

Bracken County Middle School
7th Grade World History
2008-2009 Course Syllabus

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Course Description

Seventh grade social studies will focus on world history from early civilizations to 1500 A.D. With a strong focus on historical perspective, students will investigate the impact of geography on where civilizations began and how they grew. Students will explore the emergence of different cultures and societies and examine how government structures and economic systems evolved.

Comments

The main goal of this class is to help students discover the tools, processes, methods, and techniques to think historically. To achieve this, the following course questions were designed to be considered throughout all units of study.

- a) Why is it important to study the history of ancient civilizations?
- b) How were cultural elements and social institutions reflected in early world civilizations?
- c) What is the influence of government and economics on the rise and fall of ancient civilizations?

This class will also better prepare the student for the social studies' section of any assessment by developing communication skills, portfolio pieces, listening skills, critical thinking, and decision-making skills.

Course Standards

Students will

- Use a variety of tools to investigate historical events.
- Develop a chronological understanding to early world history.
- Investigate cause and effect relationships of events in early world history.
- Analyze social, political, and economic characteristics in human societies prior to 1500 A.D.
- Examine the impact of significant individuals and groups on world history.
- Recognize the importance of physical environment in the settlement and development of early world civilizations.
- Explore migration and settlement patterns.
- Understand the concept of scarcity, as well as, the strategies used by individuals, societies, and governments to address this challenge.
- Examine the essential roles of government.
- Examine cultural aspects and social institutions of major past civilizations.

Method of Grade Calculation

Student will be evaluated on class assignments and activities including, but not limited to, the following: tests and quizzes, daily assignments and homework, portfolio entries, projects, and notebook.

Textbook

History Alive! The Ancient World

Required Materials

- Spiral notebook, 3 hole punched
- Two-pocket folder
- Loose-leaf paper
- Pencils

Classroom Rules & Procedures

- Bring all materials to class (notebook, pencil, textbook).
- Prepare assignments on time. For each incomplete homework assignment, there will be a zero recorded. If an assignment is one day late, ten points will be deducted from the grade of that assignment. After one day late, students may turn in the late work for 50% credit.
- Listen carefully and follow direction.
- Raise hand to speak.
- Sharpen pencils and get Kleenex as needed, without disruption.
- Ask for permission to leave the room.
- Keep your hands to yourself.
- Respect others.

Participation and Attendance

Students will be expected to be on time and prepared for class with all necessary materials. Attendance is of vital importance, as much of the work is done in class. Only students with excused absences will be allowed to make up work. For each day a student is absent, he/she will receive a day to complete make-up work. Students must see teacher upon return to school.

Calendar of Course Content

FIRST SEMESTER

Prehistoric People and Mesopotamia	3 Weeks
Ancient Egypt	6 Weeks
Ancient India	3 Weeks
Ancient China	3 Weeks
The Phoenicians and the Hebrews	3 Weeks

SECOND SEMESTER

Ancient Greece	6 Weeks
Ancient Rome	6 Weeks
Middle Ages	6 Weeks