

**Holy Names High School
World Cultures 2
2008-2009**

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Course Introduction, Rules, and Expectations

1. Course Outline:

- European Renaissance and Reformation
- Scientific Revolution and Age of Enlightenment
- 17th and 18th Century Age of Political Revolution
- Pre-Industrial European Colonialism
- Industrial Revolution and Post-Industrial European Colonialism
- West Africa in the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries
- World War I & the Age of Disillusionment
- Totalitarianism, World War II, and the Era of Nationalist Revolution
- Cold War and the Nuclear Era

2. Grading Scheme:

- Projects 55% (50%)
Projects include all production work done both inside and outside of the classroom. Projects may include, but are not limited to short answer work, problem analysis, simulation, research reports and presentations.
- Class Participation 12% (10%)
Class participation includes attendance and in-class student contributions to discussions, group work, debates, lectures, presentations, etc.
- Quizzes 11% (10%)
- Tests 22% (20%)
- Semester Final Exam 10%

Note that the above percentages add to 110% . Use the above listed percentages for all categories but Semester Final Exam to compute your grade during each Quarter. At the end of each Semester, multiply your cumulative quarter grade by 0.9, and then add your weighted Semester grade to it to compute your final grade.

Letter Grade Breakdown

93-100	A	83-86.9	B	73-76.9	C	63-66.9	D
90-92.9	A-	80-82.9	B-	70-72.9	C-	60-62.9	D-
87-89.9	B+	77-79.9	C+	67-69.9	D+	0-59.9	F

3. Notes & Homework:

- Notes are your responsibility. Throughout the quarter I may check notebooks. Good and thorough notes indicate studious and focused participation in class. Such notes will be a prerequisite, but not a guarantee, for a high participation grade. (Note that *good and thorough notes* will be defined as notation that is legible and that includes sufficient references to class discussions and lectures to indicate that the student was engaged throughout the course of the class period. Decisions about note content belong to you, the student).
- Homework – Homework will generally consist of reading assignments that will prepare and keep you abreast of the unit topics that you will study. Therefore, you will usually have homework during the week and over the weekend. Expect to receive homework each block/period that class meets.
- Homework is due the next class meeting following its assignment (unless announced otherwise – if in doubt, check the Web, where you will find homework assignments posted). Late work will be penalized. Homework completed one *class meeting* late will suffer a –25% penalty, homework completed two *class meetings* late will suffer a –50% penalty, and homework that is completed three or more *class meetings* late will not be accepted (zero points).
- If you are absent it will be your responsibility to know your homework assignment and complete it in a timely fashion. If you have an excused absence, then you may turn in your homework the next block/period after you return to class without penalty. Work turned in later than this may suffer penalty. If you have a debilitating illness then you, your parents, and I can negotiate an appropriate schedule for homework completion.
- There will be several ways that you can keep up on your homework assignments. (1) They will be announced in the classroom. (2) You can check the class web site where assignments will be posted, usually the day before the assignment is given. (3) You can call a friend.

4. Classroom Rules:

1. Work hard, play joyfully, and always give greater than 100%.
 - Practice high standards of academic integrity.
 - Enter class quietly, and be seated and ready to learn when class begins.
 - Respect yourself, your classmates, and your teacher.
 - Respect classroom property (no desk or wall writing)
 - Raise your hand to speak, otherwise maintain silent focus.
 - No put-downs, harassment, or inappropriate language in the classroom.
 - No cell phones or pagers in the classroom.
 - No eating, drinking, or gum chewing in the classroom.

5. Behavioral & Academic Standards:

It is expected that each student will faithfully and diligently keep and practice the following standards.

- You will arrive to class prepared both mentally and materially for the day's work. You will have read your assigned reading, come to class with your notebook and pencil or pen, and be prepared to actively engage in all activities and discussions.
- You will accord respect to all opinions and questions posited in the classroom, whether made by you, your classmates, your teacher, or guests.

- You will practice honesty and integrity in all of your academic endeavors, both inside and outside of the classroom. You are here to participate in the process of learning. Make this an enjoyable and exciting experience and not a competition. Failure to maintain appropriate standards of integrity and honesty will earn you zeros on assignments or tests and will hurt your participation grade. It will also result in disciplinary referral.
- Habitual tardiness and/or disruptive behavior will seriously and negatively impact your quarter and semester grades. Be on time to class, and always engage constructively in all classroom activities.
- Always respect the classroom environment. Let's keep it a safe and pleasant place of learning. Maintain silent focus unless called upon to speak. Always follow directions so that activities work as planned.
- Cell phones, pagers, and iPods must always be stored in your locker (any breach of this rule will result in confiscation).
- No food, drink, or gum chewing in the classroom.

6. Participation:

Active participation in all class activities and assignments is a vitally important and integral part of the World Cultures curriculum. We will engage in a lot of discussions, debates, group work, and projects over the course of the academic year. To extract the greatest benefit from your course of study in World Cultures you will need to be an active listener, inquisitor, and participant in all class assignments and activities. I cannot stress enough the importance of participation both in and outside (during group projects, for example) of class. 10% of your grade will be based on participation. This is not fluff, but a serious and vital component of your quarter and semester grades.

- Participation will be worth 10 points per week:

Participation Point Breakdown	
10 points	focused, prepared, and attentive
9 points	focused and prepared, but occasionally inattentive
7-8 points	occasionally prepared and alert, otherwise inattentive
0-6 points	unprepared, unfocused, sleeping, doing other work, or disruptive

7. Quizzes, Tests, & Exams:

- Quizzes – Quizzes will generally be taken after completion of reading assignments, and are principally designed to test your comprehension of those readings. Quizzes will typically consist of five multiple-choice questions. They may, on occasion, contain a short answer question.
- Tests – Tests will generally be taken at the end of formal units of study. Tests will typically require you to write one or more short essays. There may also be maps, graphs, or diagrams to sketch, short answer questions, term-matching, and multiple-choice questions.
- Exams – Exams will be taken at the end of each semester. Exams will always contain essays. Heavy emphasis will be placed on the essay portion of each exam. Also expect to sketch maps, graphs, or diagrams, match terms, write short answers, as well as complete a section of multiple choice questions. Exams will be comprehensive, which means they will cover an entire semester's work. However,

you will find each Exam's greatest emphasis placed on the unit of study most recently completed for the semester.

8. Materials:

- All students are required to have a separate notebook dedicated to World Cultures 2, pencil, pen, and eraser for note taking and other class work, and a folder (Pee Chee type) or three-ring binder for keeping all the current semester's work in an organized fashion.
- All students must also establish and maintain access to a computer, either at home, school, or both. The computer will be used for teacher-student-parent communication, as well as for research and general project work.
- Students must also have colored pencils or pens, and a ruler for graphical and artistic work. Some of this work will be performed in the classroom and some outside of it.

9. Books:

- McDougal Littell World History, Patterns of Interaction.
- Things Fall Apart, by Chinua Achebe.

10. ESLRs: WC2 will specifically address the following ESLRs.

- **A Holy Names High School Graduate is Intellectually Competent.**
 - **She reads for comprehension.** WC2 students will learn to actively engage with their reading by integrating new knowledge with old, asking questions, and seeking resolution to those questions.
 - **She writes competently.** WC2 students will practice writing well-crafted essays that both analyze problems and synthesize solutions. Emphasis will be placed on thesis statement generation and support.
 - **She extracts meaning and relevance from new information.** WC2 students will practice making sense of modern world history by learning to extract concepts and formulate lessons from historical data. WC2 students will accomplish this via analysis, question asking, and problem resolution.
- **A Holy Names High School Graduate is Committed to Personal Growth.**
 - **She collaborates with others and works cooperatively to achieve her goals.** WC2 students will work in small cooperative groups throughout the school year. These groups will provide each student the opportunity to learn leadership and interdependency by both helping others and accepting help in problem solving and analysis, as well as essay writing.
- **A Holy Names High School Graduate is Artistically Enriched.**
 - **She exhibits new learning through visual and dramatic arts presentations.** WC2 students will practice expressing knowledge and ideas through projects and activities that require artistic outputs, such as skits, videos, diagrams, and art.

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FORM & RETURN TO CLASS BY Monday, August 18, 2008.

I have read, understood, and will fully comply with all of the course expectations and rules as herein defined. Accordingly, I will accept full responsibility for all of my actions and any breaches of the course rules or expectations attributable to them.

Student Name (please print) _____

Student Class & Period _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Parent or Guardian Name (please print) _____

Parent or Guardian Daytime Phone Number _____

Parent or Guardian Signature _____

Date _____