

# Guide to Success

In Mr. Chisholm's 8th grade  
United States History class 2018-2019

## ABSENT:

Schoolwork is an important responsibility. After an excused absence, students will have one day for each day absent to complete missed assignments for full credit. It is the responsibility of students to make up missed work. Assignments are listed in the classroom and on Aeries. Any missing worksheets not available on the Internet will be left in the student resource area.

## ASSIGNMENT PASSES:

Life happens. Sometimes assignments cannot be completed or turned in. Each quarter, every student will receive two assignment passes that will wave a typical work assignment up to 25 points. This excludes projects, reading logs, quizzes, and tests. The teacher reserves the right to reject the assignment pass for selected work assignments.

**WARNING:** If a student uses the passes carelessly, they will not have any passes left when they are truly needed.

## BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS:

Students are expected to follow the class, grade level, and school rules at all times. If a student chooses to misbehave, the general consequences are:

- ✓ One verbal warning=no penalty
- ✓ Two verbal warnings=five minutes after school
- ✓ Three verbal warnings=fifteen minutes after school
- ✓ Continued misbehavior may result in one or more of the following:
  - ◆ Extended detention after school
  - ◆ Removal from the classroom
  - ◆ Referral to the assistant principal
  - ◆ Parent/teacher conference

Depending on the offense and frequency, punishments can vary. See the student binder reminder for additional rules and penalties.

## CHEATING: DON'T DO IT!

Cheating is copying work from someone else, giving work to someone else, or plagiarizing work. Cheating will result in losing credit for the assignment and possibly further penalties.



## CLASS RULES:

1. Follow directions the first time given
2. Bring materials to class
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself
4. Stay in your seat unless you have permission to do otherwise
5. Raise your hand and wait for permission to speak
6. No throwing objects of any kind for any reason

## DETENTION:

There are after school detentions for students who break classroom and school rules. Students who fail to show for detention or fail to have paperwork signed by a parent/guardian will receive further disciplinary action.

## EXCUSES:

*It's at home...I lost it...I had things to do...I didn't know we had homework...the Martians beamed it to the mother ship....*

Excuses lead to failure. To succeed, students should write down assignments in their binder reminders, set aside a specific time each evening for homework, and complete all assignments.

## EXTRA CREDIT:

Extra credit assignments are sometimes offered each quarter for non-essential work. Extra credit is **not** issued on a request basis nor should students expect extra credit assignments to significantly raise their grades.

## GRADING:

Grades are determined by averaging scores on assignments that are grouped in weighted categories. Student grades are posted in the classroom on a weekly basis and grades are available on the Internet through Aeries.

## LATE? TARDY? UH-OH!

Students need to be on time to class. If students are anywhere else other than sitting in their assigned seats when the bell rings, they are considered tardy.

## LATE WORK:

Most of the class grade is made up of several small assignments. The resulting quarter grade the student earns is the result of long-term behavior and choices.

Work is due when it is asked for, not later. Assignments are listed in the classroom and on the Internet through Aeries. Missing assignments are worth 0% (F-) of the assignment value. Work submitted up to two (2) days after the due date will receive 50% of assignment value (F+). Turn work in on time to avoid grade penalties.

### LEAVING THE CLASSROOM:

Students cannot leave the classroom without a pass from the teacher. If a student must leave school early, the parent/legal guardian must make arrangements with the front office beforehand.

### LOCKERS VERSUS BACKPACKS:

A locker is an important tool. It allows students to hold books and supplies so they do not have to lug around a heavy backpack all day. While backpacks are great for storage, they destroy books, notebooks, and other fragile supplies. If books are damaged, fines will be issued; if notebooks are mangled, they become useless. Use the locker!

### NEATNESS:

Students must turn in work that is neat and legible. Assignments quickly put together, tattered, or needing attention will not be accepted or will receive a reduced grade.

### PENMANSHIP:

It is important that students write legibly. Good handwriting enhances an assignment; bad handwriting prevents the teacher from reading what is written. If the teacher cannot read an assignment, the paper will receive little or no credit. Unless otherwise stated, all assignments must be completed in black ink or with a No. 2 pencil.

### READING:

**Readers are leaders!** Reading makes people smarter. Students should bring a book to school daily for sustained silent reading (SSR) and for those moments when they finish an assignment early.



### RESTROOMS:

Students will receive three restroom passes each quarter. Students may use the restroom without a pass; however, these students will be held five minutes after school for each use of the facilities. Provisions will be made for students with health issues.

### RETURNED WORK:

Work is graded and returned to students as soon as possible. Students should keep all returned work for the duration of the school year for future reference and as documentation of their assignment grades. Thousands of grades are entered into Aeries each quarter and mistakes occur. To request an assignment grade change, the student **must** present the assignment(s) in question to the teacher.

### SUPPLIES:

The following school supplies are recommended for students in this class. Arrangements will be made for students unable to purchase their own supplies.

#### Used in the classroom on a daily basis:

1. Several #2 pencils
2. Black ink ballpoint pens
3. Colored ink ballpoint pens (any color)
4. An 8 x 10 or 8½ x 11 spiral notebook
5. Lined loose-leaf paper/filler paper
6. A binder or folder to hold returned assignments
7. Binder reminder (school supplied)
8. Glue sticks
9. Scissors

#### Recommended outside of the classroom:

1. A regular and quiet place to work
2. Work supplies: paper, pens, pencils, etc.
3. A good dictionary and thesaurus
4. Access to the Internet
5. Art and craft supplies

### WEBSITE:

Classroom information, learning aids, worksheets, videos, teacher contact, links, and other information are available at this website:

**[www.door24.org](http://www.door24.org) or  
[www.mrchisholm.com](http://www.mrchisholm.com)**

Copies of this sheet can be obtained from the Classroom page on the website.

Please sign below indicating that you read and understand the rules and policies of Mr. Chisholm's classroom.

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Student Name (print)

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Student Signature

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Parent Name (print)

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Parent Signature