



World Civilizations Syllabus

Mr. Crandall

Myles.crandall@slcschools.org

Course Description

This course focuses on key themes and events in World History. We will use historical case studies to examine people's beliefs, the political organization of societies, and how people challenged the religious, social, economic, and political status quo. While it is not possible to study all of the world's history in one year, our goal will be to use case studies to examine central themes throughout history and practice the skills that historians use: questioning, critical thinking, research, reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Course Goals and Objectives

- Develop as stronger readers, writers, speakers, listeners, and critical thinkers
- Identify, describe, and evaluate evidence from the past
- Write historical arguments in academic language accepted by historians
- Create historical arguments from historical evidence
- Identify, analyze, and evaluate cause and effect relationships in a historical context
- Contextualize and connect events that take place across time and place
- Compare and contrast differing sets of ideas
- Apply insights about the past to events happening today

Course Outline

This course follows the central components and standards of the Utah World Civilizations curriculum. Our units of study will draw on a range of historical examples within the following topics:

1st Quarter: Ancient Civilizations, Our Histories, and Historical Research

2nd Quarter: Religion and Philosophy

3rd Quarter: Economics and Government

4th Quarter: Colonialism and Globalization

Materials You Need EVERY Day

- Pencil or pen
- Organized Binder with dividers and sheets of lined paper
- Planner

Texts

Throughout the year, we will use many resources. It is so important to stay organized! It will be crucial to keep class notes and readings to use evidence for writing and speaking assignments.

Grading Policies

50% Process: classwork, homework, participation, and organization

50% Product: projects, quizzes, Socratic circles, graded discussions, essays, and tests

- If you need an extension on an assignment, I encourage you to speak with me before the assignment is due. Late work will be accepted before the quarter ends for up to half credit.

- If you are absent, you have 2 days to make up the missed work, unless other arrangements have been made.
- “On time” means it is physically present and ready to turn in at the appointed time. Examples of LATE: “I just need to print it” or “My mom is bringing it later.”
- Need help? Schedule a time with me after school or go to the Homework Hall.
- Grades at the end of each term (quarter) are FINAL.

Honors

Any student may choose to take the class for honors credit. In addition to all of the regular assignments, honors students will complete some assignments and a project outside of class. If interested, you must opt-in to Honors World Civilizations. Failure to complete honors projects will negatively affect your grade. Unless we negotiate an alternative plan, honors students must meet after-school most Fridays.

Class Behavior Expectations

1. Be on time—in your seat, silently working on the ATB when the bell rings
2. Be prepared—have your materials and completed homework with you
3. Be respectful—of others’ identities, ideas, belongings, and personal space
4. Be focused—working on the class activity
5. Be proactive—think ahead and advocate for yourself. Please talk to me if you are stressed or confused
6. Leave no trace. Pick up your stuff. Push your chairs in.

Food, open drinks, or electronics should not be out during class unless you have discussed a reason with me. If we are doing *extended* silent work, and it helps you to focus, I may give you permission to listen to your headphones.

Conduct

The nature of this course is that we will examine some difficult topics and have some challenging conversations. This course raises some tough historical and political dilemmas without clear-cut answers. It is imperative that you thoughtfully listen to those who have different opinions from your own. You do not need to agree with your classmates or me; however, you must speak and listen respectfully. In addition, the nature of historical study is that we look at some terrible things that human beings have done to one another. Genuine questions are appreciated, but a serious tone that respects the lives and deaths of the people we study is expected.

If something in class is offense, confusing, or controversial to you: please talk to me about it. I am here to provide you with an excellent education, I want to make sure that your opinions, and beliefs are valued. You can always talk to me outside of class, or write me a letter or email, if something is concerning or uncomfortable for you. I promise to respect your feelings and work together with you to resolve any issues.

This class should provide a space where everyone feels safe and appropriately challenged.

Name: _____ Period: _____

World Civilizations: First Day Student Questionnaire

1. Are you excited about taking this class? Why or why not?

2. Are there specific historical events or themes that you want to learn about this year?

3. Are you considering taking this class for Honors credit? Why or why not?

World Civilizations Disclosure 2017-2018

Dear SLCSE families,

This year I am your child's World Civilizations teacher. This yearlong Social Studies class will use significant themes, topics, and events from history to help everyone build essential skills. The attached syllabus offers information on what and how our class time will be spent, if you have more specific questions: please ask your student or feel free to contact me. I am happy to share the rationale behind our units of study.

If you have any questions or concerns, the best way to reach me is via email at myles.crandall@slcschools.org

We will grapple with large questions without one simple answer; I encourage you to ask your student about what we are discussing in class and their working opinion.

If we have not met yet, I look forward to getting to know you over the course of the year.

If there is a topic that you know about that you feel would benefit the class, and you would be willing to come into class, then please let me know. Potential topics may include: your culture, your religion and how you practice it, your experience in a foreign country, your knowledge of a historical event, or your ideas about an essential question within our class. If you have an idea of something that you would like to discuss with our class then please share that below and I will try to reach out to you to see if we can align your schedule with our class (this is totally **optional** and you may leave this section blank):

Please sign below indicating that you have seen this syllabus and gone over it with your child.

Thanks so much,

Myles Crandall

Student's name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Email of Parent/Guardian _____

Phone of Parent/Guardian _____ Receive texts?

Any comments for me?