

World History & Cultures
Community Partnerships Academy

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Course Description:

A state requirement, World History and Cultures is a general survey course, studying and exploring the last 200 years of human history. In addition to studying the themes of **cause** and **effect** within history, students will be answering the essential question,

“What happens when cultures touch?”

Skill Objectives and Outcomes:

Students will...

- *examine World History as outlined in the California state standards.*
- *build on the state standards by connecting how history explains why the world is the way it currently is.*
- *examine current events and how these events are related to historical events and people.*
- *expand on communication skills, refining speaking, writing, and listening in small groups and in whole classroom settings.*
- *expand on behaviors and skills necessary for success, such as note taking, organization, and responsibility for academic work.*
- *build and add to research skills, including parenthetical citations and analysis.*
- *build and add to their critical thinking skills, learning to be better questioners and become life long learners.*

Course Content:

Introduction: The State of the World, 2007

What’s going on in the world today and how does it affect me? Is history important?

Unit I – Culture, Clash, and Religion

Can religions coexist peacefully?

Unit II – Rise of Democracy: The Culture of Government & Revolution

Can people be trusted to govern themselves?

Unit III: From Farms to Factories: The Industrial Revolution and Its Impacts

What is a government’s responsibility to its citizens?

Unit IV: Markets and Materials: The New Imperialism and the New Nationalism

Who benefits from imperialism?

Unit V: The Long War: World War I, World War II, and the Cold War

When is it right for a country to go to war?

Unit VI: Resistance and Revolution: National Liberation and National Identity in the 20th Century *What is the best way to make change – reform or revolution?*

Grades/Credit:

The way I grade is relatively simple: *Each assignment we do is worth points. The more important an assignment is, the more points the assignment is worth. At the end of the grading period I add up all the points, do a little division, and arrive at your grade.*

Instructional Materials:

- **TEXTBOOK** – Your textbook should be left at home. Reading assignments will be assigned and you must be responsible for the readings.
- **3 RING BINDER** – where articles, notes, and handouts can be stored.
- **NOTEBOOK/LOOSE PAPER**
- **WRITING INSTRUMENT**
- **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENT:** you must have access to a computer, have an appropriate email address, and a USB flash drive.

Computer or printer problems are not an excuse for late work.

Current Events Requirement:

Current events become history! Because of this, up to 5% of your grade will depend on you keeping up with what is going on in the news of the world. So start reading that front page and watch the first 15 minutes of the 5 o'clock news. (Don't worry!...if you make even the smallest effort, this will be easy!)

Late Policy:

Assignments will be reduced 10% for each day of lateness and will not be accepted after **THREE** days without an excused absence. Extensions for excused absences must be arranged with the teacher immediately upon return.

Classroom Expectations and Other things:

- **Responsibility** – This means exactly what it sounds like. Be responsible for your education and your actions, after all most of you will be in the “real world” in a year.
- **Respect** – Respect yourself, your peers, your teacher, our classroom, and the learning process.
- **Presence** – Embrace your education! Come to class on time, bring what you need, and focus on the topics we cover.
- **Speak your mind.** I hope that you all of you will be active participates
- **Come to class (on time).** As many of you know, BHS has an attendance policy that may impact your grade.

THE LAST WORD

Challenge yourself, open your mind to new ideas, and *think* about what you believe in!