

**Course Content:**

This year students will study the ideas, issues, and events from the Constitution to World War I. After reviewing the development of America's democratic institutions founded on the Judeo-Christian heritage and English parliamentary traditions, particularly the shaping of the Constitution, students will trace the development of American politics, society, culture, and economy and relate them to the emergence of major regional differences. Students will learn about the challenges facing the new nation, with an emphasis on the causes, course, and consequences of the Civil War. They will study connections between the rise of industrialization and contemporary social and economic conditions.

The textbook for this class is *The American Journey* by McGraw Hill-Glencoe. It contains a list of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies state standards as well as helpful home study questions. There is a lot of material to cover this year and it is very important that students attend class regularly, do all reading, complete all projects and homework assignments, and study for all tests to assure their success.

**Classroom Expectations:*****Do:***

Be courteous and respectful to everyone  
Follow directions  
Raise hands before speaking  
Treat all property with care and respect

Be in class on time with all materials  
Use your passing time to visit bathroom  
Participate in class in a positive manner  
Leave the property of others alone

*Complete all homework and class work on time and turn in when due*

***Do Not:***

- Disrupt class by talking, using profanity or disturbing others.
- Eat food, candy, drink or chew gum in class without teacher permission
- Write personal notes, text, listen to i-pods, cell phones or other devices during class.
- Spray or use any perfume, hairspray, scented lotions, etc. in class or right before entering class due to teachers' EXTREME allergy to such things. (Continual abuse of this rule will lead to suspension.)

**Behavioral Consequences:**

If these or other disruptive behaviors occur the following consequences will be applied:

1<sup>st</sup> disruption = visual/oral warning;

2<sup>nd</sup> disruption = 2nd visual/oral warning;

3<sup>rd</sup> disruption = suspension from class and parent notification.

The teacher can skip the two warnings if the misbehavior warrants immediate suspension. Class disruptions, tardies and excessive absences will result in an unsatisfactory citizenship grade.

### **Make-up Work:**

Late work will **not** be accepted except for an excused absence. It is **the student's** responsibility to check the make-up board for any missed assignments. If a student is absent both class and home work must be made up within one week of the students return--no make-up work will be accepted after that time. If an assignment is due on the day the student is absent that work should be turned in on the day the student returns. If the student is absent on the day of a test or quiz the student must take the test or quiz on the day they return. (If an extended absence occurs special arrangements will have to be made with the teacher.) Homework is also posted on the teacher web page at [www.msscott.org](http://www.msscott.org).

### **Grading:**

Students will be graded on their mastery of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies standards. Students must master 90-100% of the standards studied each quarter to receive an A, 80-89% for a B, 70-79% for a C, 60-69% for a D. Grades may be checked daily on the **Infinite Campus Parent Portal**. If a student needs extra help, then upon request a time will be scheduled before or after school. Students may also find additional help on my web page at [www.msscott.org](http://www.msscott.org).

### **Cheating and Plagiarism:**

It is considered cheating, anytime a student does not do his/her own work. If the student copies from another person or allows another person to copy from them, whether homework, class work or a test, it is cheating. Plagiarism is when a student copies directly from another person, book, internet site, etc., without giving credit to the person who originally said or wrote the information. For cheating or plagiarism the following consequences will be assigned.

1<sup>st</sup> time – A zero on the assignment (no make-up allowed) and parent notification.

2<sup>nd</sup> time – A zero on the assignment (no make-up allowed), class suspension, parent notification.

3<sup>rd</sup> and future times – referred to office for disciplinary action.

### **Contact:**

The teacher may be contacted by phone at 556-1820 x6491 or e-mail at [terscott@ceres.k12.ca.us](mailto:terscott@ceres.k12.ca.us).