

**Social Studies 8 Syllabus**  
**Mr. Matthews**  
**New York State and American History II**  
[douglas.matthews@webutuck.org](mailto:douglas.matthews@webutuck.org)



Homework and class assignments can be found through Google Classroom..

Our Google Classroom code is **ovmyfhi**

In this course you will learn about the history of New York State and American History from 1865 to the present. The course is divided into eight units, two per marking period. The units are as follows:

1. Causes of the Civil War
2. Civil War and Reconstruction
3. The Industrial Nation and Immigration
4. The Spirit of Reform and America becomes a World Power
5. Changing Nation- World War 1 and the Roaring 20s
6. A World in Crisis- The Great Depression and World War 2
7. Post War America -The Cold War Begins and Peace and Prosperity
8. Searching for Solutions- The Sixties, Equal Rights and Vietnam
9. Modern America- Nixon and the Seventies, The Republican and Clinton Years and America Looks to the Future.

Grades are weighted in the following manner:

**Tests and Essays – 35%**

**Quizzes – 20%**

**Projects, Activities and Homework--25 %**

Classwork is done during class time, with the option to finish that evening unless specified otherwise. If a student is absent, the student will be responsible to do the work posted on Google Classroom. Please email me or communicate any other circumstances about their situation and accommodations can be made.

**Participation - 20%**

Participation is not limited to raising a hand in class. This includes completing daily warm up questions, being prepared to start class or participating in group work.

I will not enter a grade below 50 in the gradebook.

**Extra Credit-** Students may read books about American history and write a summary or do a project that I approve of.

Effort may increase or decrease a grade by up to three points.

I am available during 2nd period, and after school. Please see me to set up a time for extra help.

I look forward to making social studies a fun learning experience for you. I will make myself available for extra help after school.