

Belchertown High School - Honors Modern World History - Room 309 - Ms. Captein - 2009-2010

Description: Honors Modern World History is an accelerated, in depth course designed for students who welcome challenges. Throughout the year, academic excellence and responsible citizenship will be both fostered and expected. By studying history, you will learn more about the world, helping you become a more productive contributor to society. During the course of the year, we will review major topics in ancient world history, but we will focus on world history from the age of the absolute monarchs through the present day.

Benefits: You will:

- Develop reading, writing (including note-taking), and speaking skills
- Participate in activities that encourage leadership
- Use critical & creative thinking strategies to develop reasoning & problem solving skills
- Acquire, process, and utilize information from a variety of resources, including the internet
- Study the chronological order of events and recognize cause and effect in history.
- Realize that people are affected by their environment, background, and era.
- Recognize the importance of individuals.
- Discuss current events
- Understand and exercise your rights and responsibilities as citizens
- Appreciate subject matter across the curriculum

Textbooks:

World History: Connections to Today: The Modern Era (Prentice Hall)

World History: The Human Odyssey (West Educational Publishing)

Sources in World History: Volume II (Thomson - Wadsworth)

- Please note that there will also be additional readings

Materials needed:

- Binder with paper (you can have multiple subjects in the same binder)
- Pen and or pencil
- Covered book (you will *not* need to bring your textbook to class on a daily basis)

The Study Guide:

- You will receive a study guide for every chapter / unit.
- You will need your study guide to do your homework.
- You need to keep your study guide in a safe place; **I do not hand out replacement study guides.**

Major Tests:

- Midterm Exam: Taken in January, it covers the material studied in the first half of the year.
- Final Exam: Taken in June, it covers the material studied in the second half of the year.
- The final exam grade on your report card is the average of the midterm and final exam scores.

Extra Help:

If you ever need any extra help, please see me before school, during my directed study hall: C period, or after school (by appointment). You can also reach me at: lcaptein@belchertown.org

Benefits of Doing YOUR best:

- Pride, Confidence, Reference / Recommendation letters, Oriole VIP, and the Honor Roll

Assessment and Grading System: Grades are posted regularly, usually on Sunday evenings

20% Assignments (Study Guide and other assignments)

- Homework is **not accepted late unless you have an excused absence**
- Homework assignments are graded as follows:

5 = All questions answered / brief, correct answers that include supporting details

4 = All questions answered / brief, but mostly correct, answers that include a few basic supporting details

3 = Incomplete (about half of the questions are answered OR all are answered, but without basic details)

2 = Incomplete (approximately a quarter of the questions are answered)

1 = Incomplete (a few questions are answered)

NOTE: Often, we will go over homework in class. It is YOUR responsibility to ensure your homework answers are correct.

70% Assessments - including tests, quizzes, and projects

10% Participation, which includes keeping a history journal and contributing to a positive classroom environment