**Welcome to 7th Grade Social Studies Class**

MLA Heading:

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**Ms. Helen Oliver & Mr. Jones**

**Helen.Oliver@scienceandtech.org**

**Dallas. Jones@scienceandtech.org**

1. **Who is Ms. Oliver? Who is Mr. Jones?**

Ms. Oliver is from Chicago and studied Secondary Social Studies Education at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. After receiving her Bachelors, she taught English in Asia for 2 years and worked for City Year in New York for 1 year. This is her fourth year at Byers!

Mr. Jones is a Colorado native, born and raised in Denver. He studied at Metro State where he got a BA in English with a concentration in Secondary Education. He worked for two years in the Cole neighborhood and this is his second year at Byers!

1. **What is the vision of 7th grade Social Studies?**

In 7th grade Social Studies, students will be **sharpening their critical thinking skills** by diving deep into history, geography, economics, political science, and more! Throughout the year, students will continue to develop their ability to read and analyze primary and secondary sources. Additionally, students will be able to **analyze and discuss central historical questions** to understanding Social Studies. All Social Studies students will also be literacy learners, developing reading and writing skills.

1. **What will we learn?**

**Grading Structure**

Classwork and Participation 35%

Formative Assessments 20%

Homework 10%

Interim Assessments 5%

Summative Assessments 30%

Our Major Units:

1. Identity
2. Geography
3. Medieval Europe and the Fall of Rome
4. Religion
5. West Africa and Islam
6. Medieval Asia: China and Japan
7. Economics
8. The Americas
9. Renaissance and Reformation
10. **What can I/my falcon look forward to in 7th grade Social Studies?**

Your falcon has a lot to look forward to this year! First, our falcons will be engaging in frequent fishbowl discussions about world current events. These discussions allow for students to challenge and engage with each other in deep discussions, while also making us globally aware citizens. Second, our falcons can look forward to creating National History Day projects. Each student will create a project, building many research skills that will help them in their future education. Finally, our falcons can look forward to in-class projects and historical simulations, ranging from our own Economic Markets to a Renaissance Fair.

1. **What can I/my student do if they want to improve their grades or need more support?**

Your student should advocate for Mandatory Tutoring from their Social Studies teacher if they are concerned about their grade. Please encourage your student to self- advocate for MTs. Social Studies MT will be on Tuesdays.

1. **What if I/ my student needs to make up a missed assessment?**

 If a student misses an assessment, it is their responsibility to make up the assessment within one week. Ms. Oliver/ Mr. Jones can sign a student up for lunch or after school tutoring, or can be available to proctor a test before school. However, it is ultimately the student’s responsibility to make up the missed test.

*We’re truly thrilled and honored to be members of this learning community and can’t wait to explore the world together. Please reach out with any questions regarding Social Studies and we’ll be happy to help.*

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**Parent and Student Signature due 8.18**

**I have read Ms. Oliver/ Mr. Jones’ syllabus and agree that the expectations and procedures are set in place in order to help me/my student achieve my/their goals and grow.**

**Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 Please note any additional questions for Ms. Oliver or Mr. Jones