

WEST MIDDLE SCHOOL
World History and Geography: The Middle Ages to the Exploration of the Americas
7th - Social Studies (World History)
2025-2026 Course Syllabus

Instructor: Ms. Montie Cashion

Room: 259

CONTACT INFORMATION: Email is the best way to communicate with me. I will respond within 24 hours during the work week.

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: Seventh grade students will explore the cultural, economic, geographical, historical, and political changes of Western Civilization in Europe as well as the geographic regions of East Asia, West Africa, and Southwest Asia and Northern Africa. Students will compare and contrast the history and geography of civilizations that were developing concurrently throughout Africa, Europe, the Americas, and Asia during the 15th to 18th centuries. Students will examine the growth in economic interactions among civilizations as well as the exchange of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities. Students will describe the indigenous populations of the Americas and the long-term impact of European exploration in the New World. Finally, students will analyze the influence of geography on the development of civilizations as they continue their study of world history and geography. This course will also teach students about the historical context of ancient and major world religions and will follow a common template for major world religions so as to not promote any religion. Major world religions are introduced in either 6th or 7th grade.

This course is a continuation of the 6th grade survey of world history and geography and is designed to help students think like historians, focusing on historical concepts in order to build a foundational understanding of the world. Appropriate primary sources have been embedded in the standards in order to deepen the understanding of world history and geography. Special emphasis will be placed on the development of government, including the beginning of democratic practices.

CURRICULUM STANDARDS:

https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/education/standards/ss/Social_Studies_Standards.pdf

TEXTBOOK: World History & Geography: The Middle Ages to the 1700s (McGrawHill)
ISBN: 978-0-07-687163-6

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Students will need to bring all materials to class.

- 3 Ring Hardback Notebook/Binder - 1 1/2 inch (with side pockets) - **For Social Studies only!**
- Wide Ruled Notebook Paper (Not College Ruled)
- Pencil Pouch (**will use for all classes**)
- Wooden or Mechanical Pencils - #2 Lead (replenish)
- Colored Pencils
- Headphones or Earbuds (inexpensive; keep in pencil pouch)

GRADING SCALE: 25% classwork/homework
35% quizzes
40% test

POINT SCALE: A 90 - 100
B 80 - 89
C 70 - 79
D 60 - 69
F 0 - 59

MAJOR TOPICS: Per the 7th Grade Tennessee Social Studies Standards

Quarter 1

East Asia: 400-1500s CE

Byzantine Empire: 400-1500s CE

Southwest Asia and North Africa: 400-1500s CE

Quarter 2

West Africa: 400-1500s CE

Middle Ages in Western Europe: 400-1500s CE

Quarter 3

Early Modern Europe: 1400-1700s CE

The Renaissance

The Protestant Reformation

The Scientific Revolution

The Age of Exploration: 1400-1700s CE

Quarter 4

Indigenous Civilizations of the Americas: 400-1500s CE

ABSENTEE AND MAKE-UP WORK:

- Students are **responsible** for completing and turning-in missed assignment(s) (classwork, homework, quiz and test) in a timely manner.
- Students have 3 days from the day they return to complete and turn-in missing assignments due to absenteeism. Note: one social studies class equals 2 days due to having students half the school year.
 - Zeros will be given for any assignment if not completed within the allowed time frame.
- If the student returns on a quiz/test day and was present for the announcement, then the quiz/test will be taken upon return.

CHEATING: Cheating is a serious offense, and a zero will be given on a quiz, test or assignment.

ASSIGNMENT & GRADE COMMUNICATION: Teacher will post in Google Classroom & Skyward to keep parents and students informed of academic progress, grades, homework and additional class information.

HOMEWORK:

Student homework will consist of short assignments and studying for quiz and test.

BEHAVIOR:

- Students at WMS are expected to demonstrate appropriate behavior at all times.
- Disruptive and/or uncooperative behavior is not acceptable.

Behaviors to avoid:

Excessive absences

Disruptive behavior

Excessive talking

Lack of attention and effort

Disrespectful behavior

Detentions

Poor daily grades & test scores

Incomplete, late & missing assignments