

# World Cultures

Mrs. Kennedy

Room 219

## Course Description:

World Cultures is a full year course that examines, on a broad basis, great empires, civilizations of the world, current issues concerning the world today, and history. Some topics that we will look at this year include but are not limited to global environment, geographical concepts, Africa, Middle East, Asia, Europe, and world religions. We will explore units of study through lecture, notes, visual aids, group work, projects, supplemental reading assignments, and other methods to enhance your learning experience.

## WORLD CULTURES Syllabus Overview:

Marking Period 1*	Marking Period 2*	Marking Period 3*	Marking Period 4*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Intro/Tolerance</li><li>• The Global Environment</li><li>• What is Culture?</li><li>• Columbian Culture Exchange</li><li>• Judaism</li><li>• Holocaust: Views from victim, bystander, and Nazi</li><li>• World Maps of Countries</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Christianity</li><li>• Islam</li><li>• World Maps of Countries</li><li>• Winter Holidays Project</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hinduism</li><li>• Buddhism</li><li>• United Nations</li><li>• <i>Invictus</i></li><li>• Sushi, Tea, and Origami</li><li>• World Maps of Countries</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regional Studies – if time</li><li>• AMAZING RACE</li><li>• Create-a-Culture Project – if time</li><li>• Review for Final Exam</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Events through newspaper/magazine</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Events through newspaper/magazine</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Events through newspaper/magazine</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current Events through newspaper/magazine</li></ul>

\* units are subject to change slightly due to time, discussion, areas of student interest, teacher discretion, etc.

## Class Times and Beginning Procedure:

Class starts when the bell rings. You are required to have a pass if you are going to be late. Tardiness will be reported to the office. You are expected to have all materials needed for class ready to go so that class can begin.

Please place all book bags, purses, phys. ed. bags, etc. towards the back of the classroom. Have all materials needed for class at your seat. This will help greatly when I need to go around the room to help, check assignments, etc and also for when desks need to be moved for group and/or partner work.

## Assignments:

All assignments will be given specific due dates. The exception will be homework, which unless otherwise stated will be expected to be completed for the next school day. Late assignments will be accepted the **next** day for **half** credit. Please place the work in the box in the front of the classroom and mark "A" for absent and "L" for late.

There will be times where group projects and group work will occur. You will have plenty of time to complete your assignment(s). Should you have any problems with an assignment and/or group member(s), you need to see me immediately. I can help you with a problem before the due date. Please understand that if you come to me at the very last minute, your options and my options are limited. Therefore, the choices available may not be one in your favor. It is to your advantage to discuss *any* problems with me *immediately*.

Ink Color: Tests, quizzes, and all assignments that will be handed in needs to be completed in blue or black ink. Pencil is also acceptable. I usually correct in colored ink so compliance to the ink color will make it easier to determine who wrote what.

## Make-up Work and Missing Class Policies:

Excused absences will be given full credit for assignments turned in. On the day of your return, you will be expected to hand in any work that you had before your absence for full credit. You will be allowed one day to make up work for each day of an excused absence. Any long-term assignments will retain the scheduled due date. If you know you will be missing class, (sports, lessons, family, etc.) schedule a time with me *before or after* (not during class time) school to collect the work that you will need and to hand in any assignments. If you are missing a test and/or major assignment due date for a school sponsored event, you are expected to take the test beforehand or the next school day and you are expected to hand in your work. If you cannot find me, you can always place the assignment in my mailbox in the office.

Ultimately, it is *your responsibility* to make up your work. I recommend that you see me about missed information, including tests *before or after* school. If you cannot meet before or after school, it is *your responsibility* to *set up an alternative time*. Please do not take class time to ask me about your personal make-up needs. I will be able to focus more on your personal requirements when I'm not trying to conduct class. It's also a good idea to check with a classmate to obtain notes, objectives, etc. There is a bulletin board marked "WHAT DID I MISS" in the back of the classroom. You can pick up all missing handouts in the appropriately labeled "day."

Make-ups will not be allowed for unexcused absences.

#### **Your Notebook:**

You must maintain a notebook to keep your World Cultures notes and handouts. (I recommend you keep a separate a three-ring binder.) **Your notebook must be brought to class everyday.** You will be expected to take notes from lecture, class discussion, presentations, etc., as well as the daily objectives and the bell ringer. Organization is the key to success. Please keep your notebook clean. There will be occasions where you will receive many handouts. Please place these important papers in your notebook and not on the floor or trash can. RANDOM notebook checks will be conducted. Each check will be worth 10 points. If it is a bell ringer check, I look to see that you have (1) the date, (2) the bell ringer, (3) answer to the bell ringer, (4) the agenda. Missing parts to this check will earn partial credit. Not having it results in no credit. If I am checking for other items in your notebook, I will announce what I am looking for. Unfortunately, notebook checks will not be given credit "after the fact." Have your materials!

#### **Grading Procedure:**

Your grade is based upon a cumulative point system. The total number of points you have earned will be divided into the total number of points possible. Grades are given to quizzes, tests, projects, notebook reviews, homework, participation, etc. I do not apply curves to any work. Your final year end grade is a formulated average from the four marking periods and your final exam. (Yes, there is a final exam at the end of the year.)

#### **Extra Credit:**

Please do not request extra credit. I do not assign extra credit to individuals. Occasionally, extra credit point(s) can be earned on tests or quizzes. This will be at instructor discretion.

#### **Academic Integrity:**

Please maintain your academic integrity. **Any work observed (by me or someone else) as copied will result in "0" for both the person that copied and the person that allowed the copying to occur.** Do not ask your friend to compromise his/her character for a couple of points. You can ALWAYS hand in your work the next day for half credit. **Any test or quiz found to be cheated on will result in a "0".** You will not be able to make up those points by taking another test. I will also contact your parent/guardian with any concerns that may arise. Academic integrity is of the utmost importance. I will make sure that the fullest academic consequences are followed up on any instances of compromise or violations.

When it is necessary for you to write a paper in World Cultures, you **MUST** document your sources. Failure to not document means you have taken someone's academic idea as your own; another word for plagiarism. This will not be tolerated at any level, from anyone. Such undocumented works will result in a "0."

#### **Behavior Expectations:**

The expectation of your conduct is one of honor and character. Please respect the feelings, opinions, space, and ideas of others. You do not have to agree with others' thoughts but you do have to honor that they have a right to their educational experience. Some topics that we discuss in class will be controversial. In the spirit of academia, the expectation is that you behave and treat others with the respect and dignity that you would want to be treated with. Violations of appropriate behavior can result in but not limited to teacher detention, office referral, and/or contact with a parent/guardian, not necessarily in that order.

Needs to go to your locker for forgotten material will be tolerated once a marking period. Everyone forgets; everyone gets one "freebie." The second time will result in a teacher detention. Further actions will be taken if this behavior repeats.

#### **Last Words of Mrs. Kennedy:**

Just a couple last comments to make our year together great:

- o Be proud of your work. Quality counts. Accuracy counts. Do your best work...perfection is not the goal but putting forth your best effort is.
- o Be positive in your comments.
- o Be responsible. Try not to blame others. You are ultimately responsible for your own actions and words.

#### **Classroom Expectations:**

1. **Respect EVERYONE in the room.**
2. **Be on time for class and be prepared for class.**
3. **Only one person speaks at a time.**
4. **Follow the directions given by the teacher.**
5. **Participate in class.**
6. **Be responsible.**
7. **Put forth your best effort.**

#### **One last thing...**

PLEASE do not hesitate to speak to me about any concerns. Every effort will be made on my part to help you be successful in this class.