World History Purpose

The purpose of this two-semester class will be a study of the key events of people and major historical trends of World History, Middle East, Egypt and Asia (semester 1) and Africa, and European exploration and colonization of the Americas (semester 2).  This class is designed to introduce the student to the history and geography of the world from prehistory to the present.  Emphasis will be placed on the 20th Century, including the following topics: immigration, industrialization, Imperialism, the changing economy, and important political and domestic developments of this century as they were shaped by past global events. Students will expand their understanding of America’s role in world events.

**Motto** of this class is: Learn the past, Understand today, and Change the future.

This course is intended for students who are interested in the ever-changing world in which we live today.  As our world becomes more complex, it is essential that we understand the different issues that affect us today and more importantly will affect us in the years to come.  This course will complement and reinforce what students have learned in American History, and previous social studies classes.  This class is designed to introduce students to a variety of perspectives concerning Contemporary Issues and Geography in the World today.  The focus of the course will be on the major issues affecting the World today from struggle in the Middle East to tension among interest groups within the United States; from environmental concerns to dealing with natural disasters; from political unrest and riots to humanitarian responsibilities as the wealthiest nation in the world.  These issues for the course will change as issues change in the world today.  The goals of the class will be:  1) for students to develop an understanding of contemporary issues in a historical, cultural and geographic context, 2) to increase the students’ ability to process and gather information from a variety of sources, 3) to develop a student’s ability to view contemporary issues from multiple perspectives, 4) to develop an awareness of the global nature of issues and relate to their concerns. 5) to connect historical events as the causes or contributing factors to current events.  Due to the changing nature of this course, there will be some use of the textbook, online materials, group discussion and collaborative projects.  Much of the content and related materials will be web based.

Grades for this class in our technology based era will come from a variety of options.

1. All students may receive a grade for daily attendance and participation. Each student is expected to be in class every day, even in the unfortunate event that we happen to have class on line. If a student cannot access the internet to get to the class webpage, students may check in through text, email, or phone call. Daily class attendance is required.
2. Students who choose miss a day of class must check in to the school web page for Mr. Harper, to find announcements and links to online learning tools. Students must acquire online access to a variety of sights for finding and submitting class work. The most important is having access to Canvas, which will have links to other sites like, Savvas, MIwrite, or Apex.
3. Online assignments will be due by 11:59 on the due date. **Late assignments** are worth ½ credit and will only be accepted up until the end of the unit in which they were assigned. In class work is to be turned into the plastic box in Mr. Harpers classroom. Late work **will not** be accepted within 3 days of the end of a quarter. All online assignments must be submitted through and uploaded to Email or Canvas unless other arrangements are preapproved. Any assignment submitted through any other means, may not be counted as received.
4. Official grades will be reported though power school. If an assignment is missing, in power school it will be marked as incomplete and receive 0 points.
5. Most daily assignment are worth 10 points. Quizzes are usually worth 10 points. Binder checks and daily planners are worth 10-25 points. Tests, essays and large presentations are worth 50 points, the Country book project is worth 100 points each quarter.

Students are responsible to; check the class web page or the class page in Canvas for announcements and important documents, keep track of their own passwords and log in information, know when assignments are due and submit them on time, and ask for help when they need help. I am happy to help in any way I can. If the teacher doesn’t know that you don’t know something, nothing changes.