

Course: Humanities /World History 1 - Grade 9

Mr. George – sgeorge@hinghamschools.org | www.georgeacademics.com

School number: 781-741-1560 x2070

“Learn from yesterday. Live for today. Dream for tomorrow.”

Course Description

One of the overarching goals of the course is for students to develop the critical and analytical skills to detect the patterns, interdependence and evolution of world civilizations. The time frame of the course starts with an abbreviated introduction on the legacy of Mesopotamia. The foundation of the course begins with units Eastern and Western Civilizations. Drawing on these essential themes, students will then apply those themes to analyze the legacy of the following topics: Comparative Religions, Islam, China, Africa, India, European Middle Ages, Renaissance, Reformation, Scientific Revolution, Age of Exploration, and concluding the year with Absolutism, Enlightenment, and the French Revolution. In addition to the above content, all 9th grade social studies classes have a “character education” component. This includes the integration of such concepts as respect and responsibility within the historical context of the course. These concepts are examined as they relate to historical issues, events, and personalities.

OVERARCHING COURSE ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- *How is the modern world a legacy of the ancient world?*
- *How do historical patterns explain the development of civilizations?*
- *Why do empires rise and fall?*
- *How do belief systems define the purpose of life?*
- *How does geography impact a civilization?*
- *How does perspective influence the recording of history?*
- *To what extent do individuals or circumstances shape history?*

What do I need for this course?

- A 3-ring binder with 3-holed loose-leaf notebook paper (for notes, handouts)
- Pen/Pencil (something to write with)
- Class issued textbook
- Utilization of an agenda book

Homework:

There will be daily homework that will involve reading, taking notes or writing assignments.

Mr. George's Goals - I want student to:

- Build more confidence
- Think critically about issues and look at them from different points of view
- Improve their writing skills within the context of historical topics

Course Objectives - Students will:

- Develop learning strategies to be successful in the classroom (i.e. note-taking, time management, organizational skills, etc.)
- Analyze and reflect on course essential questions based on historical issues, events and people that can be applied and connected to today's world
- Demonstrate school-wide learning expectations by actively participating and positively contributing in a respectful manner within our classroom

Importance of Class Participation:

It is important that you participate as an attentive listener and speaker. There will be many opportunities for you to contribute to class discussions. I hope that you take advantage of this opportunity.

Assessments

There will be a variety of assessments to evaluate student progress and performance including:

- Participation / Demonstrating Respect in class
- Homework
- Quizzes, Tests, essays (including DBQ – document based questions), student-led discussions
- Term 4 Research Paper

Resources: World History: Patterns of Interaction, (2007), McDougal-Littell.

Turnitin.com Class Code: _____

Online textbook: details on class website (www.georgeacademics.com)

Classroom Expectations:

Students are expected to:

- “Be nice.”
- Develop good listening skills. Students will learn from him and from each other.
- Act respectfully towards him and each other. Put downs and swearing -not allowed.
- Express tolerance. Each student learns differently. Learn to value other students for their differences. The world and our class would be boring if we were all the same.
- Work cooperatively as part of a team.
- Be cordial to each other by saying “Please”, “Thank you”, and “You’re Welcome”.
- Come to class on time, prepared and organized for each class. It is suggested to use an agenda book or some other method of managing classroom responsibilities.
- Stay on task. Stay focused on classroom goals. The result will be high-quality work.

Students should expect the teacher to:

- “Be nice.”
- Create a positive learning environment that is entertaining and academically challenging.
- Act respectfully in the classroom.; Be reasonable and fair.
- Communicate progress or concerns;
- Provide student encouragement
- Be prepared for each class.

Weekly Rubric - Mr. George

Each week you will be evaluated based on your behavior, your class participation and how you act towards each other in the classroom.

	Beginning – 0 pts	Developing –5 pts	Exemplary –10 pts
Demonstrates Respect for Others & Class Participation	<p>Poor behavior. Disruptive to other students. Needs to be spoken to regarding behavior.</p> <p>Lack of respect is demonstrated in the classroom.</p> <p>Chooses to not participate in class activities or discussions. At times, refuses to participate.</p>	<p>Classroom behavior is acceptable. Acts respectful in the classroom.</p> <p>Participation in class activities and class discussions needs to be improved.</p> <p>Teacher needs student to become more involved/ active.</p>	<p>Classroom behavior is superior, professional, and a model of how the teacher would like students to behave.</p> <p>Demonstrates self-respect and respect for others at all times.</p> <p>Takes initiative and actively participates in all class activities and class discussions.</p> <p>Poses questions and responds to teacher & peer inquiries.</p>

Goal is to create an organized study resource

- 3-ring binder is very organized.
- All notes from textbook and all handouts are included in chronological order or by section i.e. Handouts, Study Guides, Notes, Openers, DBQs, etc.
- All notes are 3-hole punched and legible.
- Responses to all “class openers” are comprehensively answered and thoughtful.
- 3-ring binder will definitely be utilized as an organized study aid for assessments, mid-term exam or final exam.
- No materials from “other classes” are included with World History materials.
- All papers are going the correct “way”
- It would be easy for student to locate notes/materials for a topic upon request.

How will you be successful in this course?

- Come to class on time and prepared
- Use your agenda book to keep track of homework and assignments (due dates)
- Actively take notes in class (it’s not a spectator sport)
- Figure out the best way for you to study for assessments
- Keep your 3-ring binder organized so you can use it as a study resource and so you can find everything that you’re looking for when you want it
- Don’t wait until the last minute to complete assignments
- Don’t wait until the last minute to prepare for assessments
- Ask questions in class
- If you have any questions - contact me (in class or via email). Advocate for yourself.
- Use the class web site as a resource
- Ultimately, your effort and desire to do well (you have to care more about your grades than anyone else on the planet) is directly related to the grades you will earn.