

**MONTE VISTA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**  
**8th Grade American History**  
**Mrs. Selck, Instructors**  
**Course Syllabus**

**Educators:** Ashley Selck

**Classroom/ Office Location:** M-9

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**Office Hours:** 7:30 - 8:00; 3:20 - 3:45

**Course Description:**

This PBL and Common Core aligned course will focus on American history found within the eighth grade. Essentially, this course is a history class that will follow Common Core through a variety of PBL units. This course is an exploration of the United States from the colonization through World War I. Special attention will be placed upon research, using technology, in both individual and group settings and various projects.

**Curricular Mapping**

Curricular Mapping: This course builds upon the historical foundation for Constitutional Democracy laid in the previous two years, establishing the United States in a world historical context, and eventually as a primary player on the world stage in the 20th Century. The story of the United States is brought to modern times at the high school level. From a language arts perspective, this course continues to build upon prior learning.

**Course Objectives:**

After completing this course, students will be able to demonstrate proficiency within the 5 C's of 21st century learning. Specifically, creativity will be demonstrated through elaborate projects and writing, communication will be demonstrated through oral presentations and written discourse, collaboration will be demonstrated through effective teamwork, critical thinking will be demonstrated by solving real world issues, and caring will be demonstrated through daily interactions throughout class.

Students will become global publishers, excellent researchers, proficient and creative writers, technologically affluent, global citizens, and knowledgeable about American history.

Students will maintain their own blogs and/or websites; communicating their thoughts to a global audience. Additionally, students will be taught how to conduct detailed research while determining credible sources, and deciphering information to create personalized essential

questions and theses. Technologically speaking, students will have the opportunity to explore a variety of applications; using new tools in exciting ways.

### **Spiritual ESLR:**

Graduates of Monte Vista Christian School are able to articulate a comprehensive understanding of reality based on the teaching of the Bible. At the time of graduation, Monte Vista students:

- a. Have accepted or been challenged to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, and express a commitment to ongoing spiritual development.
- b. Are able to describe the character of God and can articulate what it means to be a Christian through an oral or written assessment given yearly,
- c. Invest themselves in the ownership of their school and create solutions fitted to their generation based on Biblical principles.
- d. Serve in the local and global community through missions and humanitarian service.
- e. Have a core knowledge of the Bible, and can interpret current world events through a historical and Biblical perspective.
- f. Exhibit knowledge and understanding of other religions and belief systems.

### **Grading:**

Assessments = 55%

Assignments = 45%

### **Course Outline:**

- I. Survival and the Beginning of the American nation
- II. Compromise and the Constitution
- III. Immigration
- IV. Manifest Destiny
- V. Slavery
- VI. Civil War
- VII. Reconstruction with the bridge project,
- VIII. Black History Month
- IV. The Gilded Age and the Rise of American Power
- X. Progressive Era
- XI. World War I
- XII. Biography of historian

**App List:**

Pages

Notability

Keynote

iMovie