

# *Emerick's Course Guidelines*

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## **Thoughts for success!**

Each semester provides us with the opportunity to make a new beginning. You have the ability to choose the kind of semester you would like to have. I am here to help you attain your academic goals. Communication is the key to us having a successful semester together. Please ask for clarification, extra help, or whatever you need in order to attain your academic goals. You may visit me outside of class or email me anytime for assistance. The best time to see me outside of class is before school. "It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities," J.K. Rowling. Please make good choices while inside and outside of this class.

## **Class Environment:**

Learning and stretching our thinking is an exciting experience that sometimes takes us outside of our comfort zones. In order for us to create a class environment that is conducive to learning and thoughtfulness, we must encourage each other to explore ideas and allow for differences. Social studies addresses controversy, therefore an environment of respect is critical. In addition to being polite to everyone, including myself, please also take the time to practice positive communication skills while in class.

## **What class is this for?**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade World History is a semester long course that focuses on the following essential questions: How do we see the world? What is history all about? Who writes the story of history? What are the origins of inequality in the modern world? What brings about significant changes in existing societies? What is human nature? How do communities of human beings govern themselves? How do they determine who gets to govern and how? This course is designed to examine time periods of significant historic upheavals – revolutions – to answer these and other questions. Activities in this class include, but are not limited to, discussions, projects, simulations, small group activities, lectures, and the assessment of a variety of readings. By the end of this semester, you will have developed the skills necessary to demonstrate proficiency on the Research and Framing strands of the Social Studies Analysis. In addition, Common Core literacy skills in reading and writing will be emphasized and developed. When our semester is complete you will be able to: Frame a research question; Distinguish between primary and secondary sources; Evaluate a source's point of view for bias, credibility, stereotyping and misrepresentation; Demonstrate an understanding of historical chronology; Use historical data from a variety of sources to support an argument or position; Interpret and apply data from primary source documents, including political cartoons, graphs, letters, works of art, music, etc.; Effectively use analytical skills of evaluation, cause and effect, compare and contrast; Work effectively alone and with others.

### **Units of Study - These may include, but are not limited to, the following:**

1. Course Introduction: Worldview & the Origins of Inequality
2. Agricultural Revolutions
3. The French Revolution
4. Industrial Revolution & the Russian Revolution
5. Social Studies Analysis

## Attendance ~

Activities and in-class learning are unique opportunities. Your ability to master content will be affected by both your physical and mental attendance. Absences also have ramifications for the class as a community of learners (discussions, group work, etc.). If you are absent it is **your responsibility** to find out what you have missed, to **provide yourself** with the necessary materials, and to make-up your missed class work within the amount of time allotted by me. Please do not use class time for this. Exams and long-range assignments that you have been notified of in advance must be taken or turned in immediately upon return. **Some long range assignments will be due regardless of your attendance.** *Contacting me is your responsibility = please practice advocating for yourself.* Tests will be put in the academic support center for you to make up, unless you arrange an alternative testing time with me.

Unexcused absences will result in a grade of a zero for any assignments or activities **due or missed** on the day(s) of absences. Check your attendance online before class to know if your absence has been excused.

## RULES, RULES, RULES:

Your behavior in class needs to follow the 4 Compelling State Interests, outlined below.

1. The Right to Health and Safety in the Classroom
2. The Right to have Personal Property Protected
3. Activities must have a Legitimate Educational Purpose
4. Rights and Needs of Others must be Protected

### Additional Rules:

1. The school's **tardy policy** is 4 tardies = referral After 10 minutes = UA
2. The classroom should be left at least as clean as you found it. Please do not pack up your stuff before we have finished for the day. Please do not wait by the door at the end of the class period.
3. School requires that there is **no food or drink near computers**. You may have **healthy beverages in closed containers** and **healthy snacks** inside our classroom.
4. **Classroom Substitutes, Visitors, Visitations:** Any visitor in our classroom needs to be treated with respect. Substitutes are to be considered and treated as guests. Any positive comments from a substitute will be rewarded. Your behavior represents me and all of WLHS.
5. I will follow the school's **20 minute rule**.
6. Phones and electronics – Cell Phones **ARE NOT PERMITTED** to be out DURING THE CLASS PERIOD. All devices should be **turned off** and kept in your classroom pocket **for the duration** of the class period. We have a class set of Chrome Books to use for research and school work. During the first two weeks of school, students will receive warnings for violating the policy. After those two weeks, if students violate the policy more than three times per quarter, the device will be confiscated and sent to an administrator.

## GRADES\*

I grade on a point system and the computer calculates the percentages. Here are my grade cut offs by percentage: A = 89%      B = 78%      C = 67%      D = 56%      F = below 55%

I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK.      I WILL NOT ACCEPT LATE WORK.

YOU CAN ASK, BUT I WON'T ACCEPT LATE WORK.      PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU ARE CLEAR ON LATE WORK BEFORE YOUR FIRST ASSIGNMENT IS DUE.

*Please keep this for the entire time you are with me and be aware that you will be tested on these policies.*