

# World History Course Syllabus

Mr. Matthew Coltrane

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**THE PURPOSE OF THIS COURSE** is to help the student explore material that has been designed to fulfill the North Carolina Department of Education's prescribed standards for the study of World History. In our study of this material, we will engage in lecture, note-taking, reading of required texts and primary source material, class discussions, writing practice, and individual and small group activities. Of particular importance during this academic year will be the development of certain critical academic skills, namely, 1) crafting historical arguments based on historical evidence, 2) using chronological reasoning, 3) comparing and contextualizing different periods, regions, events, etc..., and 4) interpreting evidence and synthesizing this with evidence from different periods and areas.

## **Materials**

- You need a binder to keep notes, returned tests and quizzes, handouts, etc..
- You need pens and pencils. Please make certain that you don't have to keep borrowing them from other people.
  - Colored pencils will be provided, but it would be a good idea for you to have a small collection of colored markers and highlighters.

## **COURSE CONTENT**

The content coverage for this course will be extensive and multidimensional. You and I will be learning about and discussing a lot of fascinating stuff this year. We will be using the following materials during our semester of World History:

- Primary sources, including photos of art, statuary, and architecture.
- Magazine and journal articles.
- Audio and video resources, including NPR journalistic pieces, documentaries, and TED talks.
- Published data in varied forms that require objective and interpretive analysis.

To prepare you for your semester exams, you will be:

- Reading the assigned textbook chapters and handouts.
- Participating in class lectures and activities, including note-taking.
- Completing, to the best of your ability, course assignments.

## **CLASSROOM PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS**

On a daily basis, I expect you to...

- Be on time.
- Respect yourself and others.
- Be prepared.
- Do your best work.
- Maintain an environment for learning.
- Keep a positive attitude.

- Take responsibility.
- Dress appropriately.
- Use your time wisely.

You are expected to pay attention in class. This means paying attention during lessons and lectures, paying attention to your fellow classmates when they are speaking, paying attention to whatever reading or research you are doing in class, and paying attention to your own learning. Do not become a distraction to yourself and others. Make certain you are able to keep your notes and assignments current by paying careful attention to what's going on in class.

Students are expected to have their cell phones turned off or silenced during class time. Texting during class is unacceptable. There will be times when I will have you use your phones/devices for classwork, but when that is not the case KEEP YOUR PHONES PUT AWAY. If I see your phone being used outside of teacher-sanctioned research times, I will remind you of the policy. If you choose not to comply with my request, you will be referred to the front office on account of your insubordination

Academic discussions will be conducted in a respectful manner. When participating in classroom discussions, I expect you to be patient and respectful, and to speak to one another using a measured tone of voice. Even if the conversation is animated, that doesn't mean that we are supposed to be talking all over one another. Nobody is to be shut out of the conversation, and all are encouraged to actively participate to the best of their abilities. Rudeness and personal attacks will not be tolerated. This kind of behavior may incur a loss of credit for the day, and possibly a referral for administrative involvement. Pull one another up. Don't cut one another down.

**Parents:**

I am very excited to have the opportunity to teach your child this semester! If, for any reason, you need to contact me throughout the semester the best way to do so is by email ([mcoltrane@randolph.k12.nc.us](mailto:mcoltrane@randolph.k12.nc.us)). If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask!

Acknowledgement:

Students name: \_\_\_\_\_

Students Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parents email \_\_\_\_\_