

Course Overview: This course is designed to build both students' historical thinking skills and their comprehension of primary and secondary sources. Students use their advanced skills to analyze documents, categorize information, break history into eras and articulate defining characteristics. A major focus of the course is the development of reading and comprehension strategies including detailed annotation, summarization, and evaluation of primary sources. Students will leave this course with an understanding of how America's government functions as well as a basic picture of the chronology of American History through 1877. The course begins with European exploration of the Americas and continues through the Civil War and Reconstruction. This course culminates in a STAAR exam.

Standards: [8th Grade Social Studies Assessed Curriculum](#) [Academic Calendars](#)

| Unit Number | Unit Title | Number of Core Instructional Days | Number of Success/Flex Days | Number of Other Instructional Days (optional) | Number of Assessment Days | Recommended total number of class periods | Summative Assessment | Scanning Deadline <small>The last day student data will be incorporated for district-wide analysis.</small> | To be completed by teacher | | | Lessons in this Unit (optional) <small>Bold indicates a required lesson. Italic indicates an optional lesson. Bold indicates a teacher-created lesson.</small> |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | Unit Start Date | Unit End Date | Assessment Date <small>Assessments given by the scanning device. Dates will show scheduled response.</small> | |
| FALL SEMESTER | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | European Exploration and Colonization | 10 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 | TX_SS_8thSS_F25_UE1 | September 11th | <small>(e.g., 8/10) to be completed by teacher</small> | <small>(e.g., 9/2) to be completed by teacher</small> | <small>(e.g., 9/1) to be completed by teacher</small> | |
| 2 | The Revolutionary Era | 10 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 | TX_SS_8thSS_F25_UE2 | September 25th | | | | |
| 3 | The Constitutional Era and the American Government | 16 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 17 | TX_SS_8thSS_F25_UE3 | October 23rd | | | | |
| 4 | The Early Republic | 12 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 13 | TX_SS_8thSS_F25_UE4and5 | November 20th | | | | |
| 5 | The Jacksonian Era | 6 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 8 | | | | | | |
| 6 | Westward Expansion | 9 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 12 | TX_SS_8thSS_F25_UE6 | December 18th | | | | |

Semester Exam Window [ALL TEXAS REGIONS]
Exam Window: December 8 - 19th

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|------------------------|---|----|---|---|---|----|--------------------------|---------------|--|--|--|--|
| SPRING SEMESTER | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | The Industrialization Era | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 8 | TX_SS_8thSS_S26_UE7and8 | February 12th | | | | |
| 8 | The Reform Era | 8 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | | | | | | |
| 9 | Causes of the Civil War and the Civil War | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | TX_SS_8thSS_S26_UE9and10 | March 12th | | | | |
| 10 | The Reconstruction Era | 8 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 10 | | | | | | |

Spring Interim Assessment Window: March 2nd - 6th

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---|----|---|---|----|-----|-----|--|--|--|
| 11 | STAAR Success Unit | 0 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 10 | N/A | N/A | | | |
| 12 | Campus Flex Days | | | | | 0 | N/A | N/A | | | |
| STAAR Window: April 14th - April 24th | | | | | | | | | | | |
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