Course Introduction Letter

Mr. Lesinski 2015-2016 10th Grade Global History and Geography

WHSAD

Dear Students and Guardians,

I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and express my excitement about working with you this year. My main goal is to have every student succeed to the best of his/her ability. We all must work together to reach the goal of passing the NY State Regents Exam in June. I also hope to spark every student’s curiosity of the history of humanity. History is such an important subject, because it allows students to understand why society and culture are the way that they are today, and this understanding will inform students on how to live their lives. It also allows students to connect their own experiences to the experiences of others in the past.

Additional information about the class is provided in the syllabus below. Please read the syllabus and sign the forms at the end in order to indicate your understanding and support of the classroom system and please bring the “teacher copy” back to me.

There are a few materials that need to be purchased so we can stay organized this year. If obtaining any of these is a problem, please let me know and we can make other arrangements.

If you ever have any comments, questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at lesinski@whsad.org, call me at the school (718)388-1260**,** or visit my website at http://www.whsad.org/author/lesinski.

I am looking forward to a successful year!

Sincerely,

Mr. Joel Lesinski

Global History and Geography Teacher

**Course Name: Global History and Geography**

Term 1, 2015-2016 Academic Year

September 9th, 2015 – January 25th, 2016

Teacher: Mr. Lesinski

Email: lesinski@whsad.org

Room: 211

**Office Hours:** Mon. – Thurs. 8th period or by appointment

**Course Description:** Global History and Geography III & IV is the 2nd year course of a two-year Global History sequence. This course provides you with the skills to succeed in reading, understanding and comprehending complex texts relating to global history and culture. It also provides you with skills to put your understanding in writing and analyze history from many different perspectives.

**Major Themes of Global History:** Geography around the World, Interaction of Different Cultures, Contributions from Different Civilizations and Different Ages, Conflict throughout World History. Students will be studying historical content throughout the world from 1750 to the present day. In addition, an increased emphasis will be placed on reading and writing regarding complex texts. At the completion of this course, students will take the New York State Regents exam. This course is also aligned to the Common Core Learning Standards.

**Materials:**

* Notebook
* Folder
* Loose-leaf paper
* Pack of 100 white 5x7 index cards
* Pen(s)

**Textbook:**

Spielvogel, Jackson J. *Glencoe World History*, McGraw Hill, 2008.

We have a class set of books, which will remain in the classroom at all times.

We will also use a variety of other resources and texts in the classroom

**Rules & Expectations**

All rules in my classroom revolve around creating a caring, cooperative and effective learning environment.

1. Respect all others, yourself and the classroom environment.

2. Listen to and respect everyone’s thoughts and opinions.

3. Raise your hand if you need to speak or ask a question. (ask lots of questions!)

4. Use appropriate language in all interactions

5. Be prepared each day and stay on task

All school wide policies will be enforced in this classroom.

**Lateness and Attendance**

**Don’t be late!** Lateness is a major disruption and it affects the entire class. If you arrive to class late, you may miss quiz/test announcements, or other important information. Repetitive lateness will result in parental notification and possible guidance referral. If you are late, you must **sign the late notebook.**

As you can imagine, regular attendance is necessary to keep up with the material that we learn. In addition, lateness and absences will negatively affect your grade. Being absent or failing to pay attention in class will end up being extra work because it will require you to learn the material that you missed, along with the current material.

**Grading Policy**

**Assessments - 40 %**

* Exams, Writing Tasks, Essays, and Projects 30%
* Quizzes 10%

**Notebook/ Daily Student Work - 40 %**

* Classwork 30% (see classwork rubric)
* Homework 10%

**Participation – 20%** (see rubric)

**Assessments: 40%**

*Exams, Writing Tasks, Essays, and Projects 30%*

* Unit tests will be given at the end of each **unit** and will be designed to prepare students for the Regents exam in June. Other writing tasks and projects will be assigned and counted as assessments throughout the term. Assessments will be given weekly and unit exams will be given at the end of each unit.
* Writing is a key component of history and will therefore be practiced and assessed. There will be frequent essays, writing tasks and projects.

*Quizzes 10%*

* Quizzes will be given **once per week**. Quizzes are short and designed to take about 5-10 minutes of class time. This is your chance to see how you are doing and what you need to do to improve your understanding of class topics.

**Notebook/ Daily Student Work : (40%)**

*Classwork (30%)*

* All students must keep a notebook/3-ring binder. Your daily notebook entries should have the following heading:

**Student Name**

**Date**

**Aim**

**Do Now**

* All student notebooks will be collected and reviewed regularly. Students will be graded on the overall organization of their notebooks, completion of Do Nows, completion of class notes, and completion of independent in-class student tasks (see rubric).

*Homework (10%)*

* There will be at least 6 HW assignments per marking period. Assigned homework will be written on the board every day and will be posted on my website. Homework is due at the end of the week each week that it is assigned. NO LATE HOMEWORK IS ACCEPTED. If you are having trouble with a particular assignment you can come to office hours for help or ask for an extension. All extensions must be requested at least 2 days before the homework assignment is due.
* Homework Format: Non-Negotiable

**Student’s Name Date Assigned**

**Class Period Teacher’s Name**

 **Assignment**

* + Standards:
* Standard 8 ½ x 11 inch loose leaf paper
* Neat and Legible
* All students should have at least two study partners and are responsible to contacting them in the event of an absence from class
* Students must speak and write in **COMPLETE SENTENCES**
* Late Work:
1. Any student work turned in one day late will be subject to loss of 1 letter grade.
2. Any student work turned in two days late will be subject to loss of two letter grades.
3. Any student work turned in more than two days late will be subject to no credit. (Hint: Turn your work in *on time*.)
4. NO LATE HOMEWORK IS ACCEPTED

**Participation (20%)**

If you consistently ask questions, attempt to answer questions, remain on task, and follow the classroom expectations, then you will receive full credit. ***Disruptive behavior will result in deductions from your overall classwork/participation grade (see participation rubric).***

**Classroom Procedures:**

**BATHROOM**

As stated by school policy, no bathroom passes will be allowed during the first and last ten minutes of any period. If you need to use the restroom, raise your hand. I will silently acknowledge you with a yes or no. If you are allowed to use the restroom, simply get up, grab the bathroom pass, sign the bathroom log, and leave the room. Only two bathroom visits will be allowed per week.

**DISMISSAL**

I dismiss you, **not** the bell! Please remain in your seats until I say you may leave. I will always give you a late pass to your next class if I need to speak to you after class has ended.

**CLASSROOM CULTURE**

We will work hard to have a positive classroom environment. This classroom should be a space of collaboration and questioning, both important to learning history. In instances where that culture is disrupted, a record will be made and the Assistant Principal will determine the consequences.

**COMMUNICATION**

Again, feel free to contact me via email at @whsad.org or by phone at the school.

All assignments and information about the class will be posted on my website: <http://www.whsad.org/author/lesinski> (check it out!)

Student grades will be available on line at [www.skedula.com](http://www.skedula.com). See my website for more information.

**Course Outline**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Units*** | **Chapters** | **Approximate Month** |
| The World in 1750 |  | September & October |
| An Age of Revolution and Empire |  | October & November |
| Unresolved Global Conflict |  | December & January |
| Decolonization & Nationalism |  | February & March |
| Tensions between Tradition and Modernization |  | April |
| Globalization |  | May |
| Regents Prep |  | May & June |

***\*\*Return the attached Teacher copy signed by you and your parent.\*\****



**Williamsburg High School**

**for Architecture and Design**

Student Partnership Contract for Global History

Fall 2015

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**I have read the classroom rules and requirements for the Humanities Department. I understand the rules and requirements and will honor them for the 2015/2016 School Year.**

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT COPY**

*This goes in the FRONT of your binder*

Student Partnership Contract for Global History

Fall 2015

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Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TEACHER COPY**