8th Grade U.S. History Disclosure Document

Course Objective:

The objective of this course is to help students understand the events, people, and issues that have shaped the country we live in and to teach students learning skill sets that will transfer to all aspects of their lives. We will use primary sources, secondary sources, and other supplemental materials to explore the past up to 1877. Students are accountable for taking notes on the readings, lectures, videos, and participating in class in order to facilitate their learning and understanding of how historical events are relevant in their lives. Students will be challenged academically and required to work. They will have homework. We will also be using CANVAS for parts of this course.

Preparation:

Students are responsible for being prepared. They are to have all necessary materials with them each day in class (pens/pencils, paper, reading book, homework, etc.). We begin each class with silent reading **– a reading book is required.**

Classroom discipline:

School and classroom rules will be enforced. Students who choose to not follow the rules also choose to accept the consequences. All students can learn and have the right to do so in a safe, productive, and positive environment without the hindrance of others.

Classroom Rules:

* **No cell phone use or texting in class! Phones must be away and out of sight**.
* No talking when the teacher or another student is talking, raise your hand to speak
* No profanity, no bullying, no unkind or inappropriate language
* Stay on task and in your seat
* Respect others and their property – keep your hands to yourself
* No headphones – leave them home or in your locker.
* No food or drinks in class (water bottles and gum are allowed)

Consequences:

* Verbal warning
* Phone call or email to parents
* Meeting with teacher, administration and parents

Participation:

Students are responsible for participating and being engaged in their learning. There will be participation points earned in this class based on the following criteria:

* The student was present, on time, and prepared.
* The student listened, followed directions, and participated in the activity.
* Participation points cannot be made up, this includes during excused absences.

Homework/Late work:

 Students will be responsible for completing many assignments in class. Those not completed in class will be due at the beginning of the following class. Students will also be responsible for out of class assignments such as readings, posters, projects, online discussions within Canvas, and writing assignments. **\*Any assignment turned in late will be docked 10% per day for the first 5 days then I will accept it to mark it as no longer missing but not points will be given.**

Absences and Absent Work:

 It is difficult for students to learn the material if they are not in class. However, I understand that absences are sometimes unavoidable**. *It is the student’s responsibility to get and make up all work missed during their absence.*** Absent students will retrieve their work from the absent tray in the classroom when they return. Absent students will check my website/Canvas for work they missed. Absent work will be accepted for full credit for 1 week from the day of their return. **If a student misses a test, it must be made up within 1 week from the test date by appointment.** If a student is truant, there will be NO points given for work done or due the day(s) missed.

 Tardies:

Students must be on time for class. This means being in their assigned seat when the tardy bell rings. A student who is not in their seat and ready to work is tardy and will be referred to the attendance office. Please see the school’s attendance policy for further information.

Cheating:

 **Cheating will not be tolerated** and will result in an automatic 0 for the assignment or test. Parents and the administration will be contacted. Cheating includes but is not limited to copying others’ work (assignments or tests), using notes on tests or talking during a test, using a cell phone during a test – regardless of what is being done on the phone. **A phone in hand or lap during a test results in a 0.**

Grading Scale:

Grades are computed on a percentage of the total points possible at the end of the term. Points will be awarded for assignments, participation, projects, and tests. I do not weigh assignments. Grades will be determined by the percent scale in Syward. It is the student’s and parent’s responsibility to check Skyward regularly for current grade information. Please do not ask me to make grade adjustments for scores not earned. This includes, but is not limited to, asking me to raise a student’s grade if they are close to the next percentage/grade level. Students earn their grades, I do not give grades.

If you have questions or concerns, I can be reached at the school. You may call and leave a message with the main office and I will return your call as soon as I am available. I may also be reached by email at **brendadpeterson@alpinedistrict.org**. If you are concerned or would like to discuss an issue, please don’t hesitate to contact me. I believe that communication solves problems. I look forward to teaching your student this semester.

Mrs. Peterson History Disclosure Document

***\*This form must to be filled out, signed, and returned. It is worth 20 points.***

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Parent/Guardian contact info:

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email Addresses: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best time of day to contact you: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Is there anything you feel I should know about your student or family situation? (This information will be kept confidential, will only be viewed by me, and will be used to help me provide the best learning experience possible for your student).

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 **I have read the attached disclosure document and acknowledge all the policies outlined within it. By signing this contract, I understand my responsibilities in regard to this course.** I understand this form will be kept on file for the duration of the school year and will be destroyed at the end of the school year.

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 STUDENT SIGNATURE PARENT SIGNATURE DATE