Cherry Creek High School Mr. Weiss  
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**WORLD HISTORY**[**www.mrweissworldhistory.weebly.com**](http://www.mrweissworldhistory.weebly.com)

**Introduction**

Welcome to World History. This is the class where you get to learn why your life and society are the way they are. The class where you get to learn about other cultures and ideas, a class that will quite literally broaden all of your horizons. This course is a study of modern world history, including the foundation of world religions and beliefs, exploration, intellectual revolutions, violent revolutions, industrial revolution, nationalism/imperialism through the world wars, cold war, the quest of countries seeking independence and changes in current global patterns.

**Relevance**

Through the study of World History, a student will gain an understanding of continuity and change within and across eras of time. Through this historical development, students will gain a perspective of our place as Americans in world history and the increasingly importance of diverse global connections among world societies. A student will continue to develop their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills that will provide leverage and value in other academic disciplines and provide enduring skills for life beyond high school.

**COURSE THEMES:**

1.        The impact of interaction among major societies (trade, systems of international exchange, war, and diplomacy).  
2.       The relationship of change and continuity across the world history periods covered in this course.  
3.       The impact of technology and demography on people and the environment (population growth and decline, disease, manufacturing, migrations, agriculture, weaponry).  
4.       Systems of social structure and gender structure (comparing major features within and among societies and assessing change).  
5.       Cultural and intellectual developments and interactions among and within societies.  
6.       Changes in functions and structures of states and in attitudes toward states and political identities (political culture), including the emergence of the nation-state (types of political organization).

**EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES**

A classroom atmosphere should be conducive to enabling all students to learn well. My expectation is that all students will work to maintain a comfortable, productive environment where the sharing of ideas and work is encouraged, respected, and appreciated.

Students are expected to come to class prepared to learn, including bringing carefully completed homework, all necessary work materials, and course notebook / folders. Students are NOT expected to bring their textbooks to school, unless told to do so.

**HOMEWORK**:

Homework will be distributed regularly and posted daily on the board and will be recorded on the bulletin board. Students are expected to record their assignments in their daily planners. Larger assignments (projects, papers, etc.) will be explained in writing. I consider it reasonable to expect students in their sophomore year to spend up to 35 minutes per night on their history homework (reading and writing) on a regular basis.

**Grades –**Grades are based on cumulative points earned during the semester.  All assignments are given a point value in accordance with their difficulty.

The grading scale for this class is 100-90=A, 89-80=B, 79-70=C, 69-60=D, 59 or lower = F.  
**Grade Postings –**Grades are updated approximately every week or two, depending on assignments.  Most of the units we cover take about three weeks to complete.  
**Late Work – All homework is due the day after it is assigned**, unless otherwise specified. Long-term projects are expected to be turned in on the day they are due.  Points per day will be deducted for all late work.  
**Make Up Work –**Students are expected to go to my website or email me for missed work. Additionally I carry all make up work with me as well. Students have two days per day they were absent to make up the work they missed.

**TESTS AND QUIZZES**

Tests and quizzes will occur in class, in a variety of formats (i.e., multiple choice, short answer, mix and match, etc.). Unit tests and larger quizzes will be announced well in advance, however, reading and vocabulary quizzes may be given at any time.

**Quizzes:**

**You can expect the potential for one open-note “pop” quiz every week on your reading homework**. Often the quizzes will test your reading of the previous *few*days and be in multiple-choice format or short answer format. **The quizzes are one way to assess your on-going understanding of the reading content and they are always open-note.** If you read each day and take good notes on the reading youwill be successful on the quizzes. Note taking is a very essential skill forsuccess and we will be doing this throughout the year.

**NOTEBOOKS**

You will need to have a 3 ring binder with 5 dividers that is just for this class. Spiral notebooks, accordions, and folders will not work. Please arrange and label your dividers this way:

1. UNIT (You will need 5 dividers / tabs)
   1. We will compile notes, homework, handouts, and quizzes in each unit, which will enable you to stay organized by area of study for each unit test and ultimately for each final exam.
2. JOURNAL: You can use loose sleeve paper or a notebook for this.
3. CURRENT EVENTS: You will store your current events work in this section.
4. PAPER (keep extra loose sleeve paper in the back. You will need to have at least 20 sheets of paper for each unit for note taking in class.)  
     
   You are responsible for your notebook and MUST BRING IT TO CLASS EVERY DAY. You will be required to turn in your notebook every so often for a “notebook check.” These checks are usually not announced ahead of time and will be graded!

**CURRENT EVENTS / SEMINARS**

Throughout the year, you will keep a log section of current event articles and summaries of each article in your binder. Sometimes the article will be provided by Mr. Weiss, other students, and other times you will have to research your own.

Additionally, we will have seminars / debates discussing the weekly current event most Friday’s during the course of the year that will follow different formats (Socratic seminar, four corner debates, role play, inner / outer circle, etc.). In preparation for these days, you will be required to read or watch the assigned current event and come to class with 9 questions, using QAR / 3 level questioning format. Half of your grade for the day is being prepared with your questions, the other half is participation. *More information to follow.*

Level 1-Close ended (answers are found in the text and cannot be disputed)

Level 2-Developed (questions with multiple answers and more depth, but can be answered using only the text)

Level 3-Open-ended (the answers may come from outside knowledge, outside of the text, and often relate to other events or times)

**I am excited to be a part of your Cherry Creek High School experience and look forward to having a great year!**

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**PARENT / GUARDIAN STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING:**

I have read the information on this sheet and understand the rules and expectations for myself in this class

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date

I have read the information on this sheet and understand the rules and expectations for my student in your class.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date