**8th Grade Social Studies Course Syllabus**

**Course Description**  
In eighth grade, students study Georgia geography, history, government, and economics. While the four strands are interwoven, ample opportunity is also provided for in-depth study of the geography of Georgia and the government of Georgia. U.S. historical events are included, as appropriate, to ensure students understand Georgia’s role in the history of the United States.

**Course Objectives**  
Students are expected to obtain mastery in the following four domains:

1. **History**: Understanding key events and figures in Georgia's history.
2. **Geography**: Analyzing the geographical features and their impact on Georgia.
3. **Government/Civics**: Learning about the structure and function of Georgia’s government.
4. **Economics**: Exploring the economic principles that affect Georgia.

**Required Materials**

* Pencils
* Loose Leaf Paper
* 1-inch Binder
* Colored Pencils/Markers/Crayons

**Grading Policy**

* **Minor Grades (60%)**: Classwork, Quizzes, Homework
* **Major Grades (40%)**: Unit Tests, Projects, Assessments

**Late Work**

* Late work will only be accepted during the quarter in which it was assigned.

**Make-Up Work**

* Allowed for excused absences only. Students are responsible for obtaining any missed assignments or notes during their excused absence. Students have 2 classes for each excused absence day to turn in work without penalty.

**Class Policies and Expectations**

1. **Productive**: Use your time well. Remain on task at all times. Follow directions.
2. **Prompt**: Arrive to class on time daily. Quickly pick up supplies. Be in your seat completing your warm-up.
3. **Prepared**: Come prepared for class every day. Bring a pencil and any assigned work.
4. **Polite**: Respect yourself, classmates, and staff. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Be nice or neutral to everyone.

**Course Content Overview**  
The 8th grade social studies curriculum emphasizes discovery and inquiry. Students will be engaged via the standards set by the Georgia Department of Education and will participate in hands-on learning. Key activities include:

* Analyzing primary source materials
* Collaborative projects in the classroom
* Utilizing resources like Discovery Education, Canvas, and PowerPoint
* Engaging with platforms such as USA Test Prep, Quizzizz, GimKit, and Blooket for mastery and review