**DCMS Texas History Parent Syllabus**

## **Course Overview**

In 7th grade Texas History, students will explore the diverse and complex history of Texas—from Native cultures and Spanish colonization through statehood, the Civil War, and contemporary Texas. The course is designed to encourage critical thinking, historical inquiry, and connections to modern issues in our state.

## **Teacher Contact Information**

Teacher: Ms. Cristina Powell  
Email: [Cristina.Powell@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:Cristina.Powell@fortbendisd.gov)

Conference Period: 6th Period (2:20 – 3:10 on **NON**-Advisory Days and 2:35-3:20 on **ADVISORY** days)  
Response Time: Within 24 business hours

## **Communication Tools**

All assignments, resources, and announcements will be posted in Schoology. Grades are available on Skyward. Weekly updates or newsletters will be posted in Schoology for parents to review.

## **Grading Policy**

Grades are based on a point system and categorized into:  
- Major Grades (tests, projects): 60%  
- Daily Grades (classwork, participation): 40%  
Students can attend tutorials and complete re-teach assignments to retest for scores below 70 (max retest grade: 75).

## **Late Work Policy**

Late work will be accepted with a 10-point deduction per day, up to 3 days late. No more than 50 points will be deducted. After 3 days, assignments may not be accepted without prior approval.

## **Absences & Make-Up Work**

Students are responsible for checking Schoology and the classroom notebook for missed work. They have the number of days absent to complete work without penalty. After that, late work deductions apply.

## **Homework Policy**

Homework may occasionally be assigned to reinforce skills, complete unfinished classwork, or prepare for a lesson. Students are expected to complete homework on time. Late homework may follow the late work policy.

## **Academic Integrity**

Cheating includes copying, plagiarism, or using AI tools (like ChatGPT or QuillBot) to complete work. Students who are caught cheating will receive a 0 and may complete an alternative assignment for partial credit. Parents will be notified.

## **Classroom Expectations**

Students are expected to:  
- Be respectful to peers, teachers, and themselves  
- Be prepared and on time  
- Participate actively and responsibly  
- Follow campus and classroom rules  
Disruptive or disrespectful behavior will result in consequences including parent contact or referral.

## **Required Supplies**

- (2) One-subject notebooks (one per semester)  
- Pencils

- Pens, Markers (as needed)  
- Tape or glue  
- Optional: Kleenex, hand sanitizer

## **How You Can Support at Home**

- Ask your students what they learned in class  
- Help them stay organized with their notebook and assignments  
- Encourage attendance at tutorials if needed  
- Monitor Schoology and Skyward **regularly**