Course Syllabus 8<sup>th</sup> Grade American History Mrs. Howard thoward@sjsomaha.org

**Course Description**: This class begins with an exploration into the birth and development of America continuing through World War II. The main goal of this class is for students to develop a deeper understanding of their responsibilities as an American citizen. In addition, to gain a foundation of the past events and people that have shaped our country.

**Preparation for Class:** Students are required to bring a writing utensil, paper, 1-inch binder, spiral notebook, completed homework and the textbook to each class unless otherwise directed.

**Expectations for the Course:** In preparation for high school, students will consistently work on developing their critical thinking skills and articulating their opinions based on material presented in class. Students are expected to keep up with daily material, notes and writing assignments. The majority of writing assignments and daily work will need to be completed on Google Docs via Google Classroom.

**Expectations for Behavior:** To ensure that every student has a rewarding learning experience, it is important that all students understand the expectations for behavior in my classroom and the consequences for failing to meet those expectations:

- Be responsible for your own work and behavior.
- Be respectful of teacher at all times.
- Students must be respectful toward one another and demonstrate Christian behavior.

\*\*\*Please be responsible for the energy you bring into this space.\*\*\*

**Grade Weighting:** Homework makes up 25% of the final grade. In class work, participation, and other daily checks for progress make up 5%. Quizzes make up 30% and tests make up 40%. Projects generally fall into the guiz or test category.

**Late Work & Re-Takes:** All Junior High Teachers follow the same policy. Please refer to this policy if you have guestions.

**Classroom Web Resources:** Students are responsible for downloading any necessary notes or study guide materials needed for class. Students and parents will be able to find notes and other required documents on the class Weebly site, located at <a href="http://howardloveshistory.weebly.com/">http://howardloveshistory.weebly.com/</a>.

As in the past, parents will be able to access student grades on Sycamore at <a href="https://app.sycamoreeducation.com">https://app.sycamoreeducation.com</a>.

Lastly, students will be using Google Apps for Education and Google Classroom for some assignments. Students will be expected to "turn in" certain assignments in Google Classroom. For more information, please speak with your student or contact the teacher.

**Extra Credit:** Opportunities for extra credit will be offered once a quarter. Extra credit will not be offered on an individual basis.

**Absences:** It is the student's responsibility to obtain assignments, notes and any other important information that is missed during an absence. When a student is absent, he/she will be expected to complete missed homework in two day's time for each day absent. Exceptions will be made in unique situations as determined by the teacher.