

Major units of study/assignments - 2023-2024 Social Studies

Major Resources:

- *History Alive! The United States Through Industrialism* ©2011 Teachers Curriculum Institute
- *American History* © 2017 MI Open Book Project
- *Forging the Peninsulas* © 2004 Hillsdale Publishing

American History 8 Curriculum

UNIT 1 – Revolution in the Colonies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Toward Independence• The Declaration of Independence• The American Revolution	September/October
UNIT 2 – Forming A New Nation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Creating the Constitution• The Constitution: A more Perfect Union• The Bill of Rights	October-November
UNIT 3 – Launching a New Republic <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Political Developments in the Early Republic• Foreign Affairs in a Young Nation• Michigan and Monroe County in the War of 1812• A Growing Sense of Nationhood• Andrew Jackson and the Growth of American Democracy	November-January
UNIT 4 – An Expanding Nation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manifest Destiny and a Growing Nation• Life in the West• Mexicano Contributions in the Southwest	February/March
UNIT 5 – Americans in the Mid-1800s <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An Era of Reform• The Worlds of North and South• African Americans in the Mid-1800s	March/April
UNIT 6 – The Union Challenged <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A Dividing Nation• The Civil War• The Reconstruction Era	April/June

Cultural Knowledge Tests:

50 States Test	September
Bill of Rights Test	November
What I Should Know About Where I Live	February
Michigan Map Test	April

Exams:

Midterm Exams	January
Final Exams	June

Turn Over

- Continued from front

America's Greatest Hero Debates:

AGH Debates – Round 1	October
AGH Debates – Round 2	November
AGH Debates – Round 3	December
AGH Debates – Round of 16	February
AGH Debates – Elite 8	March
AGH Debates – Final 4	April
AGH Debates - Championship	June

In-Class Projects:

America's Greatest Hero	All Year
Courtroom Simulation	November
Homesteading Simulation	February/March
You Are the Teacher	January/February
Monroe County in The Civil War	May

Syllabus subject to change

Backyard History Class

- Class meets all year
- Students in the BHC will be block-scheduled for two hours with Social Studies 8, allowing for day-to-day flexibility of the two curriculums. This will allow more flexibility in working on projects with other groups, such as the elementary school or local civic groups.

- Activities:

○ <i>Tailgater</i> (HS football program) production	all home varsity football games
○ Yearbook production	September-March
○ <i>In the Paint</i> (HS basketball program) production*	select home varsity basketball games
○ Local history lessons with elementary students*	monthly, November-May
○ Christmas Wreath Festival, MCMS*	December
○ National Battlefield field trip*	October or November
○ Henry Ford field trip*	tentative, late winter
○ Local history walking tour*	June
○ Other civic projects, at the discretion of the BHC students*	TBD

* Projects are at the discretion of students in the BHC. A large portion of the curriculum is student-driven, therefore, BHC students make the decisions on whether we participate in these activities/projects.

Please Note: Backyard History spends a fair amount of time out of the classroom. We can sometimes be found on other parts of the campus or in town learning our curriculum. Students are monitored at those times. If your child needs to be picked up or you are dropping your child off to school and we are not in the classroom, the office will get ahold of me wherever we are and we can get your child where they need to be.

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