

# World History

## Lakewood High School 2016-17

Carl Spetzler: Instructor  
Room: A213, Office: D202

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**Office Hours:** Before or after school, blocks 1, 3, 8 in D202 and Study Deck on Orange Thursdays from 12:00 - 1:30pm. Appointments are recommended.

**Materials:** 3 ring notebook or folder, college ruled paper, pens, pencils, colored pencils, and red pens to grade quizzes.

**Attendance:** Feel free to come to class if you want to be successful. If you are absent it is your responsibility to find out what you missed before returning to class by checking the web page.

**Overview:** A thorough understanding of World History is essential for every citizen in this rapidly changing and increasingly interconnected global society. The challenges that face humankind can only be solved by individuals within a society that can grasp the evolution of our species, our impacts on the biosphere and the complex cultural systems we have created over time and space. Social Sciences such as Geography, Economics, Anthropology, and Political Science, as well as the respective Physical Sciences, will be woven into our studies and inform our historical analysis. Truly, World History is a bottomless subject and value choices about what to include and to what depth we plumb these subjects within a single school year are heart-wrenchingly difficult. This course is meant to serve as a primer and an inspiration for the study of a lifetime.

### Unit Topics:

#### *Semester One*

1. Contributions of Civilization  
Paleolithic Man, Neolithic Revolution, Pillars of Civilization, River Valley Cultures
2. Empire Building  
Greek and Roman Empires, Asian Dynasties, Meso-America

#### *Semester Two*

3. Revolutions  
Major World Religions, Byzantium, Dark Ages, Feudalism, Renaissance, Scientific, Industrial and Green Revolutions
4. Globalization  
Columbian Exchange, Colonialism, Nationalism, World Wars, Cold War, ?

### Course Materials:

**Text:** World History: The Human Experience by Farah Karls. (class set, students will NOT be issued a textbook to take home.)

**Online Readings and Videos:** Most of our homework will be based on separate readings and excerpts from various authors. These will be posted online, and it is the student's responsibility to download documents or view video selections.

### **Homework:**

Assignments will be posted on the class website daily and can be accessed through the Lakewood High School homepage.

For each homework assignment:

- 1.) Print off the reading or watch video.
- 2.) Highlight, annotate, and take notes to facilitate rigorous understanding. **NOTE: Readings WILL NOT BE collected.**
- 3.) Take notes on the reading or video (outline, Cornell style, etc.). **NOTE: Individual notes WILL BE collected for a grade and scored based on the *quality and completeness* of note-taking.**
- 4.) Bring the reading and your notes to the next class.

**Research Presentation Project:** World History is vast. There are many topics with which we should be familiar but will not have the chance to explore deeply. Students will be responsible for researching and preparing an 8-10 minute slide presentation for the class on a World History event or biography of their choice. Students will be given the option to choose one of the four quarters of the year and presentations will be scheduled the last week of each quarter on a volunteer basis. Except for specific instructions at the beginning of the year and student presentations, classtime will not be devoted to these independent projects. I will coach individuals during Office Hours, but students will need to be self-directed learners while they plan and execute the work outside of class.

### **Grading and Class Work:**

Grades are based on the following ratio: *Assessments* (tests and quizzes) totaling 60% and *Engagement* (Homework, Preparation, Classwork, Research Presentation Project) 40%. Semester grades are cumulative based on points earned throughout the semester. Grades will be based on the following scale:

A=90%-100%, B=80%-89%, C=70%-79%, D=60%-69%, F=59%-Below

Assignments turned in LATE within a week will earn 70%. After a week, 50% can be earned if turned in before the end of the 6 week grading period. **Please note that reading quizzes are given nearly every class period and students who missed (excused or not excused) the previous session are expected to keep up with the reading and take the quiz along with all the other students on the day they return.**

### **Classroom Expectations**

- Be in your seat when the last bell rings.
- Be prepared for class. Bring texts, notebook, pen/pencil and any extra materials as instructed. Use the restroom between classes and bring water so you can be present.
- Be respectful of people and property.
- Engage in the lesson.
- Please recycle!**

### **Computer/Tablet/Smartphone/Technology Device Usage**

Use your technology devices (laptop, tablet, phone, etc.) responsibly. That means, follow directions from the teacher. Use devices when and how you are directed. Texting, snapchatting, social networking, etcetera are not an appropriate use of your device during class. **No videoing, recording or photographing the teacher unless you ask for and receive permission from the teacher. No videoing, recording or photographing class members unless you ask for and receive permission from the class member(s) and the teacher.**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Movies and movie clips are useful for showing some of the concepts and facts we are learning in World History class. The showing of any movie scene in class will be carefully considered, and I would not use a film clip that I feel would be inappropriate for a high school history class. Some of the films that will be shown in class are *Troy* (when we study Mycenaen Greece), clips from *300* (when we study Spartan Greece), *The Kingdom of Heaven* (when we study Medieval Europe next semester), and *The Last Samurai* (when we study Japan next semester). Alternative assignments are always available should you choose not to give permission. Please email me at [cspetzle@jeffco.k12.co.us](mailto:cspetzle@jeffco.k12.co.us) if you have any questions.

I give my permission to view above selected films :

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent's signature) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I do not give my permission. Please give an alternative assignment.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Parent's signature) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign below to indicate your awareness of the expectations of World History. Please have your student bring back this completed form (just the signature page) by **Monday, August 29, for Black classes and Tuesday, August 30 for Orange classes** .

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number you would like me to call/text \_\_\_\_\_

Email Addresses \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(signature)

Thank You,

Carl Spetzler  
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Social Studies Teacher  
Lakewood High School  
(303) 982-7041