

Western Civilization/World History Course Syllabus

Allow me to introduce myself, my name is Dustin Richters and I will be your instructor for Western Civilization/World History. Please take a moment to read and sign this syllabus so that you will know what is expected of you this year. This syllabus will outline classroom expectations, grading, materials you are expected to bring to class, and a brief outline of the topics we will cover this year. I look forward to sharing this school year with you and with your cooperation we can make this an excellent year.

Classroom Rules:

- Follow the Student Behavior Expectations as listed in your student handbooks.
- Follow the four core values of AHS: Respect, Responsibility, Character, and Pride.
- Please ask if you need to leave the classroom.
- NO CELL PHONES! I will take them away! This is a school policy that you have *no excuse* to plead ignorance about.
- I will allow water or other “healthy” drinks in the classroom. Please do not bring pop, coffee, or energy drinks to class. Any food needs to be from individually wrapped containers, such as a granola bar.
- Raise your hand to talk.

Grading Scale:

I will average your final grade from four different categories: homework, projects, participation and tests/quizzes. Each category will be worth a certain percent of your final grade.

Homework = 40%

Tests/Quizzes = 30%

Projects = 20%

Participation = 10%

Participation Grades

Participation grades will be based on bringing the required materials to class, arriving to class on time, participating in discussions, appropriate behavior in the classroom, and turning in assignments on time.

Letter Grades:

A = 94% and above

A- = 90-93%

B+ = 87-89%

B = 84-86%

B- = 80-83%

C+ = 77-79%

C = 74-76%

C- = 70-73%

D+ = 67-69%

D = 64-66%

D- = 60-63%

F = 59% and below

Late Work Policy:

- Students are expected to turn in all work on the days assigned. Late work will have 50% of the points deducted from the total points possible. If the assignment is more than one week late it will receive a zero. If a student has an excused absence it is **their responsibility** to get

the missed assignment. After any absence the student should talk to me, or ask a friend, to find out what he/she missed. Any missed notes should be attained from a classmate. Missed tests and quizzes need to be made up within **two days** of the absence or risk a failing grade on the activity.

- Students with excused absences will have two days per day absent to make up missing work with no late penalty as stated in the student handbook.

Notebooks:

Each student will be expected to maintain a binder/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.

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.

Course Topics:

The biggest question on many of your minds is probably, "What exactly will we be doing in this class?" This class focuses on the history of the 'Western World' and demonstrates how our society has evolved to its current state. We will start with the earliest known humans and work up to the French Revolution. During these topics we will discuss and analyze the people, cultures, conflicts, and hardships of each period, and discover important human developments of the past millennia. My goal is to demonstrate how our current civilization has been formed by studying the civilizations and transformations of the past. It is important to understand how the past has influenced the present.

Topics/Regions:

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Earliest Humans | Western Asia and Egypt | Ancient Greece |
| Rome | Europe in the Middle Ages | Renaissance and Reformation |
| Age of Exploration | Revolution and Enlightenment | ...and many more! |

What I expect you to bring to class EVERY DAY:

- Pencil and Pen
- Notebook
- Textbook
- Folder for Handouts and Assignments (if your notebook has a built in folder that is OK)

Not Required But Recommended:

- Colored Pencils
- Black Fine Tipped Marker

*****Special Note:**

I would advise you to avoid using text notations in any of your work. This annoys most teachers and if I see it I will be ROFIF (Rolling on Floor in Frustration).

Any student that needs or wants extra help is encouraged to talk to me to make those arrangements. Feel free to contact me at the school with any questions or concerns. My number at the school is (218)927-2115 ext. 3108 or you may contact me through email at drichters@aitkin.k12.mn.us. I prefer to be contacted by email. Thank you.

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 Western Civilization and understand what is to be expected from the student during the duration of this course.

Student: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____