

7th Grade Social Studies - 2nd, 4th, and 6th Periods

Teacher: Josh Heard Email: jheard@paparts.org

Google Classroom Codes: 2nd Period - tqzcad2e | 4th Period - fsnjdrea | 6th Period - no7a53fb

Classroom Materials

- **1 Pocketed Folder or Three Ring Binder** to keep track of assignments and projects.
- **Pencils and Pens** to complete handwritten assignments.

Course Description

7th Grade Social Studies will help students explore the history of New Mexico, gain skills that will help them become successful in the classroom environment, and develop social skills appropriate to the educational/performing arts environment. This course will also have a “keyboarding” component designed for students to gain proficiency in typing skills.

Goals

The main goal of this class is to grow the skills needed to be successful students while we study New Mexico History. A secondary goal is for students to grow their ability to have healthy social interactions and work through challenges. An overlapping goal is to help students find connections between their personal lives and what they are learning in the classroom.

Teaching Style

Students can expect to be introduced to a new topic at the beginning of each week, to complete daily classwork assignments to practice/interact with and demonstrate the student’s understanding of the topic, and to apply their new knowledge to creative group and independent projects at regular intervals throughout the school year. Students will also be assessed on their retention of content knowledge with regularly scheduled quizzes and tests.

Google Classroom / PowerSchool

My Code to Join: _____

All course materials, assignments, projects, and test will be administered through our Google Classroom page. Grades will be posted to PowerSchool promptly.

Parents/Guardians can help their student by regularly having their child log in to Google Classroom and to navigate through the classwork pages of each class. This will greatly assist in monitoring coursework completion/progress and to regularly check PowerSchool to monitor grades.

Office Hours

I will be available to students during the school day. After the school day ends it is unlikely that I will check email or take work related calls, but I will reply promptly the next school day.

LATE WORK POLICY *(I follow the excused absence policy in the student handbook)*

Late work will be accepted for half-credit up to two weeks after the due date. After two weeks, the grade will be a zero. Student's may request extra time to complete an assignment without penalty on a case-by-case basis, but the student must communicate the need for more time before the due date.

Late work will only be graded after the student has communicated directly with the teacher via email (jheard@paparts.org) to inform the teacher that the assignment has been turned in. The student's email must include the name of the assignment(s) being turned in.

Late work will be graded as quickly as possible, but no later than before the end of the grading period. If a student is concerned that an assignment has not been graded, they are encouraged to send a followup email or to talk to the teacher during the class period.

Course Outline

Students will use the "Week at a Glance" posting on the Classwork page to orient themselves to our workload. **I will also send out an email to parents called "Week in Review" which will inform the parent about what we accomplished during the week and any relevant assignments/projects/assessments.**

The outline below is subject to change based on the pace of learning and needs of the class.

FALL SEMESTER OUTLINE

August - Building classroom routines and expectations; review and practice using digital tools (Google Classroom, Email, Google Suite, UDL extensions, etc.)

September - Learning how to interact with a Textbook; note-taking strategies and practice; Project: Personal Identity

October - Geography; Tour New Mexico; Project: Plan a New Mexico Vacation

November - Early New Mexico History; Project: Connecting with Indigenous History

December - European Explorers and Colonies; Fall Semester Final Exam

SPRING SEMESTER OUTLINE

January - European Explorers and Colonies (continued); New Mexico in the 1800s; Project: TBD

February - New Mexico in the 1800s (continued); Project: TBD

March - New Mexico in the 1900s; Project: TBD

April - New Mexico in the 1900s (continued); Project: TBD

May - Review; Spring Semester Final Exam

Grading

Class Citizenship - 20% of Semester Grade

Grade is based on how the student contributes to the learning environment. Students start with 3 points at the beginning of each class period. The student will lose a point if they do not follow a redirection in one of the topic areas (below).

- 1) Prepared - on time, has materials, phone in designated location, etc.
- 2) Considerate - uses kind communication, is quiet at appropriate times, cleans up after self and others.
- 3) Participating - engaged in activity designated by teacher.

Classwork Assignments - 30% of Semester Grade

Classwork Assignments are expected to be completed during the class period. Any classwork that is not completed during the class period becomes Homework. Students will be graded based on the rubric for that particular assignment. Students can expect to complete a minimum of one assignment each week. Assignments generally support or build up to projects and quizzes.

Projects, Quizzes, and Tests - 30% of Semester Grade

Throughout the semester students will work on independent and group projects that will be graded based on the rubric for the project. Students can also expect to take assessments (Quizzes and Tests) at regular intervals assess their learning.

Semester Final Evaluations - 20% of Semester Grade

At the end of each semester students will take a Final Exam that reviews knowledge gained over the course of the entire semester.

Other Information*Classroom Rules and Discipline Policy*

1) Be respectful to adults and peers. 2) Use technology appropriately. 3) Be respectful of each other's health. 4) Be respectful of each other's right to learn. 5) Be on time and prepared for class.

Students are expected to behave properly at all times. Failure to do so may result in a verbal warning with a redirection, lost of class citizenship points, a parent phone call and or conference, or referral to the administration.

Cell Phone Policy:

Students will not use cellphones in this classroom unless explicitly told to do so by the teacher. Students are expected put their cellphones in the designated cellphone holder upon entering the classroom. A student will not be counted present unless their cellphone has been placed in the student's designated holder. If a student is caught using a cellphone in class without permission, the phone will be taken for the duration of the class period and returned at the end of the class. If a student repeatedly fails to follow the cellphone policy of the classroom, the phone will be given to the front office for the parent to collect at the end of the school day. If a parent or guardian needs to contact a student during the school day the parent should contact the front office.

Supplies:

If you cannot get specific supplies for this class, please inform me and I will be happy to help.

Powerschool:

Parents and students should regularly log in to check their grades on Powerschool.