

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade U.S. History: Reconstruction to Present Day**  
**Mr. Stortz - 111**

**Course Materials:**

1. History Folder or History 3-Ring Binder
2. Paper for note-taking (loose leaf or spiral paper is fine)
3. Pencil or Pen
4. Computer
5. Mr. Stortz' website - [mstortz.weebly.com](http://mstortz.weebly.com)

**Grades:**

The grades will be based on the following areas: tests, quizzes, projects, homework, and daily class work. Grades will be calculated following the Troy Middle School Final Grading Policy.

The Grading Scale is as follows:

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	59 & Below

**Assignments:**

Assignments are due the following day (next day I see your class) unless otherwise noted. The homework will be written on the side board. I would suggest that you make a habit of writing all of the assignments down in your planner when you enter the classroom or before you leave the classroom each day.

Assignments are not extended if assigned before absence.

*Example:* Student is present and assigned homework on Tuesday and due on Wednesday—student is absent on Wednesday—homework due upon return.

If you are absent, you will have as many days as you were absent to make up the work you missed.

*Example:* Assigned and absent on Monday—return Tuesday—assignment due Wednesday.

**Classroom Guidelines:**

**Be Responsible**

1. Be on time to class and seated when the bell rings.
2. Bring all necessary materials.
3. Use time wisely.

**Be Respectful**

1. Act and speak appropriately in the classroom at all times.
2. Respect others/property.

**Be Peaceful**

1. Use a quiet voice.
2. No disruptions - stay seated.

## **Procedures:**

A procedure is the way that we do things.

To do things right, we have to follow some simple procedures, for example:

- To open your locker, you have to select your combination as directed by the lock manufacturer.
- To cook a delicious meal, you need to follow the steps in the recipe.
- To place a call on your phone, you need to dial the number in the right order.

So to be successful in the learning you need to follow some simple procedures

## **Entering the Classroom**

- Make sure you have all necessary materials for the class.
- Enter the classroom quietly.
- Go directly to your assigned seat.
- Begin on the daily bellwork activity that will be on the board.

## **End-of-period / class dismissal**

- The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell.
- Do not start packing up prior to the bell.
- I will officially dismiss you with a “Have a Great Day!”

## **During instruction**

- When someone is talking, be respectful and give them your undivided attention.
- Raise your hand if you have a question or something to add to the conversation.
- If you do not understand a concept or idea, do not hesitate to raise your hand and ask questions about the part you did not understand.

## **While you are Working in Class**

- Be sure to read or listen to the directions about your work.
- If the directions are unclear, ask a student next to you to explain. If they also do not understand the directions, ask me to further explain the directions.
- When talking to each other, the person sitting across the room should not be interrupted by your noise.
- Respect each other and be friendly.
- Use your time wisely. Put forth your best effort to finish your work on time.

## **When you Finish Class Work Early**

- Look over your work.
- Work on incomplete past assignments.
- Silently read from a book of your choice.
- If you did not bring a book, find an interesting topic in your textbook.  
\*Reading does not mean free time. It is a time to improve upon your language arts skills.

## **When you are Absent**

- You may either ask a classmate, come in before or after school, or talk to me before or after class to receive the missed assignments or to schedule a make-up time for a quiz/test.
- It is your responsibility to acquire missed assignments.
- Please do not ask for make-up work during instruction.

### **When you are Tardy**

- Enter the classroom quietly.
- Excused: place pass on teacher's desk, sit down in your seat, and begin work.
- Unexcused: sit down in your seat, and begin work.
- Tardies will be handled by the office.

### **Sharpening Pencils, Throwing Trash Away, and Using Tissues**

- If you need to sharpen a pencil or use a tissue, quietly complete the task without disrupting other students. This means if I am talking or another student is talking, you should not be sharpening a pencil or getting a tissue. Wait until the person is done speaking.
- If someone is already sharpening a pencil or using a tissue, wait until they are done.
- Trash should be thrown away at the end of class. If you have trash, place it on the corner of your desk and be sure to throw it away before you leave.

### **Passes**

- Please use the bathroom, get a drink, or go to your locker before/after school, during lunch, or during passing time.
- If there is an extreme emergency, sign out and take my hall pass.

### **Headings**

- Always put your **first and last name** and **hour** on your assignments.

### **Guest Teachers**

- In the case of a substitute teacher, I expect that your behavior will be no different than if I was in the classroom. You know proper classroom procedures—please help the guest teacher. Inappropriate behavior may result in detentions or office referrals. Please be respectful.

### **I follow the discipline policy outlined in the student handbook:**

1. Verbal Warning
2. Student/Teacher Conference
3. Referral/ Parent Contact/Removal from Classroom

**\*\*Severe disruption will result in immediate classroom removal, referral and parent contact.\*\***

**I am looking forward to getting to know all of you individually and to a very enjoyable and successful school year. Welcome to TMS!**