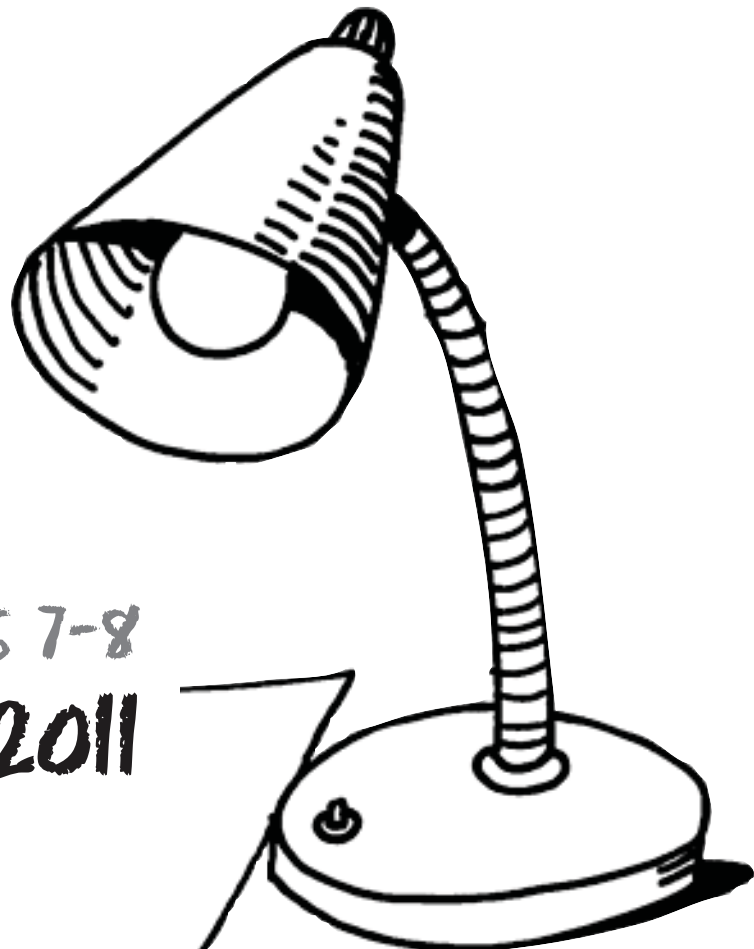


JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SYLLABI / COURSE HANDBOOK

*Van Wyck Junior High School
Wappingers Junior High School*



GRADES 7-8
2010-2011



HICKS

The New York State Learning Standards for Social Studies include the study of the History of the United States and New York; World History; Geography; Economics; and Civics, Citizenship and Government. Social Studies content in grades 7 and 8 is based on these five New York State Social Studies Learning Standards and focuses on a chronologically organized study of United States and New York State history. The course content is divided into 11 units, tracing the human experience in the U.S. from pre-Columbian times to the present, and tying political, geographic, economic and social trends in the U.S. to parallel trends and time frames in New York State history.



GRADE 7 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY

Code D147 Full Year

Prerequisite: None

Areas of Study Include:

- **The People of the “New World” prior to 1500 and European Contact**
- **European Exploration and Colonization of the Americas**
- **A Nation is Created – the American Revolution and the formation of the United States**
- **Experiments in Government – the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution**
- **Life in the New Nation**
- **Division: the Civil War**

Assessment: A Department final exam based on the content, concepts and themes in this curriculum and modeled after the NYS Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test will be administered in June. The final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.

For a complete review of the NYS Social Studies Learning Standards, see: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/documents/sslearn.pdf>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for U.S. and New York History, see (pp. 37-88):

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/pub/sscore1.pdf>

GRADE 7 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY – HONORS

Code D167 Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement in the Honors program is by application.

The selection process takes place at the end of the first semester of grade 6. Social Studies and English Language Arts (ELA) are blocked for teaming purposes - in order to qualify for Honors, the student must meet the criteria in both Social Studies and ELA. Criteria include an average of at least 93% in both Social Studies and ELA and a score of 4 in both the grade 5 NYS Social Studies Assessment and the grade 5 NYS ELA Assessment. Students are also evaluated by their grade 6 teachers in areas such as attendance, attitude, participation, reading, writing, ability to analyze and solve problems, etc.

Note: Honors classes generally incorporate more reading, writing and discussion and at a higher level; proceed more quickly through material; use more challenging instructional materials; and take more challenging tests throughout the year and a different final exam. Students who are not meeting the criteria at any time during the school year will be reviewed for possible removal from the Honors program.

Areas of Study Include:

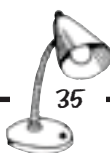
- **The People of the “New World” prior to 1500 and European Contact**
- **European Exploration and Colonization of the Americas**
- **A Nation is Created – the American Revolution and the formation of the United States**
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- **Life in the New Nation**
- **Division: the Civil War**

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GRADE 8 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY

Code D247 Full Year

Prerequisite: Completion of Grade 7 United States and New York State History with a final average of at least 65%.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Reunion and Reconstruction after the Civil War**
- **The U.S. becomes an Industrial Society**
- **The expansion of the U.S. as an Independent Nation in an Increasingly Interdependent World; World War I**
- **The U.S. Between the Wars**
- **The U.S. Assumes Worldwide Responsibilities; World War II**
- **The Changing Nature of the American People from World War II to the Present; Prosperity, Optimism, the Cold War**

Assessment: All grade 8 students take the NYS Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test and a Department final exam in June. The writing portions of the NYS Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test (short-answer “constructed response questions” and a document-based essay) are counted as 25% of the Department final exam. The Department final exam counts as 20% of the final course average.

For a complete review of the NYS Social Studies Learning Standards, see: <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/documents/sslearn.pdf>

For the complete NYS core curriculum for U.S. and New York History, see (pp. 37-88):

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/pub/sscore1.pdf>

GRADE 8 UNITED STATES AND NEW YORK STATE HISTORY – HONORS

Code D267 Full Year

Prerequisite: I. Completion of Grade 7 Honors Social Studies with a final average of at least 85%, and the recommendation of the Grade 7 teachers. A student who was not in Grade 7 Honors may apply for Grade 8 Honors. Criteria include a grade 7 average of at least 90% in both Social Studies and ELA and a score of 4 in both the grade 5 NYS Social Studies Assessment and the most recent NYS ELA Assessment. Students are also evaluated by their grade 7 teachers in areas such as attendance, attitude, participation, reading, writing, ability to analyze and solve problems, etc.

Note: Honors classes generally incorporate more reading, writing and discussion and at a higher level; proceed more quickly through material; use more challenging instructional materials; and take more challenging tests throughout the year and a different final exam.

Areas of Study Include:

- **Reunion and Reconstruction after the Civil War**
- **The U.S. becomes an Industrial Society**
- **The expansion of the U.S. as an Independent Nation in an Increasingly Interdependent World; World War I**
- **The U.S. Between the Wars**
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