**Honors World History**

**Mrs. Cassadi Walden**

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<http://mrswaldensclass.weebly.com/>

Welcome to Honors World History! This semester we will study the history of mankind. We will begin with ancient civilizations and (hopefully) end the semester with current events. We will focus on some major themes such as continuity and change over time, turning points in human history, global interactions, conflict, and human rights. We will analyze primary documents, works of art and music, and a variety of secondary sources to help uncover what it means to be human. By the end of the semester I hope you have gained a sense of your place in the world and how the actions of everyday people from the past have helped shape the world in which you live.

Successful completion of this course is required to graduate. There is a state test for this exam given at the end of the semester. Doing well in this course requires good organization, strong study skills, hard work, and time. Please be ready to make these commitments.

**Units and Descriptions**

*Unit 1: Ancient Civilizations*

 Major Topics: Tools of historians, Neolithic Revolution, characteristics of civilization,

ancient religions, achievements of ancient civilizations, trade

*Unit 2: Classical Civilizations*

 Major Topics: Sparta and Athens, achievements of the Greeks, the development of empires,

government in Greece and Rome, Roman achievements, the development and spread of Christianity, the rise and fall of the Roman Empire

*Unit 3: The Middle Ages*

Major Topics: feudalism and the manor system, the role of the Church, the Black Death, the Crusades, guilds, the Magna Carta, the development and spread of Islam, along with a survey of medieval culture from around the world.

*Unit 4: The Renaissance and the Protestant Reformation*

 Major Topics: humanism, cultural change, Italian city-states, the role of the printing press,

Martin Luther and the effects of the Reformation

*Unit 5: Exploration*

Major Topics: inventions, explorers, conquistadors, motivations for exploration (3 G’s), Columbian Exchange, Triangular Trade, Middle Passage, the development of capitalism and the market economy.

*Unit 6: Absolutism, Enlightenment, and Revolution*

Major Topics: “divine right,” natural rights, laissez-faire economics, effects of the Enlightenment on the American Revolution and American government, effects of the Enlightenment on the French Revolution, the Reign of Terror, Napoleon.

*Unit 7: Nationalism, Industrial Revolution, Imperialism*

Major Topics: nation-building, industrialization, urbanization and its effects, communism, reform movements, motivations for imperialism, global effects of imperialism

*Unit 8: The World Wars*

Major Topics: causes of WWI, trench warfare, mobilizing for war, the Treaty of Versailles, the Russian Revolution, fascism, major events from WWII, the Holocaust, the development of nuclear warfare, Gandhi and the anti-colonial movement in India

*Unit 9: The Cold War*

Major Topics: arms race, “iron curtain,” moments of international crisis, cultural differences between US and the USSR.

*Unit 10: The Modern Middle East and Today’s World*

Major Topics: Israel/Palestine Conflict, Iranian Revolution, OPEC oil embargo, the rise of global terrorism, apartheid, anti-colonial movements worldwide, the European Union, global challenges.

**Classroom Policies and Procedures**

* **Late Work:** If a student does not complete an assignment, the assignment can be turned in the following day. The highest grade a student can earn on a late assignment is a 70. If an assignment is turned in after its unit is finished (for example, if a student turns in an assignment from Unit 2 while the class is studying Unit 4), the highest grade a student may earn is a 50. I reserve the right to require alternative assignments for make-up work, particularly if the original assignment could be easily copied from a fellow student.
* **Absences and Make-up Work:** Attendance is crucial in this class. Do not be absent except in the case of a true emergency. Homework is counted for a late grade if it is not in my box *before class begins*. Homework assignments will be posted on my board daily. I will also update my website with homework information each day. Find an “absent buddy” early in the year – someone whom you can call and from whom you can borrow notes, etc. Please understand that any work known about before a missed day is due the day you return to school.
* **Grading:**

For all Social Studies classes at Chatham Central, the grading scale is as follows:

60% Tests and Projects

30% Classwork

10% 6 weeks assessment

At the end of the semester, this grade is included (80%) with the exam grade (20%) to get the final grade.

* **Hall Passes:** Students are not permitted to leave class during the first fifteen minutes or the last fifteen minutes. Only one student is allowed out of the room at a time. You will receive four hall passes for the semester. Students may not leave the room, unless they use one of their hall passes. If a student *needs* to leave the classroom more than four times, they may make that time up in break detention.
* **Classroom Rules**
1. **Be in your seat and prepared to start class when the bell rings.**
2. **Raise your hand to speak or to ask permission to leave your seat.**
3. **Use respectful language when speaking to the teacher, your classmates, and guests.**
4. **Maintain appropriate personal space.**
5. **Keep all electronics off and out of sight, except when authorized.**
6. **No food, drinks, or gum.**
7. **Remain seated and on task until I dismiss you.**

Additionally, all Chatham Central High School and Chatham County Schools policies are enforced in my class. **Consequences can be found in the Chatham Central handbook.**

**\*\*\*A separate handout will be provided with a list of required supplies or this course.\*\*\***

I hope you find this syllabus helpful for you as you begin a new semester. I look forward to working with you.

**Students: Tear this page off of the rest of the syllabus. Do NOT turn the entire syllabus back in to me. You will need it!**

**Student/Parent Contract**

I have read the information on the Course Syllabus and Policies Handout. I fully understand Mrs. Walden’s expectations of me for this semester.

**Parent/Guardian Printed Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Preferred Contact Number:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Email Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**I prefer to be contacted by (Circle one): Phone E-mail**

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Student signature date

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Parent/Guardian signature date

Dear Parent/Guardian:

I look forward to working with your daughter or son this year. Will you take a few moments to answer the question below? Feel free to use the back of this sheet. You may also write your comments on a separate sheet of paper and seal them in an envelope.

Thank you,

Mrs. Cassadi Walden

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**From your perspective, what do you wish I already knew about your daughter or son to help her/him grow this year as a thinker, reader, writer, and person?**