

*Sign and return by Monday, August 22, 2016

Mrs. Justus's Class Expectations Social Studies

Course Objectives:

What is History? Is it more than dates? Can we ever understand the human race, and who we are as individuals, without understanding history?

This year we'll begin with ancient civilizations and explore the major social, political, economic and technological developments and patterns of cultures and countries throughout the Eastern Hemisphere.

We will become historians! We will discuss and answer questions surrounding the cultures and countries of the Eastern Hemisphere. We will view history through the study of geography, art, architecture, music, literature, science, politics, religion, and philosophy.

- You will need to learn specific historical and geographic information as well as understand themes and concepts that repeat throughout history.
- You will consider the continuity and changes that have occurred over time and strengthen your observation and reasoning skills.
- You'll learn effective behaviors, habits and attitudes that will make you a good student and a thoughtful, informed and contributing member of our community.
- You will be evaluated on how well you understand and apply the facts and ideas in the study of history.

Materials:

Reading Materials: You will be issued a textbook to use in class and may be checked out for homework and study purposes: *World History*. **The textbook is also available online. You are encouraged to set up and use the online version.** You will also receive handouts that must be kept organized in your folder.

Composition Book/Folder: You will keep all of your returned work and important handouts in a folder. Hold on to these! Your returned work is like your receipt! Interactive note-taking and class responses will be kept in your composition book.

Pencils/Pens: You must always bring a writing tool to class. *I will not provide you with one on a daily basis.*

Teacher Responsibilities:

- 1 Be sure students understand and know how to complete assignments successfully.

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- 2 Provide specific written explanation of long-range assignments so that the requirements and expectations are clearly understood by the students and their parents.
- 3 As a general guideline, an average of 2-5 weekly assignments will be given. The amount of time it takes for students to complete homework will vary according to the assignment, as well as individual student needs and strengths. Homework is considered to be an essential component in the learning process. Homework is also dependent on productive use of class time and student needs.
- 4 Inform parents about class and homework policies and procedures at the beginning of the course.
- 5 Contact parents if a student fails to complete several homework assignments.

Parent Responsibilities:

- 1 Assist students in developing good study habits by providing a specific time and place for study which is free of television, computer and other distractions.
 - Encourage the importance of work ethic: Provide time and encouragement for your child to do quality schoolwork, including homework.
 - Guide or assist your child when unusual difficulties arise, but *never do the work for them*.
 - Discuss homework assignments and course topics with your child. This can broaden the understanding of material and contribute to varying points of view.
 - Ask to see completed homework assignments.
- 2 Observe closely how well your child does the homework and contact the teacher whenever the pupil has difficulty completing assignments.
- 3 Assist students in developing time management/planning skills to allow students to enjoy a variety of extracurricular activities, as well as success in academics. *Balance* is key!
- 4 If necessary, contact the teacher to arrange a conference to address concerns.

Class Expectations:

- 1. Behavior:** The rules of my working classroom are simple:
- 2. Respect:** respect each other, the personal property of others, and classroom equipment and supplies at all times.
- 3. Responsibility:** take responsibility for your own behavior and comments at all times.
- 4. Readiness:** come prepared to learn with textbook, paper, folder and writing utensil. Come prepared with your homework completed. Be prepared to make up work you have missed because of an absence. In other words, come to class ready to learn!
- 5. Grading:** grading each quarter is based on your work and participation in

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class. Generally the breakdown for the grade is as follows:

- Assessments: 50%
- Reading and Writing Assignments: 20%
- History Content Skills/Standards: 20%
- Participation: 10%

Late work must be turned in by Friday, the week after the due date, to receive credit.

Miscellaneous:

Homework: Is an extension of classroom instruction to expand or enrich the regular class work or to ensure mastery of a particular skill or concept. Typically, the initial phase of homework will begin in the classroom and be completed out-of-class. Please use my website for a listing of assignments/projects.

Quizzes: Expect periodic reading quizzes and quick checks, some announced, some not.

Tests: There will be chapter and unit tests.

Papers/Projects: there will be short papers or projects for almost every unit. You will also give at least one oral presentation during the year.

Class Participation: Discussion and debate are crucial to any history class! We will respectfully talk about many different points of views and opinions.

Make-up Work: Absent work is the student's responsibility. Check the Absent Work bin and the website to collect missing assignments. One day will be given to complete make-up work for every day absent, per school wide policy.

Quality of Work: Your work is a reflection of you. Check your organization, spelling and grammar before you turn in papers.

After reading and discussing, please sign and return the bottom portion of this page. ☺

I have read, discussed, and understand Mrs. Justus's classroom expectations.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____