

6th Grade World History

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COURSE SYLLABUS 2011-2012

Welcome to the 2011-2012 school year. I hope you had a restful summer vacation. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to my class and to provide you with an outline of expectations and class procedures. If you have any questions/concerns, please let me know promptly.

This year, we will be studying the history of the ancient world. Throughout the course we will develop Social Studies skills that will be also be applicable for success in other academic subjects.

I am looking forward to a great year with all of you!

REQUIRED MATERIALS

Each student is required to bring the following materials to class on a daily basis. Being prepared is critical to success within the learning environment in and out of school.

- 2 pencils (#2)
- 2 erasable pens (black or blue)
- 1 highlighter
- 4 Blue Duo tang folders (1 per quarter)
- One subject spiral notebook

TEXTBOOKS:

This year we will be using the *Ancient World* and *Medieval Times to Today* for our texts. As books are in short supply, students will not have a copy to use at home (a limited number may be checked out upon request).

MAJOR UNITS OF STUDY

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

GRADES

Grades are calculated using the following formula:

- 35% Tests (projects)
- 30% Quizzes
- 30% Homework / Classwork
- 5% Bellwork

Classwork and Homework=30% - Classwork will be assigned and assessed at least 3 times a week. It is the student's responsibility to make up missed work during absences. Students are still responsible for the work assigned, even if they were not in attendance for class that day. Sometimes work will be graded for completion and sometimes it will be graded for accuracy.

Tests/Projects=35% - Tests and projects are the most challenging component of the course. The projects are assigned with plenty of advance notice and should not be done the night before they are due. The projects will involve 3 major aspects: Research, Creative Design, and Presentation.

The tests in History are designed to be challenging. Test questions will assess knowledge on various levels of thinking. This means that tests require an understanding of the material rather than just memorization. One night of cramming with a study guide will not counteract weeks of not paying attention, participating in class or completing class assignments. I will always in advance supply the student with a study guide to help them in their studying for tests to come.

Quizzes=30% - Quizzes will have greater frequency than tests and will account for 35% of the student's grade. Quizzes will require studying but will not require the intensity that tests will. Expect a quiz ever 1-2 weeks.

Bellwork=5%- Bellwork is always completed at the beginning of class. Bellwork will serve to review major concepts.

FOLDERS

Students are expected to keep ALL assignments organized in a folder with pockets and prongs. This will serve as a portfolio of work that will assist in the completion of tests, quizzes, and projects. Folders should be brought to every class period.

WALL BINS:

All assignments to be turned in should be placed into the appropriate wall bin before the bell rings.

EDLINE:

It is the responsibility of parents and students to monitor grades on a regular basis. Grades are updated to Edline at least once a week (usually on Friday afternoon). Edline grades are current at the time they are posted. Grades for late work / make-up work may not be immediately available on Edline. Edline is the teacher's primary line of communication to parents regarding academic progress. Therefore, it is imperative that students and parents check Edline on a consistent basis and forward any questions and/or access issues to the teacher promptly.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS

I have high expectations for all students at all times. Students are expected to show respect for others at all times. Having a positive attitude and doing your best will help you be successful in World History.

CLASSROOM RULES:

1. Respect others
2. Be prepared for class
3. Follow all teacher instructions immediately
4. Raise your hand to speak
5. Follow all school and classroom procedures

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES:

- Students are expected to be in their seats silently working by the time the bell rings.
- Students will hand in assignments to the wall bins and clear their desks of all materials not required for History class before the bell rings.
- Students will remain on task and will follow all rules, procedures, and teacher instructions for the duration of class.
- The classroom will be clean and orderly before students are permitted to leave.
- The teacher will dismiss students, not the bell.

PROCEDURES (continued)

Tardies: A student will be marked tardy if they are not in their seat working by the time the bell rings. Three tardies will result in a detention.

Restroom: Students should use the restroom before or after class, unless in the case of an emergency. If a restroom pass is needed during class, students must fill out a pass in their Agenda and bring it to the teacher quietly. There is no need to raise your hand and ask permission for a pass. Excessive requests to use the restroom during class will be followed up with a phone call home.

“Give Me Five” will be utilized when the teacher needs the immediate attention of all students.

1. Eyes on the Speaker
2. Quiet
3. Be Still
4. Hands Free (put things down)
5. Listen

DISCIPLINE POLICY:

When a student violates a class rule, the following consequences will be served.

1. Verbal Warning or Acknowledgement (A look or tap on the desk)
2. Class rules writing assignment
3. Behavioral Essay
4. Detention
5. County Referral (Suspension from school)

Student or parent refusal for student to write classroom rules or behavior essay, and also a refusal to do a morning detention will be considered as a fifth offense.

If an offense at the discretion of the teacher, is severe enough the first two steps can be omitted resulting in the third step, as long as a phone call from the teacher accompanies this action of discipline.

Rewards:

- Praise/ Smiles from your teacher
- The satisfaction of a job well done
- Positive Notes home
- Stickers

Tips for Success

1. Be at school. Make up work can be overwhelming when many days are missed, not to mention learning the lessons missed.
2. Work hard in and out of class. Your teachers hold high expectations and your future bosses will hold ever higher expectations. It is important that you learn to work hard now.
3. Take advantage of extra help. If someone is willing to help you at school or at home, take the opportunity for extra practice and help.
4. Do not procrastinate to complete assignments. Begin working on assignments when they are assigned. Other assignment or tests may be assigned in other classes which can lead to an overwhelming amount of work.

Remember, if you have any questions/concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please sign and return the last page of this syllabus by Friday.

Please fill out this page and turn it in by Friday of this week.
If you have any additional questions and/or concerns, please note them on this sheet.

STUDENT NAME AND CLASS PERIOD (Please Print!)

I have e read Ms. Shepherd's syllabus, including rules and expectations. I agree to cooperate with them and understand that if I choose to break a rule, there will be consequences.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

DATE

I have read and understand Ms. Shepherd's syllabus and agree to support class policies.

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME (Please Print!)

DATE

PARENT / GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

Additional questions/concerns: