

World History

Mr. Adkins

2007-2008

Course Goals:

Students will gain an understanding of important historical events that have shaped the modern world. A special emphasis will be placed on the development of the nation state because of its importance in the modern world. Students will also compare events and developments from varying regions in a historical context in order to make connections and find commonality in World History.

Course Content:

In order to be congruent with our school-wide theme of Celebrating Differences, we will begin with a study of Imperial Japan. This will give students a different perspective on the issues covered in our all school read, Farewell to Manzanar. We will then follow the logical progression with an in depth study of the twentieth century.

After we complete our study of the twentieth century we will “go back in time”, topics covered will include:

Ancient Greece and Rome
Renaissance and Reformation

Medieval Europe
Early Modern Europe

The Crusades
World Religions

Text:

Students will not be issued a set year-long textbook. Instead we will use a variety of sources, with a focus on primary documents. At times students will work from a textbook in class, and may be asked to take it home to complete homework assignments.

Student Responsibilities:

-Each student is expected to arrive on time for class daily, and to follow all school and class rules.

-Students are required to bring a small amount of supplies to class with them daily. These include but are not limited to your WRUS Planner, pencil, notebook or three ring binder, and laptop.

Grading Policy:

-Each student will receive a letter grade on each assignment (A-F) in accordance with the WRUS grading policy. For percentages and their corresponding letter grade please see your WRUS Student Handbook

-Final Grades will be calculated as follows:

- 1. Tests, Quizzes and Long Term Assignments... ..**40%**
- 2. Homework Assignments.....**20%**
- 3. Class Participation.....**20%**
- 4. Journal.....**10%**
- 5. Readiness.....**10%**

-Each Homework assignment will be graded as either Complete (100%), Incomplete (50 or 75% at my discretion) or not attempted (0%). You will not have homework every day so it is important to complete each assignment.

-Readiness is a measure of each student’s preparedness for class daily. Students will be scored as ready by arriving for class on time with the required materials and finding their seats. Students who are tardy or do not have the required materials may be scored as not ready for that class period.

-There will be extra credit opportunities throughout the year for those students who are interested.

-The Readiness and Homework scoring system, along with Class participation means over half of your grade will be based on effort. Being ready for, and participating in class each day will go a long way toward your final grade.

Absences:

-Students who miss class due to excused absences will be given an opportunity to complete make up work. It is the student’s responsibility to ask me about missed

assignments on the day of their return. I am also happy to go over any notes or lessons you may have missed upon request.

Computer Policy :

-Each student’s laptop will be an important part of class. Failing to bring it to class will impact your readiness grade. Repeatedly failing to bring it to class could also impact your grade for class participation.

-Students are expected to use the laptop for **class related activities** only while class is in session.

-If a student is using their computer inappropriately it will be taken away until the end of class. Students are still responsible for class materials covered if their computer use is restricted.

Extra Help/Contact Info-

Please feel free to ask me if you think you need extra help. I will be available for Friday afternoon tutorials, and am also willing to set up other times when we can meet to ensure you feel comfortable about the materials we have covered in class.

Parents, feel free to contact me at any time during the semester with questions about the course or your student. Communication between teacher and parents is a great way to ensure your student comes home with a satisfactory grade. I can be reached daily at WRUS.

I can also be reached by email at: andyadkins@wyeriverupperschool.org.

Or by phone (before 8:30 please) at 410-827-8667.

Signature: Please Sign and Return

I have read and understand the policies and guidelines of this syllabus.

_____ Student
_____ Parent