

6th Grade World History
Miss Smith
Syllabus 2011-2012

Welcome to 6th grade World History. I expect that each student in my classroom will give his or her best effort. While we explore ancient civilizations and geography, I expect that you will complete your assignments and that you communicate with me if you need assistance. I am here to help you in any way I can. Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have any problems, questions, or concerns.

I request that both students and parents sign and return the last page of this letter indicating that you have read the procedures and agree to cooperate with them.

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*Please feel free to check Edline. News, assignments, and grades are updated frequently.

Textbooks:

The textbooks that we will use include the following:

📖 This year we will be using the *Ancient World* and *Medieval Times to Today* for our texts. These books do not have many resources and are in short supply. Other outside resources will be used to supplement the text. Books may be checked out by request but must be returned.

Scope and Sequence (Tentative)

1st Quarter - Five Themes of Geography, Beginning of Human Society (Prehistory),
Ancient Egypt

2nd Quarter - The Fertile Crescent: Mesopotamia, Ancient Africa, Ancient Americas

3rd Quarter - Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome

4th Quarter - Ancient India, Ancient China

In addition to these themes, we will constantly explore other social sciences. Students will learn economic principles, philosophy and government to help construct an understanding of the events being studied. We will also explore current events from around the world to gain perspective about the lives of others and our own.

Supplies

- ✎ Subject Notebook
 - ✎ Blue Duo-Tang Folder w/pockets (One per quarter!)
 - ✎ Loose-leaf Notebook Paper
 - ✎ 2 Pens (blue or black ink only)
 - ✎ 2 Pencils/Pencil Sharpener
 - ✎ Colored pencils or markers
 - ✎ Two Highlighters
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Grading

Assignments have the following point values:

Tests and Book Reports 35%

All tests & major projects/book reports will be announced approximately one month in advance. If you are planning on being absent the day a project is due, **YOU MUST HAND IN THE PROJECT A DAY EARLY**. Any projects that are late will receive half credit. If a test is missed due to absenteeism, it will be made up the day the student returns to class. Major tests & quizzes that receive a failing grade will require parent/guardian signatures.

Quizzes 30%

Expect quizzes on materials covered in class. Students should go over their notes nightly to prepare for unannounced pop quizzes. Students must make up all missed quizzes on the following Friday or at lunch. If a student is absent and misses a quiz, he or she will also be expected to make up the day they return, unless special circumstances apply.

HOMEWORK/CLASSWORK 30%

All homework **MUST** be neat and on loose-leaf paper. **NO SPIRAL NOTEBOOK EDGES PLEASE!!** All homework assignments must be completed in blue or black pen, unless otherwise specified. Late homework will be accepted within a reasonable time frame, subject to a grade reduction. Each student will keep notes in his or her notebook. Notes are an important part of this class, and I will be checking your notebooks periodically to make sure you are completing them as they are assigned.

Bell Work 5%

Each class period will begin with Bell Work, which will be posted clearly on the board. Students must begin Bell Work immediately after writing homework assignments in the Agenda.

Grade Book Translation:

E= Exempt- You do not have to make it up.

X= Absent or Unfinished- MUST be made up, or will turn to an "F" / ZERO at the end of the quarter.

Students should **keep everything** handed back for the entire quarter.

(Please feel free to check Edline on the school website for weekly updates).

If you are absent: You are responsible for all make-up work. You must ask. It is your responsibility.

You have the same number of days you were absent to make up work. (Ex. 2 days absent

= 2 days to make up). It is your responsibility to check the assignment calendar and/or ask your study buddy to see what you missed.

All major assignment/projects that are assigned at least 3 weeks in advance MUST BE TURNED IN ON THE DUE DATE EVEN IF YOU ARE ABSENT THAT DAY!!! If you know you are going to be absent, you must turn the project/assignment in EARLY.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

1. Take care of your business before class (drinks/restrooms). Passes will only be issued for emergency situations.
2. Bring **two** (working) writing instruments—don't disrupt class to sharpen pencils!
3. Enter classroom quietly and sit in assigned seat.
4. Write homework in Agenda.
5. Begin Bell Work immediately.
6. Wait for further instructions from teacher.
7. If you finish work early:
 - work on another assignment or
 - read a book quietly.
8. Teacher dismisses you at the end of the period, not the bell!

RULES

1. Respect teacher, other students, and classroom equipment
2. Follow directions the FIRST time they are given
3. Remain in your seat at all times unless given permission to get up
4. Remain quiet during class unless given permission to speak - voices should always stay at a low volume
5. Bring all books and materials to class
6. Come to class ready to work and with a good attitude

CONSEQUENCES

- First Offense: The Look or Verbal warning
- Second Offense: You owe me a handwritten copy of the classroom rules.
- Third Offense: You owe me an essay with a parent signature.
- Fourth offense: Morning Detention!
- Fifth offense: County referral.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT STEPS CAN BE OMITTED IF AN OFFENSE IS SEVERE ENOUGH!

Other Expectations/Procedures:

Quieting the class: Students will observe the "Give Me Five" procedure. Teacher will stand in front of the class with hand raised. Students will focus on teacher and follow the 5 steps:

1. Eyes on speaker
2. Quiet
3. Be still
4. Hands free (put things down)
5. Listen

Assignments: All assignments and homework will be posted with a due date on the Homework/Assignment Board in the classroom. Students are responsible for checking this board daily and writing assignments in their agenda book. Papers handed in without names and numbers will be discarded. Even if your child does not have assigned homework, they should spend at least 10-20 minutes a night reviewing the concepts and vocabulary taught in class that day, or 20-30 minutes reading their book report novel.

Team News: Please keep in mind that you should check www.ssas.org for the weekly Team News. While I try and keep everything as up to date as possible, there are instances where the schedule may be off. **Please note that your child will/should change their agenda if this occurs.** Team News is subject to change, but it is an invaluable tool that you should use to keep up to date with your child's LA class.

Text Books: SSA+S prefers that you use the online text book. Should you need a hard back text book, they are available via parent request. We also have text books on CD-Rom. Should your child check out a text book/ CD-ROM and misplace or lose it you will be held responsible for the replacement cost.

Bathroom: Students should use the restroom before or after class EXCEPT for emergencies. If a bathroom pass is needed, student must fill out Agenda and bring it to the teacher. The student is also responsible for signing out in the binder by the door.

Tardy: Students will be marked tardy if they are not **in their seats, working** when the bell rings. **Being tardy to class four or more times equals an automatic detention.**

Donations: Donations for the classroom are always welcome! These can include used/new novels, markers, colored pencils, construction paper, Sunday comics, magazines (for creative projects), etc. Please see Edline for the teacher wish list.

Contacting the teacher: I can be contacted at the following email address: ElizabethSmith@ssas.org. I try to answer emails within 24 hours. If you email me on the weekend, please do not be alarmed if you do not hear back from me until Monday. **I would greatly appreciate an email within the first week of school so that I have your contact information handy. Please email me as soon as possible with your student's name and period in the subject line.**

Paper Heading Example:

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First Name Last Name Student Number Class Period Date Quarter

Any papers handed in without names and numbers will be promptly discarded!

	Joe Student #15 P.4 8/19/2011 Q.1
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SAMPLE

YE OLDE HISTORY DEPARTMENT BEHAVIOR ESSAY

DIRECTIONS: WHEN ASSIGNED THIS BEHAVIOR ESSAY, THE STUDENT IS ENJOINED TO COPY THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS AND THEN TO DESCRIBE IN A SUBSEQUENT PARAGRAPH THEIR TRANSGRESSIONS AGAINST THE CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL WIDE RULES AND HOW TO AVOID REPEATING SAID HISTORICAL MISTAKES (COPY THE FIRST AND SECOND PARAGRAPHS AND THEN EXPLAIN WHAT YOU DID AND HOW YOU WILL CHANGE THIS IN THE FUTURE).

WHEN IN THE COURSE OF HUMAN EVENTS IT BECOMES NECESSARY FOR ONE TEACHER TO ENFORCE THE BEHAVIORAL BANDS WHICH HAVE CONNECTED THEM WITH THEIR STUDENTS AND TO ASSUME AMONG THE POWERS OF SSA+S, THE SEPARATE AND EQUAL STATION TO WHICH THE RULES OF THE SCHOOL ENTITLE THEM, A DECENT RESPECT TO THE RULES OF SSA+S REQUIRES THAT THEY SHOULD DECLARE THE CAUSES WHICH IMPEL THE STUDENT TO VIOLATE THE AFOREMENTIONED RULES.

WE HOLD THESE TRUTHS TO BE SELF-EVIDENT, THAT ALL STUDENTS ARE HELD TO CERTAIN EXPECTATIONS, THAT THEY ARE GOVERNED BY CERTAIN RULES, THAT AMONG THESE ARE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES TO LEARN, TO NOT INTERFERE WITH THE LEARNING OF OTHERS AND TO TREAT THEIR TEACHERS AND CLASSMATES WITH RESPECT. – THAT TO SECURE THE RIGHTS OF ALL STUDENTS TO LEARN, RULES ARE INSTITUTED AMONG THEM, DERIVING THEIR JUST POWERS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF OF SSA+S, – THAT WHENEVER ANY FORM OF BEHAVIOR BECOMES DESTRUCTIVE OF THESE ENDS, IT IS THE RIGHT OF THE TEACHER TO ALTER OR TO PREVENT IT, AND TO INSTITUTE NEW LEARNING, LAYING ITS FOUNDATION ON SUCH PRINCIPLES AND ORGANIZING ITS POWERS IN SUCH FORM, AS TO THE TEACHER SHALL SEEM MOST LIKELY TO EFFECT THE LEARNING AND SAFETY OF ALL THE STUDENTS.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS ENTIRE PAGE TO CLASS. THANK YOU.
DUE _____

I look forward to an exciting year with all of you!

Please fill out the following page and turn it in by Friday.

I have read Miss Smith's rules and expectations and agree to cooperate with them. I understand that if I choose to break a rule, there will be consequences.

Student

Date

I have read Miss Smith's rules and expectations and agree to support them.

Parent Name

Date

Parent Signature

Phone

Reminder-

Please email ElizabethSmith@ssas.org with your child's name and SS period in the subject line!

Also, please circle if you are able to go online and check Edline: Yes or No

*Those who circle 'No,' would you like a phone call update about your child's progress and classroom news? If so, how frequently?