

Name: _____

Date issued: _____

Date received: _____

2015 - 2016 Syllabus
8th Grade Social Studies
North Carolina History

1. **COURSE DESCRIPTION.** This course is a survey of the geography, political, economic, social and cultural developments in North Carolina.

2. **COURSE OBJECTIVES.** This course is designed to fulfill the goals and objectives set forth in the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. The Cumberland County Task Analysis provides the framework for meeting the goal and essential standards of the North Carolina Standard Course of Study. This course will enable the student to reach an understanding of the major trends and directions in North Carolina History from the pre-contact period through modern times. This course will help develop the student's sense of historical perspective by narrating the story of the men, women, and events that shaped the state's development. This course will deal with facts, as well as concepts and ideas, to enable the student to gain the insight into why events took place as they did, and to develop the student's ability to interpret this past in the light of later national and state experiences. Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to have a fundamental understanding of:
 - a. The geography of North Carolina and how it effected the state's development.
 - b. The history and contributions of Native Americans.
 - c. The early European explorers.
 - d. The colonial history of North Carolina to include the American Revolution.
 - e. The transition from an English colony to an American state.
 - f. The Antebellum Period and slavery.
 - g. The Civil War and Reconstruction.
 - h. North Carolina at the end of the Nineteenth Century
 - i. North Carolina in the Twentieth Century and Twenty-First Century.

3. **INSTRUCTOR.** Mr. Ronald W. Bryant
Telephone (work) 488-8415
e-mail: ronaldbryant@ccs.k12.nc.us

4. **TEXT.** *North Carolina, Land of Contrasts*, Dr. Gary Freeze, Clairmont Press, Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009; *America, History of Our Nation*, James West Davidson and Michael B. Stroff; Pearson Prentice Hall, 2009.

5. **ADDITIONAL REFERENCES.** *North Carolina, A Proud State in Our Nation* William S. Powell, McDougal Littell Inc., 2003; *Creating America*, Garcia, Ogle, Ringer, Stevos, and Jordan, McDougal Littell Inc., 2003; and *North Carolina, The History of an American State*, John L. Bell, Jr. and Jeffrey J. Crow, Clairmont Press, 1998 will be used in the classroom.

6. **SUMMARY SHEETS.** Students will be provided a summary sheet and/or study guide for each chapter. The summary sheet, and supplemental activity sheets address the

main points to be derived from each chapter and will serve as a general outline for lectures, discussions, and tests.

7. **CLASSES.** Students are expected to complete reading assignments before class, to take notes during the class, and to participate in classroom discussions. Most class periods will be devoted to a combination of lectures, student readings and discussions, small learning group activities, and audiovisual presentations. Students are responsible for all information covered in class, as well as reading assignments.

8. **GRADED REQUIREMENTS.**

a. **Periodic Tests.** Chapter tests will be given approximately once a week, depending in the length and content of the chapter. Tests will normally consist of a combination of matching, multiple choice, true/false, and short essay questions. Students will normally be provided with essay prompts before a test in order to produce a finished product during a test.

b. **Quizzes.** Announced and unannounced quizzes will be administered periodically.

c. **Focus Activities.** A focus activity will be provided at the beginning of each period. The focus activity may involve material previously covered, or to introduce new material. The focus activity will involve copying questions and answers from an overhead transparency, analyzing and evaluating informational material read from the text or another written source, and correctly answering the questions. Focus activities are formatted along the lines of End of Grade Test formats.

d. **Class Work.** Each student is expected to complete assigned class work as directed and to participate in daily class activities. Work not completed in class will be completed at home. Daily class activities include oral readings in class, classroom discussions and reviews, and specific assignments, such as activity work sheets or group assignments.

e. **Special Assignments.** Periodically, special assignments, such as book reports, biographies, ABC Reports, National History Day projects, and other assignments will be given. Specific written guidelines will be provided for each assignment.

9. **NOTEBOOKS.** Each student is encouraged to maintain a social studies notebook consisting of a loose leaf notebook with five tabbed dividers marked in order as follows: focus activity; assignment sheet; class work/homework; tests/quizzes, and vocabulary.

10. **SUMMARY OF GRADED REQUIREMENTS.**

Periodic Tests	50%
Quizzes	20%
Focus Activities	20%
Class Work	10%

11. **GRADING STANDARDS.** The grading scale used by the school and team will be used:

- A 90-100%
- B 80-89%
- C 70-79%
- D 60-69%
- F 59% and below

a. All work done in class will be completed using a number two pencil. Projects and special assignments will be printed in blue or black ink on a computer, or neatly written in blue or black ink. Assignments to be turned in for a grade will be completed using the format prescribed in the cover sheet instructions. Assignments will be completed on three ring notebook paper (not spiral notebook paper). Assignments will be legible, neat, and the paper free of wrinkles, tears, folds, creases, and student scribbling or drawings.

b. All assignments and work should be turned-in on time for full credit. Work turned-in late may be downgraded seven points per day.

12. **MAKE-UP WORK.** Students who are absent from class for medical or other excused absences are responsible to make-up missed work in accordance with Cumberland County Guidelines.

13. **RULES.** The published county, school and team rules are in effect. In summary, however, the rules include:

- a. Be on time in your assigned seat, in uniform, and prepared to work when the tardy bell rings.
- b. Stay in your seat until dismissed or given permissions to get out of your seat.
- c. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized to speak.
- d. Be respectful and courteous - do not talk unless given permission, and do not engage in distracting activities, such as tapping pencils or humming.
- e. No chewing of gum, candy, or snacks is allowed in class.

14. **ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE.** After school tutoring is available after school on Tuesday from 3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

15. **PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE.** Parents or legal guardians requesting a conference with me can call the school at 488-8415 to schedule an appointment. Conferences are normally scheduled to be conducted during team planning, first period, 8:45 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.)

16. **HISTORY CLUB** Those students with a serious interest in history who would like to explore North Carolina and United States history in greater depth will meet on Wednesdays after school.

17. **EXPECTATIONS.** Remember what we are here for - to study North Carolina and United States history - this is the primary reason for our daily meeting that is less than an

hour in length. Additionally, it is my intent to use this period to reinforce your communications skills with an emphasis on analyzing and evaluating informational material that is read, heard or viewed, as well as writing well-developed papers. My job is to teach the material, and hopefully, arouse your interest in an old discipline that seems overshadowed by the focus on technical skills. Your job is to learn the material, and hopefully, develop an interest in the matters at hand. It is much better for both of us when the interest is mutual. I can not “make’ you learn. I look forward to an exciting year.

Sincerely,
Mr. Ronald W. Bryant

I have read and understand the directions in this syllabus, and I understand that it will be maintained along with my personal mission statement in the front of my social studies notebook.

Print Name	Student Signature	Date
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Print Name	Parent Signature	Date
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This syllabus has been reviewed and approved by the following administrator for school year 2015-2016 at Reid Ross Classical School.

Signature _____ **Date** _____
Thomas Hatch, Principal, RRCS