It is impossible to take good notes if you cannot pay attention while listening to a presentation or reading a book. We will work to improve our note taking skills this year.

Success in this class depends on good study habits. Reviewing your notes every day for about 10 minutes is far more useful than waiting until the last minute to “cram.” You will be amazed at what you will remember if you take a small amount of time to study every day after school.

**Late Work Policy:** As a rule, I do not accept late work unless you have an excused absence. There are other situations where late work is allowed but these exceptions are based on teacher discretion. You have one day per day of absence to make up daily assignments – it is your responsibility to ask for and complete missed assignments, I will not track you down.

**Suggestions for Success:** Come to class prepared and be on time. Be attentive and participate in class by asking questions and engaging in discussions. COMPLETING and TURNING IN all assignments is a **BIG** key to success in social studies! A lot of your success in Georgia History is academic but most of all…please be polite and respectful! Disrespect and resulting discipline issues really detract from the class and prevent us from doing fun activities, how much fun we have depends on YOU. If you find yourself travelling with your family on a trip somewhere in Georgia, take pictures of historical places you may visit. Places like Savannah, Andersonville, the Cyclorama, and Kennesaw Mountain would be excellent places to visit. This is the only way you can earn points for extra credit. Learn about where you live.

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**Please review the syllabus with your Parent/Guardian. Return this paper to show that you understand and agree to these expectations.**

**Student Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Please Print**

**Student signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Please Print**

**Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**