

Grades 7 Social Studies Course Outline 2018-2019

“History is not everything, but it is a starting point. History is a clock that people use to tell their political and cultural time of day. It is a compass they use to find themselves on the map of human geography. It tells them where they are but, more importantly, what they must be.” John Henrik Clarke

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

Grade 7 Social Studies topics include:

“Byzantine and Muslim Civilizations” : The Byzantine Empire, The Beginnings of Islam, The Golden Age of Muslim Civilization

“Civilizations of Africa” : Africa and the Bantu, Kingdoms of West Africa, East Africa’s Great Trading Centers

“Early Civilizations of the Americas” : South America and the Incas, Cultures of Middle America, Cultures of North America

“Civilizations of Asia” : Golden Ages of China, Medieval Japan, The Great Mughal Empire in India

“Europe in the Middle Ages” : Feudalism and the Manor System, The Church and the Rise of Cities, The Crusades, The Power of Kings

“A New Age in Europe” : The Renaissance and Reformation, The Age of Exploration, The Age of Powerful Monarchs, Conquests in the Americas and Africa

“Changes in the Western World” : The Enlightenment, Political Revolutions, The Industrial Revolution, Nationalism and Imperialism

“Modern Times” : War and Revolution, The Postwar World, The World Today

In this course, we will learn about how our world has developed from the medieval times until today. Foundations of geography will be used to complement what we learn about history. To each class period, you will bring your agenda and your pencil case. The teacher will provide textbooks. The textbooks that will be used for this course are: “World Studies : Medieval Times to Today” and “World Studies : Foundations of Geography”.

A numbered copy of a textbook will be lent to you. Write your name in it. When you return it, if it is not in usable condition or missing its cover, your family will be asked to replace the book.

EARNING YOUR GRADE

Your grade will be determined by your work in these categories:

1) Prepared/Punctual/Productive. Positive/Pleasant/Polite - 10% of your grade. This is a grade you receive for your performance during every class. You are punctual if you are in your seat when the bell stops ringing.

2) Daily work – 25% of your grade.

Daily work is anything we complete in class including practical experiments, worksheets, and discussions.

3) Projects – 25% of your grade.

Projects are longer tasks, designed to practice skills including research, organization, group work, and presentation. They will usually take more than one class period to complete.

4) Quizzes – 20% of your grade

Short assessments between 5-10 questions, taking 5-10 minutes to complete. Used to check your progress throughout the course.

5) Unit Wrap-up Activity – 20% of your grade

A flexible activity that allows students to show their learning.