

World History

Rules and Policies

Mrs. Fine

Welcome to World History! This course is designed to challenge your cognitive skills and create a base for further social studies learning. We will explore historical geography, social, political & economic trends and use of primary sources. So put on your thinking caps and let's have some fun!

General Rules:

1. Respect.

- A. You are always encouraged to express your opinions on the subject at hand.
- B. Always allow others to express their opinions on the subject at hand.
- C. No cheating is allowed. Anyone found guilty of academic dishonesty [talking or communicating during an exam, test or quiz period (even if the student is finished with their own assessment), looking at another's paper, using unauthorized notes, working past time allowed for an exam or test, plagiarizing another's work in any form] will receive a zero on the work in question, parental contact and a referral to the appropriate Assistant Principal. A student will receive a "FAIL" in the course if this behavior occurs a second time. These consequences may be revised per school policy.
- D. No cursing! Students and adults cursing in class will be subject to a fine of \$1 per utterance. The money collected goes toward classroom supplies and/or improvements.
- E. Students will be allowed to take bathroom or locker trips via the class pass, one at a time. Students will hand in their electronics (phones, blackberries, ipods, etc.) in exchange for the class pass. Loss of this privilege may occur at any point that it is abused or the class pass is lost.
- F. Water bottles will be allowed in class to encourage appropriate hydration.
- G. Avoid eating in class! Food can be eaten in the hallway or between classes.
- H. Always sit in your assigned seat.

2. Responsibility.

- A. Always ask questions when you do not understand an assignment.
- B. All work must be completed on time. Late assignments will be deducted 50%.
- C. Students are expected to bring all required materials to each class.
- D. Check with friends or online for assignments – remember that I do not post assignments on www.JupiterGrades.com but on www.historyadventure.com! Assignments are also posted on the whiteboards in class every day! You can also email Mrs. Fine at afine@bhusd.com.
- E. A student with a single-day excused absence will be allowed to make up homework within a one-day school extension. Extended absences must be discussed with the teacher prior to or on the day of the student's return to class. Please remember to excuse your absences through the Attendance Office and fill out the proper forms.
- E. Always write your name on your work (no name = -5 points).

3. Integrity.

- A. No cheating is allowed. Anyone found guilty of academic dishonesty [talking or communicating during an exam, test or quiz period (even if the student is finished with their own assessment), looking at another's paper, using unauthorized notes, working past time allowed for an exam or test, plagiarizing another's work in any form] will receive a zero on the work in question, parental contact and a referral to the appropriate Assistant Principal. A student will receive a "FAIL" in the course if this behavior occurs a second time. These consequences may be revised per school policy.
- B. World History is a tech-enabled classroom. Students are allowed to use their personal technology as well as selected classroom/department items (iPads, NEOs, computers & ENO board) in the classroom FOR ACADEMIC PURPOSES ONLY! Students who fail to use technology for academic purposes, will have the technology removed per school policy.
- C. Complete your own work! You'll learn more from it!

4. Tardies and Absences:

- A. Tardiness will not be tolerated. More than two tardies per semester will result in a deduction of points from your overall grade (0.6% per tardy) per school policy. Also, per new school policy, excessive tardies will also result in parental contact, possible detention and demotion of conduct grades. Points deducted can be offset through additional, appropriate participation in class (on-topic additional current events, aiding in classroom maintenance during lunch, etc.).

- B. Absence from class, whether excused or unexcused affects your participation. Points deducted can be offset through additional, appropriate participation in class (on-topic additional current events, aiding in classroom maintenance during lunch, etc.). Unexcused absences will result in deduction of your overall grade per our school policy (each unexcused absence is -3% from overall grade). Other consequences may ensue, per school policy.
- C. A student with a single-day excused absence will be allowed to make up homework within a one-day school extension. Extended absences must be discussed with the teacher prior to or on the day of the student's return to class.

Materials For This Course:

1. Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction textbook
2. Binder
3. Loose-leaf
4. writing utensil (pen or pencil)
5. email account
6. School Network access (see Ms. Reilly in the main office if you have not already filled out an Acceptable Use Policy and password request form)
7. Classroom web site at www.historyadventure.com
8. McDougal Littell website for more practice & helpful hints: www.classzone.com
9. Accounts at www.JupiterGrades.com and www.JunoEd.com

Grading:

Grades in World History are weighted. Therefore, students and parents who wish to keep track of grades may check the www.snapgrades.com website (more info to come) starting three weeks after the beginning of the semester. This will be updated as frequently as possible. If you do not have access to the Internet, I will print out a copy of your progress report via written request. Students with a "D" or "F" will automatically receive an email copy of their progress report (parents should also receive a copy).

Participation & Attendance	15%
Homework & Class work	30%
Tests, Projects & Quizzes	40%
Final Exam	15%
Total	100%

I have provided the formula for those who wish to calculate their own grades. For the semester grade, the two quarter grades are averaged with the semester exam, which counts for 15% of that grade. I have found that by calculating grades in this way, students have the best chance of earning the grade they wish to.

Semester Formula: (Participation)(.15)+ (HW)(.3)+(Tests)(.4) + (Exam)(.15) = Semester Grade

Letter Grades:

Following is a listing of the letter grades and cut offs in this class. **These grades are not negotiable!!!!** Therefore, start working early in the semester, not in the last three weeks to avoid letter grade problems.

- A = 89.5-100%**
- B = 79.5-89.4%**
- C = 69.5-79.4%**
- D = 59.5-69.4%**
- F = 0-59.4%**

Participation & Attendance:

Much of your graded work will be accomplished in class through discussions. Therefore, attendance is key toward a good participation grade. Appropriate participation is defined as verbalizations aligned with the topic under discussion, whether it be a question or a comment. Active participation is key to high participation marks! Additional participation points can be earned via extra, on topic current events, voluntary classroom maintenance during lunch, etc.

Homework & Classwork:

All homework assignments, text notes, handouts, and class notes will be expected to be neatly kept in a binder, or section of a binder specifically for history. It is recommended that you have two sections in your binder – one for permanent papers such as the rules and assignments sheet, and another for your current chapter's work. I would highly suggest keeping all of your work in a safe place at home so that you can review it for the semester final. Homework will be spot checked so always complete it and have it ready in your binder!

Each student will receive a copy of the semester's assignments on the first day of class. Students who lose their assignments sheet can obtain another copy at the class web site www.historyadventure.com. **It is the student's responsibility to know of and hand in homework when absent.**

Homework may be turned in via hard copy, email (to Mrs. Fine at afine@bhusd.com), email attachment in Word® or PDF format, DVD, flash drive or fax (to Mrs. Fine's attention, 310-286-7446). Late work will be deducted 50% (it must be handed in by the second week before grades are due. Students should check their calendars for the exact date). Homework that is not turned in will receive an automatic zero, unless turned in for late credit.

Tests:

Tests will occur after each unit, and in addition to the student's copy of the semester's assignments, will be announced one week prior to the test date. Be prepared for vocabulary terms, identification of people, events, places, and essays. These tests are not just recall of facts, but synthesis and analysis of how those facts relate to the major themes and skills presented in each chapter! Study guides will be available online at the beginning of each chapter. Students with excused absences should be prepared to make up the missed test upon their return, or make arrangements with the teacher to have their next test doubled. Tests cannot be tripled or quadrupled – therefore, previous missed tests will be counted as zero. Students with special needs should make arrangements **before** the exam dates. Tests and projects will be kept in a classroom folder. Parents and students will be able to view this work upon request.

Projects:

Projects are an opportunity for students to further explore a desired area of history. A variety of projects will be assigned throughout the year including PowerPoint® presentations, reviews of historical movies, web pages, artistic models and group videos. These shall be assigned to students for completion in and out of the classroom. **As these projects will be announced ahead of time, students must hand in the projects on time, EVEN IF THEY ARE ABSENT & EXCUSED.** Failure to do so will result in a deduction of 10 points per day late. Students with special needs should make arrangements **before** the due date!

Quizzes:

Quizzes are unannounced and designed to test recall of homework and reading assignments.

Exams:

Semester exams will cover all major topics studied during the semester. Students should be prepared for short answer, multiple choice, matching and essays. Exams will last 2 hours. Students with special needs should make arrangements **before** the exam dates. Exam dates are listed on the student's semester assignments sheet. Exams are worth 15% of the student's semester grade.

Course of Study:

We will survey the major points in World History from the Greco-Roman period to the present day, as well as current events and geography. Fall semester specifically will cover Monotheistic religions, Greco-Roman times, development of democracy in Britain, Renaissance & Reformation, Scientific Revolution, Enlightenment, American Revolution, French Revolution, Nationalism, Industrial Revolution & Imperialism. Spring Semester will cover World War I, Interwar Years, World War II, Cold War & Modern Era. Please remember that this is a survey course and covers a lot of ground quickly. Students will have opportunities to study select periods in more depth.

Advanced Placement Courses:

Students who are interested, must earn an A first semester AND have a 3.5 GPA can fill out an application for automatic admission to AP European History and/or AP United States History. Students who do not have these

pre-requisites, may take an entrance essay exam to earn a spot in these classes. AP Government/Honors Economics and AP Comparative Politics are open access course designed for seniors – just fill out the application and tell your counselor!

Further Questions?

There is a class web site at www.historyadventure.com, which should answer most questions. Students and Parents are welcome to conduct conferences or ask questions by appointment during my preparation period 3, lunch, and after school. You may leave a message on my voice mail at 310-551-5100 extension 8212. You may also email me at afine@bhusd.com. I will return your call or email as soon as possible.

I look forward to a wonderful year!

A. Fine

Student and Parent or Guardian:

By signing this paper you are acknowledging that you understand the demands and responsibilities of this World History Course. This sheet should be returned tomorrow and will be placed in the student's work file folder.

I look forward to working with all of you this year!

A. Fine

Student Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Name (Printed)