

Global History International High School

Instructor: Kat Swanson
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Office Hours: Omega Days by appointment
(e-mail works best)

Text: World History, Patterns of Interaction. McDougal-Littell, 2005.

Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to the 09/10 school year! My name is Kat Swanson and I am a student teacher from Pacific University. I will be teaching in Mr. Powell's class through mid-December, and am excited to have this opportunity to work with IHS students and parents. I have been in the Education field for the past six years in the Health field, and am eager to take this next step in my education to become a classroom teacher. I believe that open communication is imperative for any successful relationship, and encourage you to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. I look forward to hearing from you and hope you will enjoy this year as much as I will!

*Sincerely,
Kat Swanson*

Our Guiding Question of the year: *What are the sources and uses of power in society?*

Course Description: This course will explore how different cultures have developed over time. Students will gain understanding of today's world by examining how Europe, India, China, and Islamic cultures have evolved. Themes studied will include political systems, the lives of ordinary citizens, power in societies, (church and state, economics and warfare). This syllabus summarizes the unit Ms. Swanson will be teaching, which will be approximately until a week before Winter Break, at which time Mr. Powell will take over the class.

Course Objectives:

1. Understand global relationships, and make connections between past, present and future.
2. Recognize and interpret change and continuity over time.
3. Understand and interpret development of differing cultures.
4. Understand how contemporary perspectives affect historical interpretations.
5. Analyze cause and effect relationships.
6. Use primary and secondary documents and historical artifacts to interpret historical events.

Class Activities: Readings, discussions, films, simulations, guest speakers, individual and group projects, current events reports and discussions as well as quizzes, exams, and essays.

Overview of major unit covered by Ms. Swanson:

European Civilization 12 weeks

This unit will focus on Ancient Greece through the Industrial Revolution. We will look at evolving power relationships in European History. Our focus will be on political systems and political philosophy. We will also look at the rise of the free market system out of the feudal order, the evolving relation of religion and the state, and the evolution of law in the West.

Note: Students are to bring adequate supplies to class each day. All papers returned to students are to be kept until grading is complete. Additionally, no eating or drinking (except water) is allowed in the classroom.

Assessment and Grading:

To pass this class students must complete assigned class work. Work should be turned in neatly and on time at the beginning of class. Computer or printer problems are acceptable excuses for late work. Late work will receive reduced credit, usually no higher than a C. Work will not be accepted for a previous unit once we are in a new area of study. No work will be accepted within 24 hours of a grading day. Extra credit opportunities are available throughout the academic year.

Grades are recorded as percentages using a point system

100% - 90% = A, 89% - 80% = B, 79% - 70% = C, 69% - 60% = D, 59% and below = F

Students may judge relative value of assignments by the points assigned. Additionally, students will be graded on participation, behavior, and preparedness. This grade may raise or lower the student's percentage by a full letter grade.

This year we will be introducing a Self-Assessment component that will count for 5% of your final grade. We will discuss this piece in more detail in class, but it is imperative that you keep graded work that has been returned to you throughout the year: you will be using it as evidence of your improvement for your Self-Assessments.

Special Needs: Appropriate and reasonable modifications and accommodations for students with identified special needs will be made.

Our mission statement includes the expectation of integrity. Plagiarism (using the words of another person as your own, copying of someone else's homework, etc.) and/or cheating are not allowed. Such work presented will receive no credit, and a student may subsequently receive a reduced final grade for such behavior.

Classroom Expectations:

The mission of our class is to offer a secure place where everyone can gain knowledge, grow in wisdom, develop confidence, and value learning. In order to ensure a safe, comfortable, and constructive learning environment, the following will be expected of each student:

1. Responsibility of actions toward all people and objects.
2. Preparation for class (books, paper, journal, pens, pencils, a functioning mind).
3. Consideration of others during all class activities.

Steps for addressing behavior that are not conducive to maintaining a learning environment are:

Verbal warning, teacher and student conference, parent contact, referral.

Video Acknowledgement:

Please note that we often show short video clips to enrich the content of the class. Some of these videos may be rated R: these clips are carefully screened and edited and are chosen for their historical content. Please contact me if you have any concerns: I would be happy to talk with you about our selection process.

Homework:

1. Print a copy of this syllabus (front-to-back if possible to save paper, please) and make sure you review it with your parent/guardian and get his/her signature on this form. Bring it to class Wednesday, September 16th for your first assignment. **This is worth 10 points.**
2. Read through the syllabus and be prepared to take a short quiz on its contents on Wednesday, September 16th.

Acknowledgement

I would like to know that students and those who care for them have reviewed the information in the course description and understand the course structure and expectations. In order to acknowledge this, please sign below. Students will turn this in next class period. This is a scored homework assignment. Thank you for your time.

Student Name (printed clearly)

Parent/Guardian Signature