

History's Mysteries Course (3027) Overview Curriculum Document

Course Description

This course is a one semester course designed to look at some of the mysteries in history, as well as digging deeper into some of the world's better known events and people. The common thematic approach for all units is "to find the story behind the story." Some events and units to be discussed include: Moon landing, Amelia Earhart, JFK Assassination, Jack the Ripper, and Roanoke. Student interest will be taken into consideration when planning units.

Credits

.5

Prerequisites

None

Board Approved

Revised

June 2023

Required Assessments

Jack the Ripper Assessment
Conspiracy Theory Project
Overlooked Project

Textbooks/Resources

None.

Course Essential Understandings

As a result of successfully completing this course, students will understand that:

- Historical context and access to evidence significantly affects the ability to draw conclusions on various cold cases and unsolved mysteries.
- Learning the forgotten details from the past may change their perspective on a well-known event.
- Historians use skills, such as Sourcing and Argumentation, to help uncover the story behind the story.
- A claim is the first step to beginning an inquiry into an area of historical controversy
- Sources we use to uncover a historical mystery must be evaluated as reliable or unreliable
- It is important to clearly convey your research-based arguments in order to provide clarity to your intended audience.

Course Essential Questions

- How does one find and analyze the forgotten details of history?

Unit Overviews

Unit Name	Unit Description	Unit Essential Question	Instructional Standards	Assessed Standards
Historical Thinking Skill	<p>What do historians actually do? How will we use these skills as historical thinkers? This unit will get you acquainted with the foundational skills of the course. We will examine a variety of topics, such as the infamous Alcatraz escape, Japanese-American internment during WWII and more while practicing analytical reading and writing skills.</p> <p>Students will examine the mystery and legend surrounding the notorious serial killer, Jack the Ripper. Students will examine primary sources to understand the context of Victorian London and criminology practices of the time. Students will explore how modern science and technology can add to our understanding of historical cases and the controversy surrounding the use of DNA databases to solve cold cases today.</p>	<p>How do we read and write like historians?</p> <p>How do I support an argument with evidence?</p>	<p>Communicating learning (SS.Inq4.a.h)</p> <p>Evaluating sources (SS.Inq2.b.h)</p>	<p>History's Mysteries Rubrics</p> <p>Jack the Ripper</p>
Debunking Conspiracy Theories and Hoaxes	<p>Students will examine some of the most famous hoaxes and conspiracy theories, beginning with the moon landing and possible cover-up of the JFK assassination. Students will examine why different hoaxes or conspiracy theories became popular and how their spread has increased with the onset of social media and technology. Ultimately, students will evaluate the consequences and impact that conspiracy theories have on the public.</p>	<p>How do conspiracy theories impact the public?</p>	<p>Evaluating sources (SS.Inq2.b.h)</p> <p>Applying appropriate evidence (SS.Inq3.c.h)</p>	<p>History's Mysteries Rubrics</p> <p>Conspiracy Theory Project</p>
The Forgotten Details of History	<p>In this unit, students will examine what really happened the night of Abraham Lincoln's assassination. Students will examine how the trial of the conspirators unfolded and the controversy around the difference between a military tribunal and a civilian trial. Students will ultimately decide how learning the forgotten details from the past may change their perspective on a well-known event.</p>	<p>How does learning the forgotten details of history change my understanding of an event?</p>	<p>Communicating learning (SS.Inq4.a.h)</p>	<p>History's Mysteries Rubrics</p> <p>Overlooked Project</p>