

Course Syllabus
Honors World History and Geography Since 1500
A. Peirano

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Course Description:

This course, for extremely able and ambitious ninth-grade students, examines social, political, geographical, economic, and technological changes in the world that have occurred from 1500 to the present, comparing and contrasting civilization around the world over time. Activities include independent research, group and individual projects, class discussion, and analysis of works of art, cartoons, charts, graphs and other primary sources. Students demonstrate critical thinking and analysis through both oral and extensive written assignments. This course is designed to prepare students for the rigors of Advanced Placement (AP) US History, AP Economics, AP Government and Politics: Comparative and United States, AP Human Geography, AP European History and AP World History.

***Students receive 0.5 extra quality points for successfully completing this class. Students must take the comprehensive course final exam. Students who do not take the comprehensive course final exam will receive a zero for the exam and will not receive the 0.5 extra quality points.**

Text:

Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction. Holt McDougal, 2012. [electronic version]

Outside Reading:

As part of this honors course students are required to read, comprehend, analyze, and discuss a wide variety of supplemental readings. Students may be required to purchase outside reading materials. Primary and secondary source readings will be assigned throughout the course.

Essential Functions:

To be successful in this class, students must be able to perform the following tasks and demonstrate the following skills at grade level or higher:

- Read and comprehend text and supplemental readings
- Communicate in written and oral forms using standard grammar, sentence and paragraph structure
- Understand and respond in written and oral forms to higher-order or critical thinking questions
- Comprehend and understand spoken and written terminology unique to the areas of study
- Actively participate in classroom discussions
- Take active and useful notes
- Work effectively in cooperative learning groups
- Demonstrate independent study skills

Materials:

Three-ring binder (should be used for this class only)

Dividers (for the three-ring binder)

Loose leaf paper

Blue or black pens

Mechanical pencils

Highlighters

Expectations:

1. You must RESPECT every student in this class, the teacher, and yourselves. Disrespect will not be tolerated.
2. Be on time to class. Any student **not seated in her or his assigned seat and working** when the bell rings will be counted as tardy.
3. Go to the restroom before or after class.
4. Come to class prepared. Bring all materials necessary for the day's lesson. Being prepared includes having completed all assignments, reading, and homework.
5. Participate in class. Non-participation in this course during discussions and activities will negatively impact your grade.
6. Cell phone use is permitted in the classroom only with permission from the teacher.

****Note:** All other school rules apply. Consult your Student/Parent Information Guide.**

Personal Electronic Devices:

Technology can be a valuable educational resource. Students are allowed to use electronic and technological devices at SPECIFIED times and ONLY when authorized by the teacher for an instructional purpose.

Code of Academic Honor and Integrity:

Each student is required to abide by the *Hillcrest High School Code of Academic Honor and Integrity*. The *Honor Code* is outlined below.

Hillcrest High School Code of Academic Honor and Integrity

- Statement of Purpose: At Hillcrest High School, we build excellence one Patriot at a time by conducting ourselves with honor in all aspects of academic and personal life. This code is established to foster an authentic learning culture where teachers and students seek academic, social, and personal integrity.
- Mission Statement: Building Excellence, One Patriot at a Time.
- Honor Statement: As a Hillcrest Patriot, I have neither given nor received inappropriate aid on this assignment/test.
- Honor Pledge: As a Hillcrest Patriot, I pledge to conduct myself with integrity by upholding the principles of the Honor Code.

Grading:

There will be a variety of assessment methods used in this course including tests, quizzes, class activities, daily assignments, notebook checks, and projects. There will be a comprehensive assessment at the end of the course. This final exam will be cumulative and may not be exempted by students taking an honors class.

Final Exam Exemption:

Students taking honors courses are required to take the final exam. No student may be exempted from the final exam for this course.

Attendance and Make-up Work:

Students are expected to attend class in accordance with the attendance policy listed in the Student/Parent Information Guide. If the absence is excused the student must make arrangements to make up work within two days of the absence. **Tests/quizzes must be made up before or after school.** It is the student's responsibility to inquire about what assignments, material, tests, quizzes, and projects were missed. Make up work/tests/quizzes for unexcused absences will follow the policy detailed in the Student/Parent Information Guide.

Communication:

Any student who, during the course of the semester, needs outside help or clarification is welcome to meet with me after school. Parents/guardians may schedule a conference with me using the following e-mail address: Apeirano@tcss.net

Please detach this page, sign, and return to Dr. Peirano to acknowledge that you have read the syllabus for Honors World History and Geography Since 1500.

Parent/Guardian signature

Date signed

Student signature

Date signed