

World History Syllabus 2025-2026

Instructor Information

Instructor	Email
Melissa Laign	Melissa.Laign@tvcs.org

General Information: In tenth grade World History, the curriculum emphasizes the geographic and cultural study of selected regions and eras beginning with the Byzantine Empire and finishing with the Cold War and Modern Times. Students will explore different times and locations within Europe, the Americas, Middle East, Asia, and Africa. Each region will focus on geography, historic development, people and culture, political systems, and economic systems.

Text: Ellis and Esler. World History Interactive. New Jersey: Savvas, 2024.

Grading Procedures:

- Students will be assessed through a variety of informal and formal assessment instruments. There will be a minimum of 9 Mastery grades (demonstrate what you know: ex. Quizzes, Unit Tests, writing assignments, projects). Mastery Grades count as 70% of your grade. There will also be a minimum of 9 Practice grades (ex. Bellringers, notes, reading assignments, exit tickets, classwork, study guides). Practice Grades count as 30% of your grade. This is per quarter (9 weeks) which is about 1 mastery and 1 practice per week.

- Grading Scale

90 – 100	A
80 – 89	B
70 – 79	C
60 – 69	D
Below 60	F

Class Expectations: Follow all school rules, including those pertaining to dress code, electronic devices, cheating/plagiarism, and food and drink in classrooms.

Tutoring: I am available Monday and Wednesday afternoons right after school until 3:30 for extra help. Students are responsible for communicating with me if they would like to attend a tutoring session.

Dress Code: You must wear your ID at all times and must be in uniform. If you are not in uniform, you will be asked to fix it right away..if you are unable to make it right, administration will be called and you will be sent home.

Materials required for class

- Fully-charged Chromebook
- 3-ring binder
- Loose-leaf paper (college-ruled)
- Pens (black or blue ink only)/pencils

Class Requirements: You are expected to be prepared for class. This means that you have completed any homework assignments and have your charged Chromebooks, binders, and pencil/pen each day. You will be required to take and keep notes from reading assignments, lectures and class discussions. Keep in mind quiz, test, and exam questions will come from your notes, readings assignments, lectures, videos, and class discussions.

Homework – Homework will typically be reading assignments or videos to be completed before class. You will be permitted to use hand-written notes **ONLY** on bellringers and other related assignments. You are also expected to study for assessments outside of class.

Absences/Make-up Work: Whether the absence is excused or unexcused, you can make up homework and tests. It is your responsibility to make up any missing assignments within three (3) days of your return to school. When coming back from an absence, check the class Google Classroom page to see what lectures you missed. If after visiting this page, you still have questions and/or doubts, feel free to speak with me before or after school, not during class time. You are welcome to use the Media Center computers before or after school. Regarding make-up work, on the top corner of your paper write down your name, subject, class period, the title of the assignment, and the date of when you were absent. Also, if you are absent due to an out-of-school suspension, you need to submit work that was due on your day(s) of OSS or work that was assigned on your day(s) of OSS on the day of your return. You will receive full credit for this work if submitted immediately when you return.

Make-Up Tests/Projects: If you are absent for a quiz or a test, come prepared to take it on your return to school. If you have been absent from school for several days and you feel that you are not prepared, please see me to schedule a make-up date. It is your responsibility to contact me in order to make up a test. Also, papers and projects that were assigned a week or more prior to your absence will still be due on the assigned due date regardless of whether you are in school. If you are absent on such a date, it is your responsibility to submit a paper or project via email, Google Classroom, or by having someone deliver your work to school on the due date.

Academic Integrity Policy: This class strives to provide students with the knowledge, skills, judgment, and wisdom they need to function in society as informed, intelligent adults. Students who take responsibility for their learning will experience the pride that accompanies academic achievement. To falsify or fabricate the results of one's research; to present the words, ideas, data, or work of another as one's own; or to cheat on an examination corrupts the educational process. This impedes a student's academic progress and compromises the trust between teacher and student which is a fundamental part of the learning process.

Cheating & Plagiarism Policy: The following is the cheating & plagiarism policy adopted by the school. Please be sure you understand the consequences of cheating or copying the work of another – from any source.

Cheating and/or plagiarism are regarded as very serious offenses. Copying or paraphrasing material/text from the work of another student, from published sources (e.g., Cliff Notes, Monarch Notes, books, magazines, newspapers, etc.) and/or from the Internet without proper documentation constitutes academic theft.

Plagiarism: "The unauthorized use of someone else's material, which is then presented as being the result of the plagiarist's own primary research, creative impulse or insight. The penalty for cheating or plagiarism in this class will result in a zero for the assignment and referral to the administration. If you have any questions or concerns, please make arrangements to discuss them with me.

Respect – Students are expected to respect fellow students and the teacher. Class discussions are an integral part of the course. Respect the free flow of ideas and opinions of your classmates and teacher **at all times**. Be critical of ideas, not people.

World History Historical Thinking Skills

- **Contextualization:** circumstances that establish the setting of an event or process to establish a foundation to assess and evaluate.
- **Chronological Reasoning:** The ability to distinguish between past, present, and future events and to determine the interconnectedness that lead to continuity and change over time.
- **Comparison and Causality:** Crafting Historical Arguments from Historical Evidence
- **Continuity and Change over time (CCOT):** Historical Interpretation and Synthesis

Course of Study

Unit	Topic
0	Historical Thinking skills and Prehistory-600
1	Medieval Europe (330-1450)
2	Civilizations of Asia (500-1650)
3	The Muslim World and Africa (730 B.C.-A.D. 1500)
4	The Americas (Prehistory to A.D. 1500)
5	The Renaissance and Reformation (1300-1650)
6	New Global Connections (1415-1796)
7	Absolutism and Revolution (1550-1850)
8	Industrial Revolution (1750-1914)
9	Nationalism and Democracy (1790-1914)
10	Imperialism (1800-1914)
11	World War I and the Russian Revolution (1914-1924)
12	The World Between Wars (1910-1939)
13	World War II (1930-1945)
14	Cold War (1945-1991)
15	Developing Nations Emerge (1945-Present)
16	The World Today (1990-Present)