

U.S. History

essential understanding:

The history of the United States of America is steeped in controversy and triumph. From its beginnings as thirteen colonies to its role today as a super power people have fought and died for the principals and ideals it embodies. Others have fought and died to change the injustices and disgraces that were born and perpetuated throughout its history. We can gain a better appreciation of who we are today as a country by understanding where we were and how we got here.



“ We are not makers of history. We are made by history”

Martin Luther King Jr.

overview

Students in U.S. History study the major turning points in American history. After a review of the nation's beginnings and the impact of the Enlightenment on U.S. democratic ideals, students will examine the westward migration of America and its impact on our country. Students will then trace the change in the ethnic composition of American society; the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women; and the role of the United States as a major world power. Students will consider the major social problems of our time and trace their causes in historical events. They will learn that the United States has served as a model for other nations and that the rights and freedoms we enjoy are not accidents, but the results of a defined set of political principles that are not always basic to citizens of other countries. Students understand that our rights under the U.S. Constitution are a precious inheritance that depends on an educated citizenry for their preservation and protection.

Guiding Question I: How is a well researched history paper written?

lessons

- _____ The five paragraph essay
- _____ Plagiarism
- _____ Sources and how to cite them

group work

*DUE September 4/6

_____ Group Brainstorm: As a group describe 5 ways in which people can plagiarize, what are better ways to complete an assignment that does not require plagiarism? Present your information to the class.

individual work

*DUE August 27/28

_____ Research Reflection: Write about your own research style. How do you like to research on the internet? List any websites you use that would be good for researching. How can improve your researching skills so you don't plagiarize and write better papers?

*DUE August 30/31

_____ Read the article "What is Plagiarism, and Why does it Matter?". Participate in a Socratic dialogue and share 1 takeaway or thing you learned.

_____ Warm-ups are the first activity of each class session. These will be completed and turned in at the start of **every** class.

_____ Lesson Notes for **every** lesson will be completed in class on days when lesson is given.

assessment

***DUE September 7/10**

_____ Choose a founding father and write a 5 paragraph essay about why people consider this person a founding father.

OR

_____ Choose an idea, value, or concept that represents American democracy and write a 5 paragraph essay about why it is considered to be part of the foundation of the United States of America.

*Follow the guidelines given out during the “How to cite sources” lesson. You may also use your research graphic organizer.

readings

<http://www.mrswatersenglish.com/2014/06/what-is-plagiarism-and-why-does-it-matter/>

links

<http://www.ushistory.org/links>

<https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/history.html>