

PETERS TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS: SOCIAL STUDIES 8

Course Information	Teacher Information
<u>Course Length:</u> Full Year	<u>Name:</u> Mr. Elders, Mr. Bushmire, Mr. Cheran

Course Overview and Essential Skills

The first marking period will include an exploration of the social, political, economic and geographic regions of Latin America past and present. Studies in quarters two, three and four will include United States history from the Reconstruction Era through World War II. At the end of the school year, students will be able to outline informational text, research topics using primary and secondary sources, and critically analyze the actions of American history.

Course Textbook, Supplemental Resources and Required Materials

- Title: The Americas (2012) ISBN#: 978-0-547-48482-2
United States History: Civil War to the Present (2012) ISBN#: 978-0-547-48470-9
- Online textbook: my.hrw.com (login and password should be same as school login and student number)
- You will need a 1" 3-Ring Binder, a notebook for outlines/notes, writing utensils

Course Outline of Material Covered:

Unit or Topic	Course Activities/Resources	Timeframe
Caribbean Rim	Covers geography, politics, culture and economy of nations in the Caribbean Rim along with sectional outlines, United Streaming	1 st Quarter
Atlantic/Pacific South America	Covers geography, politics, culture and economy of nations in Atlantic/Pacific South America along with sectional outlines, United Streaming	1 st Quarter
Current Events	Discussions based on current events along with biweekly quizzes, maps, electoral-vote.com (just the map), cnn.com, foxnews.com, usatoday.com	Throughout Year
Reconstruction	Covers the post-Civil War period of the nation being reunited politically, culturally and economically along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, 270towin.com, Ken Burns: Civil War	1 st Quarter
Americans move West	Covers the period of 1850-1890 where the United States extends to the West Coast, focusing on the reasons for movement to the West and the challenges that were faced as settlers arrived along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Far and Away, Ken Burns: The West	2 nd Quarter

The Industrial Age	Covers the Second Industrial Revolution and the growth of the factory and labor situation in the United States along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Men who Built America; Empires of Industry: Andrew Carnegie	2 nd Quarter
Immigrants and Urban Life	Covers the patterns of Immigration in the United States from 1850-1920 as well as the growth of cities and the struggles that were faced as the population grew along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Family Tree Project, Journey to America, America- The Story of us The Americanization of Elias	2 nd Quarter
The Progressive Spirit of Reform	Covers the period of 1890-1920 where calls for change were made in American society with respect to civil rights, women's suffrage, labor rights, and political corruption along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Emergence of Modern America: The Gilded Age, The Progressive Era, The Presidents, 270towin.com	2 nd Quarter
America as a World Power	Covers the period of American Imperialism from Opening trade in the Far East to the Spanish-American War and the building of the Panama Canal along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Panama Canal, As it Happen: The Spanish American War, The indomitable Teddy Roosevelt; A Man, A Plan and a Canal: Panama	3 rd Quarter
World War I	Covers the American perspective of mobilization and participation in World War I finishing with their response to the Treaty of Versailles along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Footsoldiers	3 rd Quarter
The Roaring 20s	Covers the societal changes of the 1920s and the impact that trends had on how people lived their lives as we became a modern society along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Emergence of Modern America: The Roaring 20s, Ken Burns: Jazz, Baseball, 270towin.com, A Walk Through the 20 th Century: The 20s	3 rd Quarter
The Great Depression	Covers the struggles that Americans faced as they dealt with a changing economic landscape and the responses of the Government along with sectional outlines, United Streaming,	4 th Quarter

	The Dust Bowl, Life in the 30s, Ploughed under, 270towin.com	
World War II	Covers the American perspective of mobilization and participation in World War II finishing with their response to the defeat of Nazi Germany and the uncovering of the Holocaust along with sectional outlines, United Streaming, Headline Stories: WWII, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Nicky's Family, Pearl Harbor, If you Cried, You Died, NBC – Overview of WWII	4 th Quarter

**Depending on the needs of the class or changes in the school year, the course outline is subject to change.*