

# The Holocaust Course Syllabus

My name is Dustin Richters and I will be your instructor for The Holocaust course. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself and express some of my rules and expectations. I would also like to give a brief outline of some of the topics that we will be covering in class this trimester. Please take a few moments to read and sign this outline so that I can ensure that all students and parents/guardians will have a basic idea of what to expect from this course.

I have three years of experience as a high school Social Studies teacher. My educational background is in Social Studies and Secondary Education, including a senior-level college study on Nazi Germany.

## Class Expectations:

1. Be on time and prepared to work. Bring appropriate materials.
2. Treat others with respect. Solve problems without profanity, fighting and shouting.
3. Raise your hand to talk.
4. All rules in the Aitkin High School Student Handbook apply in this class.

## Consequences:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Minor/Major

## Grading Procedures:

1. All assignments will be graded upon a point scale and averaged together. Assignments that are more difficult or time consuming will generally be given a higher point value than smaller ones, for example tests will be given a higher point value than homework assignments. Letter grade values are as follows:

A = 94% +	C = 74-76%
A- = 90-93%	C- = 70-73%
B+ = 87-89%	D+ = 67-69%
B = 84-86%	D = 64-66%
B- = 80-83%	D- = 60-63%
C+ = 77-79%	F = 59% and below

**Notebooks:** Each student will be expected to maintain a folder/notebook. The notebook will be an excellent resource for students and will contain items such as tests, quizzes, maps and important documents. Students will be told what they are expected to keep in their notebook or folder. *Occasionally* students will be allowed to use their notebooks on quizzes, so it would be in their best interests to keep their notebooks with them, as they will **not** be allowed to use another student's notes during these quizzes.

**Late Work:** Students are expected to complete all work in a timely manner. Work that is turned in late will be deducted by 50% if the work is turned in one day late. A student will not receive credit if work is turned in after one day. If a student has an **excused absence** it is **their** responsibility to get the make-up assignment. Students should also make arrangements to get any missed notes from a classmate. **Students will not have points deducted if they have an excused absence as long as they get it in within the time allowed by the student handbook.** Students that are absent from a quiz or test must make up that work within one week of their return. I try to hand back work to students in a timely manner and I cannot return work when other students still need to complete the work. It is not fair to students to have to wait simply because some students have not taken time to complete an assignment.

### **Course Topics:**

This course is designed to show the history of anti-Semitism throughout Europe and how this led to what is now known as the Holocaust during the 1930s and early 1940s.

Topics will include:

- The conditions that allowed the Nazi party to rise to power.
- The development of the Nazi party.
- Initial persecution of groups targeted by the Nazis during the period.
- Methods of persecution.
- Analysis of the timeline and intensity of persecution.
- The end of the Holocaust and post-Holocaust action.
- Research and analysis of other genocides of the past century.
- If time allows we will examine several survivor stories.
- We will also read *Trapped in Hitler's Hell* by Anita Dittman as part of this course.

### **Contact Information:**

Students that would like extra help are encouraged to contact me to make arrangements. Please feel free to contact me at school with any questions or concerns that you may have. My number is 927-2115 ext. 302 or by email at [drichters@aitkin.k12.mn.us](mailto:drichters@aitkin.k12.mn.us). If I am unavailable when you call please leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible.

This course will include serious, and sometimes disturbing, topics. You are expected to maintain an attitude of maturity, respect, and professionalism throughout the entirety of this course.

Please read the following statement and acknowledge that you have reviewed the syllabus. Also, have a parent or guardian review the syllabus and sign as well. Turn in this page of the syllabus to Mr. Richters no later than the following Monday. Consider this your first assignment for the course.

*I have reviewed the preceding syllabus for World Cultures and understand what is to be expected from the student during the duration of this course.*

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_