

Justice Myron E. Leavitt Middle School

THE BEST
MIDDLE
SCHOOL IN
THE
COUNTRY!

Follow the PATRIOT WAY FIVE CORE VALUES

LEADERSHIP: LEAD inside and outside of the classroom through a POSITIVE example.

COURAGE: Take RISKS in their learning and thinking: have courage to share ideas.

INVINCIBLE GRIT: PERSEVERE even when tasks get tough.

CREATIVITY: INNOVATE: Use your creativity to solve problems at school and in the community. THINK outside the box.

GLORIOUS KINDNESS: TREAT each person the way you wish to be treated.



Course Expectations Fenn 7th History and Geography



Student's Name:

Student ID Number:

Student:

- I have read and understand the school rules listed above.
- I have read and understand the progressive discipline steps for inappropriate behavior and tardies.
- I have read and understand the course expectations provided for this course.

Signature of Student

Date

Parent/Guardian:

- I have read and understand the school rules pertaining to my child.
- I have read and understand the progressive discipline steps for inappropriate behavior and tardies.
- I have read and understand what is expected of my child in this course.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Please Print Parent Email:

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This email will be for teacher use only.

Textbook: *Discovering Our Past: A History of the United States; McGraw Hill*

Textbooks are available for checkout through the library on a limited basis. These textbooks are available on a limited basis and should be returned to the library as soon as the student no longer needs the textbook. Unreturned textbooks will result in fines to the student account.

Price to replace textbook: \$ 68.99

Course Description: This one-year course is a study of Nevada from statehood to present day and American history from the time of the Early Peoples to the Industrial Revolution. It will also include snapshots of North American and South American history. Students will explore and evaluate challenges facing the new nation and make connections between the rise of industrialization and contemporary social and economic conditions. Outside history is integrated throughout the year. The appropriate use of technology is an integral part of this course. This is a required course for all seventh grade students.

I. Course goals

- a. Lessons will be designed to not only include Nevada State US/Nevada History Standards, but also **Nevada Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy** in order to improve reading, reading comprehension, and writing skills
 - i. Understand significant social, cultural, economic, and political changes.
 - ii. Appreciate the contributions made by diverse cultures in the United States.
 - iii. Examine the concepts of tolerance and respect.
 - iv. Understand the development of the state of Nevada and its unique features.
 - v. To become familiar with technology advances and their impact.
 - vi. To recognize the value of responsible citizenship.
 - vii. To develop skills necessary to use informational tools.
 - viii. To identify causes and effects of major conflicts.
 - ix. To explore career opportunities in the field of history.

II. Course content and time schedule (sequential)

- a. **First Quarter:** Geography, Early Peoples, The World in 1500, European Exploration of the Americas, The European Colonies, The English Colonies Develop, Beginnings of an American Identity, The Road to Revolution, The American Revolution
- b. **Second Quarter:** The Road to Revolution, The American Revolution, Confederation and Constitution, Launching a New Republic, The Jefferson Era, National and Regional Growth, The Age of Jackson.
- c. **Third Quarter:** Manifest Destiny, A New Spirit of Change, The Nation Breaking Apart, The Civil War Begins, The Tide of War Turns.
- d. **Fourth Quarter:** Reconstruction, Growth of the West, An Industrial Society, Changes in American Life, The Progressive Era, South American History, Historical Exploration
- e. ***This is just a guide of when topics are covered. As the year progresses we could be ahead or behind this schedule.

III. Course activities

- a. Quizzes/Tests:
 - i. Chapter quizzes and semester exams.
 - ii. In class scantron test.
 - iii. In class short answer test.
 - iv. In class essay test.

- v. No talking or other distractions will be allowed during testing periods! This will result in a zero on the quiz/exam/test and cannot be retaken for a grade. Devices will not be allowed for tests/quizzes and use of devices when not allowed will be considered cheating.
- b. Assignments:
 - i. Warm-ups activities
 - ii. class work/ maps
 - iii. America the Story of US video series
 - iv. review concepts
 - v. preparing projects
 - vi. Studying for tests/quizzes (specific study guides are provided only for the semester exams, for tests and quizzes students are expected to read over the reading guides, as well as look at any notes or classwork they have; some reviews will be made available in class or on Google classroom).

IV. Curricular programs

- a. Each quarter students will be exposed to the DBQ Project. The DBQ Project is a set of primary source documents about a particular topic that concludes with an essay about the topic using the primary sources as evidence to support a claim. Each quarter the requirements are altered so the final DBQ project essay will be completed by the student on their own.
- b. Students will also need to use technology; this includes the use of iPads and Chromebooks when needed.
- c. Semester Projects
 - i. Students must complete the semester project for the semester exam. Students will be given the entire semester work on and complete the project which is part of their semester exam grade. Students will be given instructions within the first week of school and will have access to them in class and in google classroom throughout the year.
 - 1. First Semester
 - Western Hemisphere Country Project (50 pts) or US State Project (50 pts)
 - 2. Second Semester
 - Family Research Project (90pts) or Western Hemisphere Individual Research Project (90pts)

V. Evaluation

- a. Criteria for arriving at students grades -
 - i. Participation 5%
 - ii. Homework 5%
 - iii. in-class assignments 35%
 - iv. Test/quizzes 50%
 - v. Notes 5%
- b. Semester exams will be worth 20% of the SEMESTER grade
- i. Semester exams will not be administered early. Students who are absent may make-up their exams on the district approved make-up day.
- c. Explanation of student grades
 - i.A 100 – 90%
 - ii.B 89 – 80%
 - iii.C 79 – 70%
 - iv.D 69 – 60%
 - v.F 59 and below
- d. How and when students will be advised of their grades

i. Parents and students are urged to check the Infinite Campus Portal for grades regularly.

e. Citizenship/behavior expectations

- i. Citizenship is taken very seriously here at Leavitt Middle School. Teachers expect the very best from their students every day. Students are expected to bring supplies to class, pay attention, stay on task, talk when appropriate, be respectful to all teachers, students and visitors in the classroom, avoid nuisance items, such as cell phones and toys, always try your best and not chew gum or eat in class. Students who cannot work within these expectations will have points deducted from their citizenship grades. Other actions which disrupt the learning environment of the classroom for other students will also be documented and points will be lost.
- ii. In most cases, unless parents have been contacted or grades are below a C in class, students will be given a O. Should grades drop below a C for the quarter, it will be seen as being below expectations and student will receive an S or lower, depending on behavior.
- iii. Below is the scale for citizenship. All reports of misconduct will be documented in the teachers' grade book. This way, both the students and parents will be able to check Infinite Campus to see what his or her current citizenship grade is, and why points have been lost. Points are deducted for poor behavior, not following directions, being rude or disrespectful to the teacher or others in the classroom and for other actions not becoming for a student in seventh grade.

f. Late Work policy – Late work will be allowed but restrictions will be placed as the year moves forward. Late work will be docked points off unless student has been absent and they get work in within the required time period. The policy will be as follows:

- i. First quarter work will be accepted up until the last full week of the quarter. All late assignments will be docked 10% off.
- ii. Second quarter work will be accepted up to two weeks after the due date but will be marked 10% off the first week and 50% off the second week. Once two weeks passes, assignments will no longer be accepted. Assignments due the last week of the quarter will NOT be accepted late.
- iii. Third quarter work will be accepted up to one week late after the due date but will be marked 50% after the first day it is late. Once one week has passed after the due date, assignments will no longer be accepted.
- iv. Fourth quarter work will be accepted up to three days late but work will automatically be 50% off. After 3 days has passes from the initial due date, no late work will be accepted. Assignments due the last week of the quarter will NOT be accepted late.
- v. Please keep in mind late semester projects are not accepted.



g. Absent Work Policy (District Policy)

- i. Teachers shall provide an opportunity for a student to make up missed work due to any absence, and students shall be held accountable for the work. When a student is absent, however, the educational experiences lost during that absence might be irretrievable because the instruction and interaction in the instructional setting cannot be duplicated through makeup work.
- ii. After any absence, a secondary student is **required to initiate** contact with the teacher(s) to obtain appropriate makeup work **within three** school days immediately following the absence. Once contact has been made with the teacher(s), specific makeup work must be completed and returned to the teacher(s) within a **reasonable length of time, to be determined by the teacher** and communicated to the student/parent or legal guardian. The makeup work must be returned to the teacher(s) by the specified due date if it is to be acknowledged. **Students shall be allowed a minimum of three (3) days to complete makeup work.**

- iii. Students are responsible for coming to the teacher AFTER checking the board and Google Classroom. Teacher is always understanding with work when students are absent expects students to take charge of their education.
- iv. Work that was assigned before student was absent is still due at the same time or when the student returns. No extra days are given if they are absent and work has already been assigned.
- v. District Policy: https://www.ccsd.net/district/policies-regulations/pdf/5113_R.pdf

h. Test retake policy – **A student may only retake a test if 1) all assignments have been turned in 2) the student has asked for help, clarification, or exhibited evidence of further studying and a further mastery of the subject matter. Retakes will be made available the week after the initial quiz and will only be available during that week. If a student does not show up to retake a quiz or never schedules a time to retake, the first quiz score will stand. No retakes of a quiz will be allowed after the retake period has expired. Test retakes will be offered after a request to retest has been expressed to Ms. Fenn and can be before school or after school. Students must talk to the teacher and cannot just show up to retake an exam.**

VI. **School-Wide Rules**

- a. Follow directions quickly.
- b. Raise your hand for permission to speak.
- c. Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat
- d. Make SMART Choices: Kindness, Leadership, Courage, Invincible Grit, Creativity
- e. Work hard to do your best for your teachers and parents at all times.
- f.  Keep your eyes on the target. 

VII. **TARDY POLICY – Progressive Steps**

- a. 1st Tardy – Warning & Parent Phone Contact
- b. 2nd Tardy – Warning & Parent Phone Contact
- c. 3rd Tardy – Non-TRS RPC
- d. 4th Tardy – After School Detention
- e. 5th Tardy – In-House Suspension (IHS)
- f. 6th Tardy – Required Parent Conference – RPC/Tardy Contract
- g. 7th Tardy – IHS/parent and student meet with the principal

VIII. **BEHAVIOR- Progressive Discipline**

- a. **Suggested steps – please update with YOUR STEPS**
- b. 1st Incident – Verbal warning
- c. 2nd Incident - Parent contact by teacher
- d. 3rd Incident – Written contact to parent
- e. 4th Incident – Counselor referral
- f. 5th Incident – Deans' referral

IX. **Supplies needed for this course**

- a. Each class will need 1 folder and 1 notebook/planner. Folder color does vary depending on the class. Please get folders with the color associated with the class period.
 - i. First Period: 1 red or pink folder
 - ii. Second Period: 1 green folder
 - iii. FourthPeriod: 1 purple or black folder
 - iv. Fifth Period: 1 blue folder
 - v. Sixth Period: 1 orange or yellow folder
- b. Pencils and pens.

- c. Notebook or a planner
- d. Possible classroom donations include:
 - i. Tissues
 - ii. Hand sanitizer
 - iii. markers or colored pencils
 - iv. Glue sticks
 - v. Paper (construction, loose leaf, printer or colored paper)
 - vi. Post it notes
 - vii. Please note: these supplies are used by students for various projects in class. Additional supplies could be requested through the year. Any supplies will be used in the classroom, and are greatly appreciated, but points in the gradebook can't be given to students.

X. Utilizing technology to learn – At Leavitt, we want to encourage the daily use of technology in and out of the classroom to further enhance the educational experience. As such, Leavitt will be providing students with individual devices in all grades to utilize in class and at home. Students will also be provided with a Google email address to correspond with their teacher and classmates on projects, as well as to turn in assignments. Students may choose to utilize their own electronic tablets (iPads, Kindle Fire, Samsung, etc.) cell phones, laptops, and reading devices for educational purposes. Please be reminded that your student is responsible for the safety of their personal device and must utilize the district's Wifi to ensure their internet safety. All use of these devices will be for educational purposes and must be approved by the individual teacher.

XI. Teacher's hours of availability

- a. I am available from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Monday thru Friday (Wednesday mornings are the exception due to weekly meetings) and 3:21 p.m. to 3:41 p.m.. You may also contact me through e-mail at fenna@nv.ccsd.net. Please allow 24 hours for a phone call or e- mail to be responded to.