**2017-18 World History Course Syllabus**

**Contact Info**

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**Course Outline**

The course will be broken up into four main areas of study:

1. The Enlightenment & Revolutions
2. Industrialism and the Race for Empire
3. The World at War
4. Postwar and Current Issues

**Semester One**

1. Revolutions and the Enlightenment
   * In the 1600s and 1700s, a new shift in ideas brought about much social, political and economic change. We will look at the most important ideas and examine their impact.
   * One result of this change in thinking was the overthrow of existing governments. We will attempt to understand the causes, characteristics and impacts of the revolutions in America, France, Haiti and other countries.
2. Industrialism and the Race for Empire
   * The invention of various technological processes created an explosion in demand for resources in the 18th and 19th centuries. This class will look at the impact of the Industrial Revolution from two key perspectives: How did urbanization and the shift from agrarian (farm-based) work to factory work impact peoples’ lives? And how did this new demand for resources affect the behavior of industrializing nations?

**Semester Two**

1. The World at War
   * What were the main causes, characteristics and impacts of WWI and WWII? In particular, what can we learn from these conflicts that might help us to prevent future conflict, and also understand some of the problems that the world is currently facing?
   * After WWII, what were the reasons that led to the Cold War between the U.S. and Soviet Union, and what were the significant institutions developed during this time that allowed the U.S. to reach new levels of power?
2. Postwar and Current Issues
   * Since the fall of the Soviet Union, the world has experienced dramatic changes from globalization, technological advances and the establishment of new countries
   * What are the issues that we face in this new world? To end the course, we will examine some of the most pressing problems in the world today, including global terrorism, wealth inequality, climate change, and the challenge of democratic ideals.

**Textbook**

*Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction*

**Class Policies**

* Attendance – Your attendance is required in order for you to be successful in this class. **It is also YOUR responsibility to make sure you are aware of any missed work or assignments that result from absences.**
* Late work – Work turned in after the due date will be penalized 20% per day (i.e. 1 day late = a max score of 80%, 2 days late = a max score of 60%, etc.). Students will have one day per day absent to turn in missed work. If you know you will need to miss class, or may need extra time for an assignment, PLEASE talk to me beforehand so we can make an arrangement.
* Tardiness – You are expected to be in your seat and ready to begin class when the final bell rings. Excessive tardiness will result in parent notification and possible discipline, including referral and/or detention.
* Electronic devices – Unless specifically asked by me to use them, I should not see your cell phones, iPads, laptops, etc. during class. As with tardiness, excessive use of cell phones without permission may result in disciplinary actions including parent notification/meetings, referral and/or detention.
* Cheating/Plagiarism – DON’T. Violations will result in a grade of 0 and notification of parents and administration.
* Preparation: All students should come prepared with necessary supplies. If you have any trouble bringing basic school supplies please talk with me individually and we can work something out.

**Infinite Campus**

All assignments and grades will be posted on Infinite Campus (IC). Students are expected to check IC regularly for any updates and comments from the teacher, and to ensure that their scores have been entered correctly.

**Grading**

The following is an approximate breakdown of the scoring for the class:

Homework and in-class assignments – 35%

Essays & Projects – 30%

Tests & Quizzes - 35%

As an IB World School for the Middle Years Programme, students will be assessed on four MYP criteria (A, B, C, and D) for all subject areas. Teachers will use IB MYP rubrics to assess the knowledge, understanding, and skills of each student’s performance and not an average of points for these assessments.

The four criteria for World History (Individuals & Societies) are:

Criterion A: Knowing & Understanding

Criterion B: Investigating

Criterion C: Communicating

Criterion D: Thinking Critically

MYP assessments will be scored on a scale from 0-8. These 0-8 scores will be converted to a percentage that reflects the appropriate letter grade. Without this conversion, a student receiving a 4 on an MYP assessment would receive a 50%. However, MYP does not consider a 4 an F.

The grade conversion will be as follows for World History:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| MYP Rubric Score | Traditional Score |
| 8 | 100 A |
| 7 | 92 A- |
| 6 | 87 B |
| 5 | 82 B- |
| 4 | 77 C |
| 3 | 72 C- |
| 2 | 67 D |
| 1 | 62 D- |
| 0 | 0 |

Students will be assessed using MYP rubrics for all MYP objective strands at least once per semester and twice per academic year. These achievement level scores will be reported in Infinite Campus.

**Final grades**

Students will receive a traditional letter grade (A-F) and a final MYP grade (1-8) for their achievement at the end of the course.

To determine the final MYP grade, teachers will add together the student’s final achievement levels in all criteria (A+B+C+D) of the subject group. That sum total will determine the MYP final grade.

**Students:** Your signature below acknowledges you have read, understood and have discussed the syllabus for Mr. Overstreet’s World History class with your parents/guardians.

**Parents:** Your signature below acknowledges that you have read the information contained on the class syllabus. **Please have your student return this page** with both of your signatures. Copies of the syllabus will be available on my school website.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_