



Welcome to 8th Grade Social Studies

Mr. Kratovil, Room 802
Northern Guilford Middle School

Course Overview: 2023-24

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year at Northern Guilford Middle School!

Hello! I'm Mr. Kratovil and I would like to welcome you to Social Studies. I have been a teacher for 22 years, twelve at Northern, and teach both 8th and 7th Grade Social Studies.

My goal is to help every student improve their critical thinking, reading, problem-solving and writing skills. I use a variety of teaching methods and activities in the classroom and am a big proponent of experiential learning. I believe open communication and support between the family, the student, and myself is essential for students to have success and a positive learning experience. I look forward to working with you all and having a great school year!

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Webpage: <https://www.gcsnc.com/Page/29343>

Canvas: Daily Announcements, Assignments, Discussions will be posted daily on the class CANVAS Page.

Course Description

Students in 8th grade will embark on a more rigorous study of the historical foundations and democratic principles that have shaped our state and nation from colonization to contemporary times. Students will explore the content through the following lenses: inquiry; behavioral sciences; civics and government; economics; geography; and history.

- Unit 1** – The Geography and People of NC
- Unit 2** – Exploration & Colonization
- Unit 3** – Causes of Revolution & the Revolutionary War
- Unit 4** – Constitutional Foundations
- Unit 5** – North Carolina and National Expansion
- Unit 6** – Civil War & Reconstruction
- Unit 7** – Industrialization & Immigration
- Unit 8** – World War I & the Roaring 20s
- Unit 9** – The Great Depression & World War II
- Unit 10** – Post-War Politics & Society / Modern USA

Grading Policy

Tests: 40%
 Projects/Quizzes: 30%
 Classwork: 30%

Grading Scale

A 90-100%
 B 80-89%
 C 70-79%
 D 60-69%
 F Below 60%

Makeup Work Policy

When a student is **ABSENT**, it is their responsibility to submit all assignments. Students have three days following their return to earn full credit on an assignment. After three days the late work policy goes into effect.

Late Work Policy

Students may turn in work up to seven calendar days late with a 15-point penalty. No work will be accepted for a grade after seven calendar days and will receive a grade of zero. Student work also is graded for accuracy and completion, so additional points may be deducted.

Credit Recovery Assignment Policy

Throughout each quarter, there will be opportunities for extra credit and enrichment activities to allow students to increase their grades.

Tutoring Policy

Mr. K's tutoring day/time:
Available Upon Request
Please give at least 24-hour prior notice

I will help with study and organization skills too!

Grade Record

Your student's grades typically will be entered in **PowerSchool Gradebook** within 24 hours of each assignment's due date. Please create a Parent Account for both **Gradebook** and **CANVAS**. Accountability is key to success!

"Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education." - Franklin Roosevelt



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