



COOPER 6 World History 2012-2013

Course Introduction:

1. What we will be studying this year?

We will start the year learning about geography and cultural diversity. These units will lead into the study of early humans. We begin our journey and exploration of ancient civilizations by becoming archeologists and studying Mesopotamia. Next, our exploration of the ancient world turns to the study of Ancient Egypt, Ancient China, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome. Finally, we end our year with a look at Medieval Times and the Middle Ages.

In addition, this year we will be studying the upcoming Presidential Election. Students will explore the election process, as well as learn about the candidates and issues. You will be participating in a mock election and creating an election journal to document this historic event.

2. How should I label subject dividers for my binder in this course?

Assignments: This section is for weekly assignment sheets. The assignment sheets should be arranged in chronological order.

Class Work: Class notes and handouts go in this section. Be sure to date all papers and write the proper heading on all notes. Notes should also be kept in chronological order.

Homework: All homework and study guides are placed in this section. You will receive a study guide for most chapters. Study guides are used for both homework assignments and review for tests and quizzes.

Tests & Quizzes: All tests and quizzes go in this section along with any review materials.

Projects: Keep all material for long term assignments in this part of your binder. For example, you should keep direction sheets, research notes, or anything else you need to complete a research project in this section.

3. What heading should I use on my papers or notes for Social Studies?

Social Studies & Section Number
Binder Section (Class Work, Homework, etc.)

Name
Date

4. What about a textbook?

This year we will be using a new textbook called *myWorld History*. At the beginning of the year you will receive your textbook. Each textbook is numbered, and you are responsible to bring that book to class each day. Please cover your textbook. Also, all students will be given an access code for an online textbook, so they don't need to bring their textbook home.

5. Will I have homework in this course?

Yes! Homework is an important course requirement and will be assigned most days. In the process of completing assignments correctly and carefully, you strengthen your knowledge while developing important study skills. Think of homework as an opportunity to learn and to display your sense of responsibility, your ability to organize your time, and your motivation to do well. If you are unable to do your homework, please bring a note from a parent. You will have until the next class period to make up the work. After one week late homework will not be accepted and a student will receive a zero for the assignment.

Daily assignments should take from 20-25 minutes to complete. Long term assignments should be spaced out over several days. Each week the homework assignment sheet will be posted on schoolwires. Students are required to print the assignment sheet from schoolwires and bring it to class on Tuesday. The assignment sheet counts as a homework grade worth 5 points. Homework will also be written daily on the classroom board. Students are required to copy the homework in their agenda books.

6. How will I be graded?

Your grade in social studies is based on your class work, homework, tests and quizzes, and projects.

Homework and class work will be graded using the following system:

- √+ Top quality homework earns this grade. The content is excellent. Capitalization, spelling, sentence structure and grammar are all correct. The paper has a proper heading, is neat, and multiple papers are stapled together.
- √ A check on a paper means acceptable work, your content is correct, and you followed directions.
- √- Something is wrong! Be sure to see me if you do not understand my corrections.

Test and quizzes: There will be tests and quizzes on a regular basis in social studies. Quizzes will test your knowledge of daily homework, reading assignments, and class notes. Quizzes are given on a weekly or biweekly basis, usually after a section of a chapter is completed. Tests are given once an entire topic or chapter from the textbook is covered. Tests are worth 100 points. In the event you fail a test or quiz you will be given the opportunity to make test correction and the failing test or quiz score will be raised to passing. **You will not be given a retest.** If you fail a test or quiz you must have the exam signed by your parent/guardian.

Social Studies Binder: Your social studies binder counts as a 100 point test. You are required to bring your binder to class everyday. At the end of the quarter your binder will be collected and graded.

Projects: Throughout the year we will have projects based on the topics covered in class. Our first project will be centered on the study of geography. Projects are worth 100 points and there are multi-steps that are graded.

7. When can I get extra help?

I am available everyday after school with the exception of Mondays and Fridays. If you would like to stay after school on Friday please make an appointment. Also, during reading and before school are good times to come for extra help.

8. What about extra credit?

Great! Always welcomed! Perhaps you are interested in doing some research on a topic we're not studying in school. Maybe, you'd like to share your travel experiences with the class, plan a presentation, prepare a poster, or write about what you've learned from your trip. Come see me to discuss your ideas. Extra credit projects should be discussed by the middle of the quarter.

9. What supplies do I need at home?

You will need a quiet study area to work and a regularly scheduled time, free of interruptions, for homework. Equip your "office" with the tools and reference sources you will need: pens, pencils, ruler, scissors, tape, highlighter, whiteout, etc. A dictionary, a thesaurus, and an atlas are essential. As you read your textbook and other history assignments, get in the habit, if you have not already done so, of looking up words and places that are unfamiliar to you.

10. How can my parents get in touch with you?

Your parents can contact me by calling either the Cooper Office, 721-2631, or the Main Office, 721-2600. They can also e-mail at jcastiello@scarsdaleschools.org. I look forward to meeting all of your parents at the Cooper 6 Open House in September.

Student's Signature

Parent or Guardian's Signature

***This paper should be placed in the front of your binder for the entire school year.**