West Ridge Middle School

Texas History - 7th Grade

Jason Gray

**Course Description:**

Texas History is designed to inform the student about the diverse history of Texas. Students will participate in class through discussion, reenacting events when applicable, group work, and the standard reading and writing. Students should gain, by the conclusion of the year, an overall understanding of Texas geographically and historically. Students will see how Texas moved from its earliest beginnings with the Native Americans, to its present state. Students will also gain study and critical thinking skills.

**Materials required for each student:**

**\*3 subject spiral 8 1/2" x 11"**

**\*fully charged iPad (school provided-bring every day)**

**\*pen or pencil**

**\*glue sticks.**

**\*Colored map pencils**

**\*Three hole punch loose leaf paper.**

**Materials recommended for each student:**

**\*Small 3 ring binder with tabs for filing away notes, handouts, assignments and or other class materials.**

**\*Highlighters**

**Textbook:**

McGraw Hill **Texas History** ( You do NOT need to supply a book)

**Class Rules:**

1. Be on time!

2. Be prepared with all materials when class begins.

3. Respect others.

4. Stay on task.

**Tutoring day and time:**

Tuesday 7:50-8:15 a.m.

**Grading policy**

The standard district-wide 40% homework, daily work, quizzes and 60% major tests, and projects will apply. I make every effort to have two grades (or more) per week. However, the progress report you receive at the three-week point may not reflect each of these due to the structure and process of our notebook system.

"Eanes ISD Middle School teachers are committed to grading and assessing in the best interest of our students. We believe grades and assessments communicate content knowledge, guide instruction, and reveal opportunities for enrichment and intervention."

The social studies department will follow the district guidelines for all graded work. However, due to the realities of teaching that vary from student to student (ie., illness, holidays, extra curricular activities, field trips, and school assemblies among other items) there will be unforeseen irregularities. Rest assured that all grading will be done in a timely manner. If you have a specific question concerning graded work then direct the inquiry through your child as it is their work. After discussing the teacher's response with your child, feel free to contact the teacher if you are still uncertain about a grade.

**Retest**

Available for students who score below 69%

Must be taken within 5 days of the original test.

Student is required to meet certain criteria set by the teacher before the test will be administered.

Maximum retest grade is a 75

**Late Work**

Students are expected to turn in assigned work at the start of the class period in which it is due.

A grade is considered late if it has a "1" in the grade column. A grade of "0" is a grade of "0".

Each nine week grading period, the lowest daily grade may be dropped.

The expectation is that the work must still be turned in.

Late work will not be accepted after the end of the nine-week grading period in which it is due.

**Technology**

It is very important that everyone is prepared for class, this includes having a fully charged operational iPad. Make sure your iPad is ready to go every day. We may not use it everyday, we may not know when we are going to use it as plans change quickly. So, be ready to log in!

Remember: **games are great! At home!** We will do some fun things here, but **not games on the iPad!**

If you are playing games on your iPad you will be sending your parents, Mr Benitez and me an email about your choices and behavior. Then your iPad will be mine for an indeterminate matter of time.

Keep your **phone in your locker**, that is your personal device and needs to be kept out of the learning environment so no one is distracted.

Any phone in the classroom will be taken to the office.

**Communications**

I welcome conferences with parents any time the need is felt. The school number is 732-9240. ext. 32855. Please leave a message on my voicemail and I will return your call at the first opportunity. You may also schedule an appointment during my conference period.

Conference Period-3rd period – 01:42-02:33

Please feel free to email me at jgray@eanesisd.net

**9 Weeks topics:**

**1st Nine Weeks**

Geography and Map Skills

Native Americans

European Exploration

**2nd Nine Weeks:**

Colonization of Texas

Texas Revolution

Texas as a Republic

**3rd Nine Weeks:**

Slavery and Secession

Texas's Involvement in the Civil War

Life on the Frontier

**4th Nine Weeks**

Ranches and Cowboys

The Industrial Revolution

Modern Texas

Government