Course Name: Middle School U.S. History

Course Credit: 1.0

Estimated Completion Time: 2 Semester 2/32-36 weeks

Prerequisites: Recommended for 8th Grade

Course Description: Learning about history allows us to see how far we have come and what awaits us on our path to the future. In this course, you will explore the history of the United States and analyze the cause and effect in historical events. You will investigate history by using the tools of a historian to examine the historical, geographic, political, economic, and sociological events that influenced the development of the United States. You will imagine what it was like to live in the past by reading the stories from the people who experienced it. This course begins with the engaging stories that brought the earliest American colonists to the New World and ends with the struggles to repair the United States following the Civil War. Engaging in this study will allow you to recognize the themes of history that span across centuries and will lead to a greater appreciation of the development of the United States and the resulting impact on world history.

Semester 1

- Early settlement
- Colonization of America
- French and Indian War
- Historian’s Tools
- Colonial protest to British policies
- American Revolution
- Declaration of Independence
- Founding Fathers
- Articles of Confederation
- Constitutional Convention
- Early Challenges to the New Nation
- Louisiana Purchase
- War of 1812

Semester 2

- Westward expansion
- Manifest Destiny
- Indian Removal
- Expansion of slavery
- The Mexican-American War
- The Industrial Revolution
- Expansion of democracy
- Second Great Awakening
- Transcendentalism
- Women’s Suffrage
- Abolition
- Civil War
- Reconstruction

**Course Assessment and Participation Requirements:** Besides engaging students in challenging curriculum, the course guides students to reflect on their learning and to evaluate their progress through a variety of assessments. Assessments can be in the form of self-checks, collaboration activities, practice lessons, multiple choice questions, writing assignments, projects, research papers, essays, discussion-based assessments, and student discussions. Nationally-recognized educational frameworks guide assessment design. Instructors evaluate progress and provide interventions through the variety of assessments built into a course, as well as through contact with the student in other venues.