

World Civilizations II

Mr. Leo Kiralla 2009-2010

lkiralla@immaculateheart.org

Office Hours:

Office hours will be on Tuesday after school until 3:30 PM. Students are also welcome to schedule an appointment during their lunch hour.

Course Description:

This course is designed to familiarize students with the evolution of the modern world. We will begin with the Renaissance and conclude in the middle of the twentieth century. Students will encounter the vast changes in the world's political, economic, and social structures. Themes will vary from globalization, the struggles of modernity, nationalism, religious, social, and political revolution, as well as shifts in war, and basic political and economic philosophies. Students should also develop a greater knowledge of geography, art, philosophy, and religion in order to attain a richer perspective on each of historical era. Class discussion will emphasize critical thinking, examination of source materials, and discussing the weekly readings. Students must come to class prepared having completed their readings consistently.

Goals and Objectives:

The goals of this course include:

- Foster an appreciation and interest in studying history.
- Understand the importance of historical inquiry and its relevance in addressing modern world issues.
- Comparing and contrasting pre-modern and modern societies in terms of culture, religion, politics, and legacy.
- Strengthen students' ability to formulate coherent and well-informed theses when discussing, writing about, or debating history.
- Help students understand primary and secondary sources and the means in which modern historical analysis is conducted.
- Raise awareness and concern about issues of social justice, current world politics, globalization, and the use of history in the modern world. That is, to apply their knowledge of history to the present.

Course Expectations

The most important rule in the classroom is respect. Every student has the right to participate and share in class. Students should respect that there are many perspectives and opinions in studying and discussing our world. By respecting various approaches to the material and class discussions we will have a much richer and dynamic course of study. Students should also respect themselves by working hard and approaching class with a positive attitude. Students are expected to regularly keep up with class readings, to take notes on each night's readings, and to keep an organized notebook and journal.

Required Materials

- *World History*. Ellis, Elisabeth G. and Esler, Anthony. Prentice Hall Boston, MA. 2007.
- A full size, large notebook which will be used for class notes and journal
- Two different colored pens

Course Outline

The major themes in our course of study include: the Renaissance and Reformation, Beginnings of Globalism, Monarchies in Europe, Age of Enlightenment, American and French Revolutions, The Industrial Revolution, Nationalism, Imperialism, World War I, World War II, and The Cold War

Grading

Grading will be based on a point system. Point totals will vary between assignments. Generally, weekly quizzes are worth 20 points, tests and projects are 100 points, and homework assignments are 10 points. The final exam will be worth approximately 20% of the student's final grade.

90-100 % = A

80-89 % = B

70-79 % = C

60-69 % = D

Absences and Late Work

If a student is absent for an assignment they are expected to stay current by checking on-line or with a classmate to find out what they have missed. Students are expected to turn in missed assignments as soon as they return to school. Late assignments will not be accepted. If a student misses multiple days, or misses class on a quiz or test day, they must see me the day that they return to discuss how the work can be made up. In extreme circumstances students will be offered make-up or extra assignments to help their grade.