



**"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
~ Nelson Mandela**

World History CPA – 2025-2026 Syllabus

**Mrs. Colwell-Arbour
Wachusett Regional High School**

Welcome to Wachusett Regional High School and World History. The objectives of this course are to actively learn about world history based on the Massachusetts State Frameworks while also developing our school's core values and learning expectations (see below). Along the way, I hope that you enjoy learning about history and developing skills you will need for the rest of high school and beyond!

Contacting Mrs. Colwell-Arbour (also known as Mrs. C-A)

Email: angela_arbour@wrsd.net

School phone number is: 508-829-6771 x1698

Office: B201

A, B, and D Blocks – Teaching in C205

**The class will be using Google Classroom to organize our work and materials.
The Class Code to join Google Classroom is:**

WRHS Theme for 2025-2026

"Better Together - Mountaineer Pride.

Lead with Purpose, Act with Kindness, Forge Your Path".

WRHS Mission Statement, Core Values, & Learning Expectations

"Wachusett Regional High School is committed to an educational process that fosters independence and responsibility in our students. By offering diverse, challenging, academic programs and rich co-curricular activities, WRHS strives to provide students with the skills and knowledge to achieve their potential as life-long learners."

We work toward achieving this mission by promoting our CORE VALUES of:

- Citizenship and Responsibility
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Creativity and Innovation

WRHS Learning Expectations

While mastering individual course content, it is expected WRHS students will:

- exercise responsible citizenship
- communicate effectively in written forms
- communicate effectively in spoken forms
- think critically and solve problems
- think creatively
- collaborate and learn actively
- use technology effectively

Expectations and Explanations

Requirements

You will need your **CHARGED Chromebook**, a folder or binder, a writing utensil and earbuds or headphones that work with your chromebook in this class every day. We will discuss organizing your folder/binder in class.

Note - earbuds or headphones that work with some iphones do not work with the chromebooks. Please make sure that you have earbuds or headphones that work with your chromebook.

Grading

Grading will be based on a point system that will be explained in detail in class. Tests will usually be about 200 points, depending on the amount of material covered. You will know the amount of points assigned to major projects and tests in advance.

Extra Help

I am available regularly both before and after school. Please **make an appointment with me to receive extra help** and we can arrange a time that works for both of us.

Homework

The following is the Wachusett Regional High School Department of Social Studies homework policy:

Homework in Social Studies will:

1. Reinforce critical reading and writing skills.
2. Support and expand on information presented in class.
3. Involve studying material central to the understanding of social studies concepts.

Homework will be assigned regularly in all social studies classes. Social studies teachers expect homework to be neat, on time, original, and complete.

Homework will be assigned at the beginning of each unit. You will receive a unit agenda that includes all of the assignments and the due dates – this unit agenda will also be posted on Google Classroom. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to ask me for a unit agenda. Most homework assignments are worth 10 points toward your class average. Some homework will be collected and all HW will be graded. Only truly outstanding homework will earn a 10/10. I will explain the grading of homework and show you samples as the year progresses. Don't let your homework slide. It will make up a significant part of your final grade. **Late homework will lose points and after an announced date, will not be accepted!** Some homework assignments will be to take notes on a reading assignment. We will discuss different methods for taking notes in class. You will be able to use those reading notes on some assessments.

Assessments

There will be many forms of assessment in this class. Most of these assessments will be announced in advance and will be on your unit agenda. When assignments are due, they are due in class on the day of the deadline. If you are in school on the day an assignment is due, it is your responsibility to submit the assignment. Late assignments (other than homework) will lose 10 points for each day the assignment is late. If you are absent, I will follow the guidelines found in the WRHS Student Handbook:

1-day absence:	2 school days to make up the work
2-day absence:	4 days to make up the work
3, 4, 5-day absence:	1 school week to make up the work

Please ask me if you have questions about absences, missed work, or upcoming assignments. I want you to successfully complete and pass in all of your assignments. **It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to contact me to discuss arrangements to make up missed work, tests, quizzes, etc...**

Sources of Information

We will be using a wide variety of resources to obtain information in this course. Some of them are:

- [The OER \(Open Educational Resources\) Project World History 1200 to Present](#)
- *Modern World History Patterns of Interaction* by Roger Beck et al, 2012
- *Decision Making in World History* by Kevin O'Reilly, 2017

Tardiness

You must be on time to class. I will follow the WRHS Student Handbook regarding tardiness. After 2 unexcused tardies, you will receive a detention.

Class Behavior/Academic Integrity/Plagiarism/Cheating

Respect for self, respect for others, and respect for your surroundings are the three main rules of my classroom. I expect you to follow them at all times. I also expect you to follow the guidelines and rules found in the Wachusett Student Handbook. Issues involving plagiarism,

academic integrity, inappropriate use of AI, and/or cheating will be handled according to the WRHS policy. You will earn up to a zero depending on the circumstances and your administrator and parents will be notified. Remember that assisting a person in cheating (i.e. providing answers or doing someone's homework) is also considered cheating.

Class Cell Phone Policy

Students will need to place their cell phones in their assigned pockets in the cell phone holder on the wall as they walk into class. Cell phones will stay in the holder for the entire class. If students leave the room during class for some reason, their phones must remain in the cell phone holder.

Instagram

Instagram @wachusettmrs.ca - This is an ongoing experiment for Mrs. C-A! It will only be used for kudos and fun announcements. I'll ask for your permission to use a photo of you or your name! You do not need to be on Instagram to access any of the required content for this class.

Communication is key! Please COMMUNICATE WITH ME! Reach out and let me know if there is a problem, question, etc... PLEASE let me know **ahead of time** if there is a "perfect storm" of assignments, tests, projects, etc... coming up in your classes. My goal is for all of you to be successful in ALL of your classes AND for you to have a life as well. The more information I know AHEAD OF TIME, the better decisions I can make. Of course, with that said, I will not be happy about whining the day before a long term project is due!

For the LOVE of HISTORY

I am a proud history nerd. I'm excited to be your teacher this year as I continue to learn about history every year. Keep an open and questioning mind while we explore the stories of the people and events that have shaped our world.

Course Outline

Semester 1

Unit 1 – Narratives and Frames

Unit 2 - The Global Tapestry

Unit 3 - Transoceanic Connections

Unit 4 - Revolutions

Unit 5 - Industrialization

Midterm – January

Semester 2

Unit 6 – Industrial Empires

Unit 7 – Global Conflict

Unit 8 – Cold War and Decolonization

Unit 9 - Genocides

Unit 10 - Globalization

Final Project – June

Please click on [this link](#) to complete a form for the first assignment of Quarter 1!