



## **Welcome to 8th Grade Social Studies with Mrs. Gustafson**

### **SUGGESTED MATERIALS**

- **1 " binder (hard or soft sided) for Social Studies ONLY**
- **8-Tab Plastic Binder Dividers with Pockets**
- **Notebook Paper**

**Students will need their own** pens and pencils (mechanical pencils are highly recommended), colored pencils or markers, glue sticks, erasers, pencil case or pouch, highlighter, ruler, dry erase marker, calculator, scissors, individual hand sanitizer, water bottle. \*If you are unable to provide the suggested materials above, please notify me and I will be happy to accommodate your needs.

### **GOOGLE CLASSROOM**

- Google Classroom's purpose is to facilitate paperless communication between teachers and students and streamline educational workflow. Google Classroom allows me to post assignments and notes, provide timely feedback, view student work in real-time, and provide work to students who are absent.
- We will utilize Google Classroom as a way for students to turn in assignments in a safe and timely manner. This will also be beneficial if students are absent.
- Parents will be added to Google Classroom as a guardian and will receive weekly progress updates. Please check your email to accept the invitation. Feel free to contact me if you have questions.

### **EIGHTH GRADE COURSE OF STUDY**

The content focus will be viewed through civic and economic lenses. Citizenship and civic engagement will be taught through inquiry. Eighth grade students will make connections between historical and current/contemporary issues as a base for implementing change in society. Students will recognize and practice their roles and responsibilities as both American and global citizens. United States history will focus on the major events that have their roots in the Constitution, Bill of Rights, and subsequent amendments.

- **Quarter 1 Topics** – Need/Purpose for Government, Types of Government, Declaration of Independence and Articles of Confederation, Conflict and Compromise in the formation of the Constitution, Structure of Constitution, Federalism and State Governments, Functions of U.S. Government
- **Quarter 2 Topics** – Rights and Responsibilities of Citizens, Bill of Rights and other Amendments, International Human Rights, Failures in Government (Fascism)
- **Quarter 3 Topics** – Violations of Human Rights/Genocide, Civil Rights and Social Movements (African American, Labor Movements, Women's Suffrage and Rights, Chicano Movement, Native American Movement, Disabled Citizens' Rights)
- **Quarter 4 Topics** – Terrorism's International and Domestic Influence on Citizens' Rights, Types of Economies, Decision-Making in Mixed/Market Economies, Problems in Mixed/Market Economies, Globalization, Personal Finance, Environmental Issues

## **STUDENT NEWS - CNN 10**

- It is my goal to view CNN Student News (CNN 10) during the beginning of every class period. CNN 10 effectively serves a growing audience interested in compact on-demand news broadcasts ideal for the classroom. The show's priority is to identify stories of international significance and then clearly describe why they're making news, who is affected, and how the events fit into a complex, international society. Viewers will learn from every story on CNN 10. The show maintains a neutral position on controversial topics. It seeks to provide multiple viewpoints, clear illustrations, and general overviews instead of graphic descriptions.

## **GRADING POLICY**

- Quizzes, Tests, and Projects will be weighted at 70% of the quarter grade, and Daily Assignments weighted at 30%.

Percentage values are as follows:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
50-59%	F

Fully attempted work will receive no less than 50%. Work not turned in will receive a zero.

Semester grades will be averaged using a 45/45/10% formula with the semester exam being worth 10% of the overall grade.

## **MISSING AND LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY**

- Missing assignments will be marked with an "M" in the Infinite Campus online gradebook and will count as zeros until made up.
- Late assignments will receive a reduction in points per the Santan Gifted Academy Late Policy:
  - 1-5 days late – 20% reduction in points
  - 6 days or more – 50% reduction in points
  - Excused absences will be taken into account when assignments are turned in late.
  - Work assigned before mid-quarter progress reports will not be accepted after mid-quarter grades are posted.
  - All work must be turned in by the last Monday of the quarter. For example, if the quarter ends on Friday, September 30th then all assignments must be turned in by Monday, September 26th.

## **ABSENT WORK**

- Copies of all assignments will be available for students when they return in the baskets by the door or will be posted in Google Classroom.
- It is the student's responsibility to retrieve missed work from their absence.

## **TUTORING**

- **Need additional help? I will be more than happy to provide more guidance every Monday at 8:15 am. If your child has questions or concerns, please have them contact me via the Remind app.**

### **TECHNOLOGY**

- Students will be responsible for bringing their district assigned laptop to school each day. Laptops should be charged every night and brought to school fully charged. If there are any problems with laptops, students should communicate that to me so I can help troubleshoot or refer students to the help center.

### **REMIND**

- To sign up for Mrs. Gustafson's 8th Grade Social Studies Remind, text **@gustafson8** to 81010. Students with cell phones are **highly encouraged** to download the Remind app to stay updated and be able to communicate with their teacher, if needed.

### **FOLLOW US**

- Make sure to follow us on Instagram @santangiftedacademy for the latest news from Santan Gifted Academy!