

Expectations:

Open Door 8th Grade Students and Honors Students in 8th Grade

8th Grade Open Door / Honors 6th & 7th Period

- Students in 8th grade Honors will integrate public speaking opportunities such as; historic lectures, debates, panel discussions and reenactments. This block offers curriculum support from primary and secondary historic literature sources. Students will expand on more complex writing and communication skills which will include; comparison/contrast essay, personal opinion essay, speech and debate development. Students will apply their studies and higher level thinking skills by producing and completing projects emphasizing National History Day competitions. Students from Housel Middle School will apply to participate in both regional and state level competitions that will incorporate communications and technology skills.

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- **Fall 2016 Semester: Honors - Washington State History**
 - Open Door / Honors Block: This class will integrate literature, primary and secondary historic sources, and civics of the Pacific Northwest in general and Washington State specifically. Students will use writing, artistic, and technology skills to compliment classroom discussions, debates, and essays in a multiple intelligence setting. Historic exploration along with independent study and research will be the emphasis.

- **Spring 2017 Semester: Honors – 20th Century History - Current World Affairs**
 - Open Door / Honors Block: This class will integrate literature, primary and secondary historic sources, and civics of the United States and World. The class will look at the history of the Twentieth Century and the causes of many of today's current world problems. The roots of terrorism and other world problems will be examined as the students are provided the opportunity to consider the relevance of these issues with Washington and United States History. Students will use writing, artistic, and technology skills to compliment classroom discussions, debates, and essays. Individual evaluation of class subject matter will be encouraged in order to develop the students own self concept of the world around them and how it impacts them and their future personally.

- **Units of Study:**
 - Washington State:
 - Geography, Native Americans, Early statehood, Effects of the Great Depression and World War II in the Northwest, Contemporary political, social, and economic issues, and Federal/State/Local Government
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 - 20th Century History:
 - Constitutional Issues, "What is the Common Good?"
 - Immigration, Labor, WWI & WWII, and Cold War

National History Day

Taking a Stand in History

<http://nhd.org/contest-affiliates/annual-theme/>

It is a goal of 8th Grade Honors at HMS to participate in the Washington State History Day activities held each spring. All students are expected to attend this event. Students will be provided the opportunity to work as an individual or in teams (of 2-3 students) on a History Day Project. Students who work in teams must provide a project proposal and signed parental permission to work in the proposed group. Students must also provide Mr. Smith a work schedule with an active “to-do” list every Friday. There is a higher expectation of work for students in small groups. Students choosing to work on individual projects need a signed project proposal and will be assessed using the individual project assessment rubric. More information on Washington History Day projects and proposal due dates will be provided before students begin the project.

This year’s National History Day theme is Taking a Stand in History. Mrs. Hall and I will have more information on National History Day, or NHD, in the a few weeks. We usually begin researching NHD 2nd quarter.

Washington State History (Grading) 8th Grade Honors / Open Door

- **Common Assessments**

- The majority of the student grade each quarter will be based on common assessments given every two to three weeks. Students who do not perform to classroom standard on an assessment will be required to re-take the assessment. Students who fail to meet the standards they have set for themselves on an assessment will be allowed to re-take the assessment to a maximum of an A-.

- **Grade Percentage / Weighted Activities**

- Unit Assessments will be weighted 85% of the term grade.

Unit Assessments include:

1. Standardized 8th grade assessments that target selected instructional standards.
2. Group and Individual original performance and productions such as **National History Day** projects, debates, surveys, and digital projects including web quests, and editing/producing videos documentaries.
3. Classroom Based Assessments from the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Social Studies. For more information on the Social Studies CBAs, please go to the OSPI website at: <http://www.k12.wa.us/assessment/WASL/socialstudies/default.aspx>.

- Class notes, journals, participation activities, and daily work will be weighted 15% of the term grade.

- Extra credit will be worth a maximum of 10% of the daily work grade.
- Some activities may be differentiated to support individual student instructional needs.
- Some standardized assessments may also be differentiated to meet individual needs.

- **Please note** that students’ 1st and 2nd quarter Washington State History grades will be combined into an end of year semester grade. It is a Prosser High School graduation requirement.

Open Door 7th Grade Curriculum:

- Individual learning plans will be recorded for each student that are based on the multiple intelligences. An emphasis will be placed on developing skills that are at the top of Blooms Taxonomy: Analysis and synthesis of information and materials, application of knowledge and learning, and evaluation of results will be used in various class projects.
 - Curriculum for the Open Door program will seek to help students develop a positive self-esteem through unique intellectual challenges that extend beyond the traditional classroom. Units will use project based learning which fosters individual creativity, risk taking, problem solving, and critical higher level thinking skills.
 - Open Door units will obviously evolve and change so as to stay fresh each year and to accommodate students evolving individual academic needs. Grading will be individualized based on the student's individual instructional objectives and their ability to complete class activities.
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U.S. History and Civics

- First Semester

- Students will cover the same essential material as students in first semester 7th grade U.S. History. Students will specifically examine the roots of democracy, American Colonial History, causes for the American Revolution, and the development of the U.S. Constitution.
 - **Colonial Experience**
 - Students will explore the various conflicts between colonists and Native Americans in seventeenth century North America.
 - **American Government**
 - The class will consider the various causes for colonial dissent with Britain.
 - Students will study American Government as they reenact a mock Constitutional Convention.
 - The class will also examine the Bill of Rights and the three branches of the Federal government.
 - **Research**
 - Students will research primary historical documents and create original presentations that demonstrate their understanding of modern research applications.
 - Open Door students will complete a written opinion paper based on one of the state's CBAs.
 - For more on CBAs in History, please check out OSPI's link below:
<http://www.k12.wa.us/Assessment/WASL/SocialStudies/default.aspx>

• Communications and Presentations

- Second Semester

- 3rd Quarter Individual Research Project
 - Students will create original presentations that are individualized for each student's own interests, skills, and academic objectives. **Students will create projects that will be part of our Housel History Night presentation and our regional National History Day in Yakima.**
 - This year's National History Day Theme is: Taking a Stand in History.
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- 4th Quarter - **Modern Communications and Video Production**
 - Students will have the opportunity to explore video production equipment. Script writing, stage production, costume design, audio selection, and video construction will be explored by students creating original video documentaries that demonstrate their knowledge of the semester's study of a select theme in American history.

Open Door 6th Grade Curriculum:

- Individual learning plans will be recorded for each student that are based on the multiple intelligences. An emphasis will be placed on developing skills that are at the top of Blooms Taxonomy: Analysis and synthesis of information and materials, application of knowledge and learning, and evaluation of results will be used in various class projects.
 - Curriculum for the Open Door program will seek to help students develop a positive self-esteem through unique intellectual challenges that extend beyond the traditional classroom. All units will use project based learning which fosters individual creativity, risk taking, problem solving, and critical higher level thinking skills.
 - Open Door units will obviously evolve and change so as to stay fresh each year and to accommodate students evolving individual academic needs. Grading will be individualized based on the student's individual instructional objectives and their ability to complete class activities.
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Civics and Technology

- **Geography**
 - Students will study various physical and political landforms throughout the world.
- **History and Literature**
 - Archaeology and mythology will be studied as part of a class investigation into the development of western civilization.
 - Students will look at ancient **Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and early medieval Europe** as part of a study of the development of government.
 - Students will create original presentations that are individualized for each student's own interests, skills, and academic objectives. **These projects will be part of our Housel History Night presentation.**
 - Students will be **encouraged** to create projects that can be entered in our regional National History Day competition in Yakima as part of Housel's NHD club.
 - This year's National History Day Theme is: Exploration, Encounter & Exchange.
- **Computer Science & Technology**
 - Technology Survey: Students will be introduced to various Microsoft Office tools and programs for editing multimedia video and sound clips.
- **Multimedia, animation, and video Production**
 - Students will rewrite and then produce their own versions of popular myths, fairytales, and historic events using clay, pipe cleaners, Legos, and other household bits and pieces as they generate original animations.