



**2021 - 2022  
Bedford Community Schools  
MS & HS Social Studies  
Mr. Ruttenberg**



Class Motto:

“You are responsible for your own actions!”

**Welcome to Social Studies class! My name is Mr. Ruttenberg and I will be your social studies instructor. I hope to have a fun, learning filled year. If you want to know the secret to getting ahead in my class, it is EFFORT. No student can learn without putting forth effort. Therefore, I challenge all of you students to give 100% effort at all times during my class. If you do this, I guarantee you will succeed.**

**If parents have questions, they should contact the high school office (712-523-2114). Leave a message or set up an appointment for after school. I do not take phone calls during class time because I deem that time to be very valuable to the students. If you call during the day to speak to me, I will call you back as soon as I can. Thank you for your cooperation.**

**Have a great year,  
Mr. Ruttenberg**

**Class Rules:**

- 1. Raise your hand to speak and wait to be acknowledged. You will get your turn.**
- 2. No talking while I am talking...it's rude, don't do it.**
- 3. Be courteous to yourself and those around you.**
- 4. Turn your work in on time. 50% off for late work. Any late work after the unit will be 0% credit.**
- 5. Give 100% effort.**

**Class Descriptions:**

**6th Grade** - The sixth grade will focus on geography, history and culture in global regions. Students will analyze regional, physical, and cultural characteristics of places. The analysis will show how these factors influenced people who lived there and how the people and characteristics have changed over time.

**7th Grade** - The seventh grade students will explore global perspectives on contemporary issues and worldwide interdependence. The interconnected world we live in today requires that lowa students be well educated about worldwide issues to cultivate diplomacy, effective citizenship, and global competitiveness. Students could examine challenges facing the world community such as hunger, population, conflict, global environmental challenges, human rights, poverty, energy scarcity, global health, education, immigration, globalization, and other political, economic, social an ecological concerns.

**8th Grade** - The eighth grade students focus on the history of the United States including the American founding and establishment of democratic principles. Students will analyze the powers and civic responsibilities of citizens and examine the origins, functions, and structure of the U.S. government. As a result, students will gain an understanding of historical events in early American history, democratic principles, individual rights and government institutions.

**World History I & World History II (H.S.)** - The world history standards promote an emphasis on both historical content and historical thinking skills to prepare students with a strong foundation in significant history content, and with skills necessary to apply historical thinking to any historical context. These are the skills required not only for college and career success, but for effective global citizenship.

**Class Activities and Field Trips:**

Throughout the year we do various activities to enrich the students academic lives. We will use several tools to help us in our goal of exploring the world we live in. The classes will participate in different field trips and class contests.

- **History Day 2021: “Communication in History: The Key to Understanding”** - For the last fourteen years the Bedford Community School District has went to Graceland University for the annual National History Day Competition. This is a competition open to grades 4 - 12. It is a required project for my social studies classes. It becomes easier each time you compete. Over the last fourteen years, Bedford has had a lot of success in this event. We hope to continue our success this year, so be listening for the announcement!
- **Cemetery Trip** - Field trip to study local history made by the seventh grade class. Interdisciplinary Unit.
- **National World War One Museum in Kansas City** - Field trip made by the seventh grade class. Interdisciplinary Unit.