

Honors World History
Course Syllabus
Dr. Byers

Purpose and Content: World History is an eighteen-week course designed to provide the student with a general understanding and historical context of the world we live in today. This course will consist of a broad examination of the origin, development, and change in the economic, cultural, social, and political fabric of modern nations and how past experiences reflect themselves in the decisions of today.

Textbook: *World History*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company, 2017.

Materials: A notebook (preferably a three-ring binder) for note taking and holding various handouts, a pen or pencil, and your chromebook should be brought to class everyday. Class assignments cannot be completed without the required materials and will not be provided by Dr. Byers.

Grading System: You will have a minimum of 2-3 grades per week. All Tests/ quizzes will count as 40 % of your average, and daily grades will count as 60% of your average.

Final grades will be calculated by taking 80% of your semester average, 20% of the final exam grade, and adding these together.

Tests: Tests will be given on a regular basis at the conclusion of each unit. Tests will consist of questions covered in class lecture, discussions, and class simulations. The format will consist of a mixture of multiple choice, identify, short answer, and essay questions.

Homework, Quizzes, and Class Work: Homework for this class will be assigned throughout the week. This may include some type of research, writing an essay, reading assignments, or answering questions. Quizzes will be given periodically to test for comprehension of information covered in class up to that point, and preparedness. Class work will consist of cooperative group responsibilities, questions, worksheets, and other responses to simulations in class. If a student is absent, it is their responsibility to get missed information and assignments from the make-up folder in the classroom. Students will have three days to turn in missed assignments from the date of their return from an absence. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the assignment(s). **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED!!!!**

Projects: There will be projects that students will be responsible for during the course of this eighteen-week class. A separate sheet of guidelines will be given for each assignment. Projects will have a deadline date attached to them. This means that the projects may be turned in on or before that deadline date, but **NO PROJECT WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE**. If a student is out the day of the deadline, the project must still make it to me before I leave for the day (3:00 p.m.).

Classroom Rules/General Conduct: Students are asked to assume a respectful demeanor, not only to Dr. Byers, but to other students as well. Students are expected to follow the code of conduct for Pickens High School as listed in their agendas.

The rules for this classroom are basic:

- Be respectful to everyone in this class.
- Be in class every day, and be on time everyday
- Bring all necessary materials everyday (Pencils, pens, paper, textbooks, etc.).
- Taking any pictures/video with electronic devices is strictly prohibited at all times. **Cell phones are to be placed in the holders at the front of the class before class begins.**
- Follow all rules in the student handbook.

Academic Integrity: In an attempt to ensure that each student completes his/ her own work with academic integrity, PHS has adopted a plagiarism policy:

- Students that have plagiarized any portion of their written work shall receive a grade of 1%. For the first offense a student may rewrite the assignment for a grade no higher than a 70%.
- Each offense after the first, the student receives a 1% grade with no rewrite.

Plagiarism is defined as ‘the practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own’. Borrowing someone else’s work can include other students work, published material (books, magazines, etc.), and/ or cutting and pasting direct words from the internet. Ask me if you are unsure if your actions are in violation of the nature of the rule!

Leaving the Classroom: Students will be given ten passes that may be used to leave the classroom for any reason (bathroom, water, nurse, etc.) after the first fifteen minutes of class (no one will leave until then unless called by the office) and no later than fifteen minutes until the end of class. Students may not leave without one of these passes or they will make up the missed time with me 10 minutes after school on Mondays, Tuesdays, or Wednesdays only. This will be made up within one week of leaving without a pass, or the student will be sent through the school disciplinary system for failure to make up time with me. If it becomes habitual, administration will become involved to address the situation. This system is designed so that students take care of their personal affairs before entering my class.

If students have passes remaining at the end of the semester, 1.5 points for each pass remaining will be added to their lowest test grade. For example, Susan has four passes left and has a 67 on a test. With the four passes, she now has a 73 on that test.

Miscellaneous Information: If a student is having difficulty with this course, it is their responsibility to ask for assistance. Tutoring is available through the social studies department and can be arranged through our department head.

If parents have any questions, please contact me by phone or email. You may call here at school and I will speak with you during my planning. My e-mail address is sheabyers@pickenscountyschools.org.

Student and Parent Commitment:

I have read and understand the policies and procedures set forth in the course outline. I will follow these guidelines daily to the absolute best of my abilities and attempt to constantly improve on my shortcomings. I also understand if problems arise, I can contact Dr. Byers at the high school at any time.

Student’s Signature: _____

Parent’s Signature: _____