

M | R. D. MCADAMS JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Dickinson Independent School District

We enter to learn...We leave to achieve.

Teacher: Bryan Chaffin	Conference Time: 2nd Period (9:20-10:10)
Course/Grade: 8th Grade U.S. History	Room #: B222
Email: bchaffin@dickinsonisd.org	Phone Number: (281) 229-7100

The Gator Way: Responsible, Respectful, Involved

Dear Student and Parents,

Welcome to 8th Grade U.S. History!

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Bryan Chaffin and I am excited you are enrolled in my class. My conference period is 2nd period daily. You can contact me anytime by phone or email. Please note that during instructional time, a phone will go directly to voicemail. I will get back to you within 24 hours. I am happy to meet with you regarding your student's progress, during conference hours or after school.

Curriculum Preview

1st 9 weeks

- Exploration & Colonization
- American Revolution

2nd 9 weeks

- Constitution
- Early Republic

3rd 9 weeks

- Industrial Revolution
- Age of Jackson
- Westward Expansion
- Reform Movements
- Sectionalism

4th 9 weeks

- Civil War
- Reconstruction
- STAAR Review
- STAAR Testing
- End of year project

Expectations:

- Always be kind and courteous to others
- Always do your best
- Follow directions
- Always practice self-control
- Respect yourself and others

Classroom Behavior Plan:

- 1) Teacher redirects to Social Contract and consequences
- 2) Level 1 plus Teacher consequence
- 3) Level 1 and 2 plus parent contact and possible office referral
- 4) Level 1, 2, and 3 plus referral and administrative consequences.

Grading Policy: Graded assignments will include: daily work, homework, participation grades, quizzes, projects, assessments, and nine-week benchmarks. Percentages (assigned by the district) are as follows:

Category	Description	Value (Regular)	Value (Pre-AP)
FA	Formative Assignments/Assessments	55%	50%
SA	Summative Assessments	45%	50%

Grading Roles and Responsibilities

Student

1. Complete assigned work on time and return it to the teacher.
2. Plan to schedule work on long-term assignments so assignments will be completed on time.

3. Initiate communication with the teacher when the student does not understand the assignment or if he/she is experiencing difficulty.
4. Complete all assignments within the time limits given by the teacher or be subject to appropriate late work guidelines.
5. Evaluate their own work for accuracy and seek clarification as needed from the teacher.
6. Maintain academic integrity and honesty. Academic dishonesty may result in behavioral and academic consequences (See Academic Dishonesty).
7. Students participating in extracurricular activities have grade eligibility requirements for participation.

Parent/Guardian

1. Establish a specific time, place and manner for homework to be completed.
2. Provide the supplies and materials necessary to complete homework.
3. Monitor as needed, but do not do homework for the student.
4. Assist students in planning a time schedule for long-term assignments.
5. Initiate direct communication with the teacher when concerns arise.

Virtual Learning

Virtual learning will consist of both live and independent class sessions. All assignments and necessary resources will be available via Google Classroom. Students are expected to sign in to each class everyday for their daily activity. A weekly agenda will be posted each Sunday by 5:00pm. Teachers will also designate Live instruction on their Weekly Agendas. We strongly recommend that students follow their daily schedule to best support their success in all of their courses.

Technology Statement

Students are responsible for appropriate use of all technology. They must adhere to all expectations outlined in the DISD Student Handbook. Damage caused by lack of care will be the responsibility of the student and their parent/guardian. Violations of the DISD user agreement may result in withdrawal of privileges and other disciplinary action.

Academic Dishonesty Policy

Students caught being academically dishonest on assignments or tests, will receive a grade of **ZERO and possible disciplinary action.** (Test retake policy will apply, and the maximum they can receive on the retake is a 70. Please refer to the Academic Dishonesty Policy handout for more details.)

Make up work

Make-up work is available to all students. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Students shall receive credit for satisfactory make-up work after an absence, but may receive a zero for any test not made up within the allotted time. Any assignment not turned in within the allotted time falls within the late work guidelines. Exceptions may be granted by the campus administration in extenuating circumstances. · The number of class days allowed for make-up work to be completed for full credit will be limited to three (3) days upon return to school. Extra time may be given at the teacher's discretion. · A student should not, on the day of returning to school, be required to take a quiz or test that was announced during his/her absence.

Late Work:

Students are expected to submit all assignments by the date and time established by the classroom teacher. Any work not turned in by the end of the grading period will be recorded as a zero. The table below represents the penalty that may be imposed for turning in late work.

Days Late	Points Deducted (from earned grade)
1 day	10 points off
2 days	20 points off
3 days	30 points off
4 or more days	50 points off

Materials:

Due to the policy of no shared materials, students are responsible for materials on the district supply list everyday.

Tutorials:

My tutorials are Thursday after school from 3:30-4:15. Tutorials are a time for students to get additional support to ensure their success. Face-to-face tutoring information will be sent in September. Remote students needing tutorials should contact the teacher.