

## **World History Course Syllabus 2009-2010 School Year**

### **Course Description**

World History is a required full year course, preferably to be taken the sophomore year. Students who satisfactorily complete this course will earn one social studies credit. World History investigates human history from pre-historic times to the present. Approaches will be chronological, conceptual, evaluative and factual. Study will include cultures, religions, economic systems, political systems and other institutions established by humans through the ages to enhance or cope with group living. This course offers the historical information to interpret the past, enhance the perception of the present and encourage a vision of the future.

### **Instructional Philosophy**

Classroom activities will include note-taking, reading, writing, research, individual and classroom activities and problem-solving designed to include all learning styles. Homework will be given almost daily. High-quality work is expected on all activities and assignments and opportunities to resubmit work to meet those high expectations will be provided.

### **Major Course Goals**

Upon completion of this course students will have successfully:

- A. analyzed the major ancient river valley civilizations (SS2, SS5, SS6, SS7, 1.6)
- B. evaluated the classical Greek and Roman civilizations (SS2, 1.9)
- C. examined the major religions of the world and their impact on the values and beliefs of different cultures (SS6, 1.9)
- D. analyzed the social, economic, political and religious developments during the transition from ancient to modern civilization (SS2, SS4, 1.6)
- E. analyzed the major revolutions of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries (American, French, Industrial) to determine the causes of, development of and social, political and economic consequences of each (SS2, SS3, 4.3)
- F. analyzed the period of the World Wars to determine the causes and consequences of each and evaluate the peace efforts and other post-war reactions (SS2, 1.7)
- G. analyzed the post-world war world with an emphasis on the Cold War, Asian nations, the Middle East, Africa and Latin America (SS2, 1.9)
- H. met the literacy requirements for the Social Studies department
  1. read the equivalent of four books about world history (prepare a written book report for each and present one oral report)
  2. write weekly in class
  3. use technology to complete a major research paper-project each semester(the instructor reserves the right to alter the syllabus as needed.)

### **Required/Recommended Readings**

Reading requirements for this course are listed above.

### **Major Course Projects and Instructional Activities**

A variety of assignments will be made almost daily. On occasion, one of two basic types of assignments will also be given:

- A. required – this will be a big project (poster, report, timeline, portfolio, etc.) that will involve extra outside work. This assignment will be included in the regular, quarterly grade.
  - B. bonus – this will be an optional project for those who wish to earn extra credit.
- Periodic assignments will be made and a deadline date will be established.

### **Course Assessment Plan**

Percentages used to determine grades are based on an accumulated point total including all written work and tests. Students will be notified of their present grade at mid-quarter, at quarter end (via grade sheets) and on request.

There will be approximately twenty unit tests, most worth 100 points. Tests may consist of objective, open-ended response, and/or essay questions and will come from lecture/discussion, reading assignments, worksheets, audio-visual presentations, projects and other classroom activities and sources.

A study guide for tests will be provided (except, possibly, for the first test). Study guides are to be fully completed and can, at the instructor's discretion, be collected and graded.

There will be a comprehensive final at the end of each quarter. The Major Course Goals from page one will be covered in the following quarters: 1<sup>st</sup> Q = A, B; 2<sup>nd</sup> Q = C, D; 3<sup>rd</sup> Q = E, F; 4<sup>th</sup> Q = G (H throughout the year).

Pop quizzes can be given periodically at the instructor's discretion and will be worth five to twenty points. Pop quizzes may NOT be made up.

### **Classroom Expectations**

- A. Be prepared for class. Upon entering the room you should have completed the reading and/or homework assignment and have writing materials and textbook.
- B. Be on time! You will be considered tardy if you are not in your seat when the tardy bell rings.
- C. Each student is responsible for assignments missed. A "make-up" calendar is provided (on the corner of my desk) with any handouts provided in the appropriate folder beneath the calendar.
- D. Deadlines must be met. Do all work promptly.
- E. Appropriate classroom behavior is expected from everyone and will make the year more pleasant.
- F. The bell does NOT dismiss the class. The instructor dismisses the class.
- G. Please use black ink, blue ink, or black pencil for assignments.

### **Supplies and Materials Needed**

Students will need textbook, paper, a writing utensil and a folder specifically designated for World History on a daily basis. For projects and other activities it would be good to have colored pencils, poster board and other art supplies.

### **Homework Policy and Grading Scale**

Please refer to the student handbook for the Homework Policy. The grading scale is as follows:

A = 95-100%	B+ = 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69	F = 0-59
A- = 90-94	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66	
	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	D- = 60-62	

### **Extra Help**

Requests for extra help are always welcome. The best time, other than class time, to receive extra help is before school, immediately after school or during PASS on Tuesday or Thursday until 3:30 PM.

### **Contact Information**

Parents and students may email me at the school website (email is given below) or may contact me by phone.

Mr. Alex Redecker

Phone: 431-2616 Ext. 4144 at the following times:

Monday through Friday: 7:15-7:40 AM, 11:45 AM-12:45 PM or during PASS (Tuesday and Thursday)

Email Address: aredecker@central3.org