**Mr. Bennett 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.

**Instructional Philosophy**

Eight grade social studies are one of discovery and inquiry for students. Students are taught via the standards created by the Georgia Department of Education with a focus on hands-on learning. Students will look at primary source materials, do projects in the classroom, and work with others in engaging with social studies. Students will use resources like Discovery Education, Canvas, and Powerpoint to get first-time exposure to new materials. They will engage in platforms like USA Test Prep, Quizzizz, GimKit, Blooket, and other technology resources to seek mastery and review.

**Major Course Goals**

In terms of mastery, students are expected to obtain knowledge about Georgia History. Students will be responsible for mastery of the four domains (history, geography, government/civics, economics).

**Course Assessment Plan**

Students will be graded in a variety of ways including classwork, homework, quizzes, assessments, projects, and a final exam. Classwork will be completed in the work period. Homework will be given as an additional practice to gain more knowledge or as a way to share what is going on in the classroom with parents/ guardians. Quizzes will be given based on individual or multiple standards. Assessments will be based on the each of the four domains (history, geography, government/civics, economics) of an assigned region or area.

**Classroom Code of Conduct**

Productive-Use your time well. Remain on task at all times. Follow directions.

Prompt-Arrive to class on time daily. Quickly pick up supplies. Be in your seat completing your warm-up.

Prepared-Come prepared for class every day. Bring a pencil and any assigned work with you.

Polite-Respect yourself, classmates, and staff. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Be nice or neutral to everyone.

**Classroom Behavior Consequences**

1st Step: Verbal request to change behavior

2nd Step: Verbal reminder to the student of expectations and teacher imposed consequences

3rd Step: Verbal reminder to the student of expectations and call parent (Parent can be called at any step teacher feels necessary)

4th Step Referral to admin for disciplinary action.

**Grading Criteria**

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**

Make up work will be allowed for excused absences only. It is the student’s responsibility to get any assignments or notes missed during their excused absence. Students have 2 classes for each excused absence day to turn in work without any penalty.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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