World History I and Honors- Mrs. Shields
2014-2015 Syllabus

“Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it”
~ George Santayana

Your Teacher

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Course Description

Welcome to World History, Part I! This course surveys the path of world events from ancient times until 1500 A.D. (C.E.) in terms of the impact on Western civilization. The first semester will begin with the study of human origins, early civilizations and pre-history to 1000 B.C.E. We will then move onto classical civilizations and the rise of religions in the world. This course will conclude with regional interactions that pertain to Europe and the Renaissance as well as empires of both the Eastern and Western Hemispheres.

Course Objectives

Per the Virginia Standards of Learning:

The study of history rests on knowledge of dates, names, places, events, and ideas. Historical understanding, however, requires students to engage in historical thinking, raise questions, and marshal evidence in support of their answers. Students engaged in historical thinking draw upon chronological thinking, historical comprehension, historical analysis and interpretation, historical research, and decision making. These skills are developed through the study of significant historical substance from the era or society being studied.

Classroom Rules and Expectations

1) On time means sitting in your seat prepared to begin working as soon as the tardy bell rings.
2) Respect yourself, your teacher, and your fellow classmates.
3) Communication is the key to any successful relationship so don’t hesitate to ask me questions.
4) By the end of each nine weeks, anyone who is missing assignments will be required to printout their grades from Power School and MUST have BOTH the teacher and the parents or guardians sign verifying that assignments are missing with the understanding that every assignment will be completed and turned in for ZERO credit.
All students are subject to the Mathews High School Honor Code which reads: “I will not lie, cheat, steal, or assist those who do.” Students will be required to write the following pledge on all work to which the Honor Code applies: “I have neither given nor received help on this assignment.”

Class work:

Daily class work is graded and points vary as determined by the assignment. Students are expected to complete all assignments in class and submit it at the end of the block for a grade. Those assignments that are not completed and turned in, will be assigned as homework and students will be responsible for seeing that their work is submitted by the next class period. Work submitted late will be reduced by half the points of the original assignment.

Homework:

The purpose of homework is to review and reinforce the concepts that were discussed during the class period. Homework is due at the beginning of each class period. Late homework will be reduced by half the points of the original assignment.

Major Papers, Projects, and Presentations:

Papers, projects, and presentations are due on the due date. Without exception, ANY paper, project, or presentation that is late will have its grade reduced by (10) points for each day it is past due up to five days after that, the grade turns to a zero.

Extra-Credit:

Extra-credit means credit you earn above what you are required to complete for class, such as homework, class work, projects, etc. *Extra-credit will be given to those who are completing their work on time and making an effort in class to succeed. Assignments will be given based on the material being covered in class and curriculum that we have or are currently studying.

*Students who complete ALL of their assignments and submit them ON Time will receive an additional 50 Academic Achievement points at the end of each quarter.

**Students who do not complete their work on time and have accumulated zeroes may earn 25 Academic Achievement points at the end of each quarter by obtaining and completing all of their missing work.

***Students who do not make attempt Academic Achievement will NOT be eligible for extra credit.
MHS Grading Scale:

90-100 = A  
80-89 = B  
70-79 = C  
60-69 = D  
0-59 = F

Absences & Make-Up Work

Students are dissuaded from any absences unless a true illness or emergency arises. With that said, the following are the rules for make-up work:

1) Tests, quizzes, or assignments due on a day missed are due the first day that the student returns to school.
2) Any work assigned on the day the student has an EXCUSED absence is due within five (5) days of the student’s return to school. Any work assigned on the day the student has an UNEXCUSED absence is due the next time the class meets.
3) Any work not made up by the date specified will be scored a zero and the student will still be responsible for turning in their missing assignments.
Name: _____________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

First Assignment: In order to help you start the year off on the right foot, you must review this syllabus with your parent(s) or guardians and **BOTH** of you must sign it and return the signatures to me by **Thursday, September 4, 2014**.

Failure to do so will result in your first ZERO!

I have read and understood the attached syllabus and honor code:

_______________________________    ______________________________
Student                                     Parent