

Mr. Kennedy
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7th grade Social Science
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Social science syllabus

Class overview:

Social sciences is more than just learning about a bunch of dead people who lived long ago in the past! As a class, we will be looking at what has made our world today what it is. Some of the world's past is great; some is very horrible and tough to look at. We will be looking at how our world has been impacted today through the decisions people have made and through the role of multiple types of government and economic systems. Our time frame to examine is **a global look at history from the Scientific Revolution to modern times.**

Goals of social science: My goals for us this year are three fold:

1. To **think more critically** about the world around us. I want you to begin to do the work of an historian: examining sources, evidence, and understanding various viewpoints.
2. To **understand how the past has helped make our world the way it is:** we will see some very positive actions that have been done and some actions that are the complete opposite. Through all of this, we can understand that ideas and actions have consequences.
3. To be **inspired by historical heroes.** I hope that you will see that you too can make a difference in your sphere of influence and have a positive impact on the world around you.

Class materials

Besides the normal supplies (pens, pencils, highlighters, paper) you need to have the following in social science class **Everyday.**

- 1 pocket folder (to keep work passed back to you and to hold homework)
- A composition book (college or wide ruled is fine). You will use this to keep notes, class activities, and other documents in and to keep yourself organized. It also serves as a big help to prepare for tests and our final at the end of each semester.

Class resources

Social science teachers at Bogle utilize the resource **Newsela** which fits along right with the time era we are focusing on ☺ You will be given access to it and will be required at various points to complete assignments on it. We also will be viewing video clips, examining charts, photographs, etc. to get a visual understanding of history. Doing the work of an historical detective by examining primary and secondary sources will be emphasized.

Google classroom

We will be utilizing Google classroom to start the year out and continue much of that use when we transition back to in person learning. If you are not familiar with how to submit assignments and just to use Google classroom in general, the tutorials which will help you with that will be provided.

(turn over)

Grading: Grading is done on a points system. The point total for each of the following will be approximate to the number of points shown below.

- Quizzes** 12-16 points
- Tests** = 30-40 points
- Projects:** Between 25-50 points (depending on the project)
- Current events:** 20 points
- Homework:** 10-15 points
- Classwork:** 10-15 points
- Warm-ups:** 4-5 points each week
- Class final** (worth 5% of semester grade)

(Note: Not all classwork will be graded, but I will choose various assignments to enter for a grade)

Homework: All homework should be done completely and neatly. You may type it if you wish. Homework turned in late will be deducted 25% up until each quarter's due date for late work. After that, it will not be accepted. Please get into a good habit of completing your work on time. If you have any questions, please ask me. I am more than willing to help ☺

Extra credit: I encourage you to do your personal best in your work. I may give out extra points for going above and beyond on an assignment. In addition, if you would like to do some further research of a topic we are studying in class, I would be happy to provide you with some extra points (see my website for an explanation of this).

Composition book: We will keep notes and most class work in a composition notebook this year. It will be a way to consolidate study material. Just as importantly, you will be able to interact with what we are learning to give your opinion, make comparisons/contrasts, draw visuals, etc. Make sure that you have a composition notebook (college ruled is preferred but wide ruled is acceptable). This should be **brought to school with you each day.**

Our curriculum focus this year: We will be looking at history from a global perspective and will examine the following concepts and topics listed below.

1 st quarter	2 nd quarter	3 rd quarter	4 th quarter
Historical thinking skills	Industrial Revolution	World War I	Cold War
Scientific Revolution	Immigration	Global depression and rise of dictators	Modern Era
Enlightenment	Economic systems of capitalism and communism	World War II	
American, French, and Latin American Revolutions	Imperialism		

A word of encouragement: Our school theme is **Respect, Persist, Triumph (RPT)**. We will be talking much as a school about the importance that respect plays for all of us in life. We will be encouraged to persist through challenges that we will inevitably face this year and in life. Finally, we will celebrate not only our successes but the triumphs of those around us as well! I am excited for this journey to begin!