

DUKE ELLINGTON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS
WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY I
COURSE SYLLABUS
2009-2010

Instructor: Melanie Chamberlain
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Course Description:

This year-long course has a two-fold mission: to examine the major world civilizations and to provide students with the fundamental principles of geography. Students will study not only from written texts, but also from films, songs, art, and primary documents. The history component of the course will emphasize the rise and fall of the ancient civilizations of Africa, Asia, Mediterranean Europe and the Americas and the cultural and geographic forces that influenced significant historical events.

Physical and human geography will also be integrated into this course. Students will explore the significance of geography to the civilizations studied, and will be provided with a more global perspective of historical and modern events.

Required Materials:

1. 1" 3-ring binder (or section marked "World History" in a larger binder)
2. Loose leaf notebook paper, college-ruled
3. Several #2 pencils or blue or black ink pens

Students must have supplies by Tuesday, September 1. This will be a homework grade.

Course Policies & Procedures

Attendance:

- **Attendance is mandatory.** Students who miss class or who are late to class will miss important material. Per school policy, five unexcused absences will result in a failing grade (Fa – failure due to absences). Please refer to the Ellington community handbook for full attendance policies. **Nothing can substitute for attendance.**
- **Tardies.** Three unexcused tardies will count as an unexcused absence. Be in class **when the bell rings.**

Participation:

- I expect students to go to their lockers and utilize the restroom during the passing period. Participation points will be docked for students who routinely leave class.
- Points will be lost for interrupting a presenter (teacher or classmate), sleeping in class or otherwise disrupting the activity.

Academic Honesty:

Students who plagiarize or cheat will receive a zero for the given assignment and further disciplinary action will be taken.

Classroom Restrictions:

Do not bring the following items to class:

- Cell phones
- food / drinks (except water)
- gum
- hats

Student Work:

- Assignments are due on the date specified. Work turned in after I collect it will be considered late. Late work will not be accepted.
- Students are responsible for making up assignments when they are absent. Students excused for school activities should make arrangements before the scheduled activity and will have ONE WEEK from the date of the absence to make up work. **I am not responsible for making sure you do make up work.**
- Students are required to keep a portfolio of their work and class materials. This includes tests, quizzes, homework, handouts, class notes & handouts. Notebooks may be checked at any time.

Grading:

Tests & Quizzes	40%
Homework & Participation	30%
Projects	20%
Portfolio	10%

DCPS Grading Scale:

- A = 93-100
- A- = 90-92
- B+ = 87-89
- B = 83-86
- B- = 80-82
- C+ = 77-79
- C = 73-76
- C- = 70-72
- D+ = 67-69
- D = 64-66
- F = 63 and below

Melanie Chamberlain
August 2009

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World History & Geography I
Ms. Melanie Chamberlain

*** Parents and students, please read the preceding pages and sign and return the attached sheet by Tuesday, September 1. This will be a homework grade.*

I have read thoroughly and agree to support the policies and procedures of this class.

Student Signature

Student name (Print)

Student E-mail Address

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian name (Print)

Date

Phone

Parent E-mail Address

Parent Comments:

What do you want me to know about your child? Feel free to voice concerns or just take this chance to brag. Please contact me anytime with questions or concerns at melanie.chamberlain@k12.dc.us