

AMDG

World History 2

Spring 2016

Rm 308

Mr Eric E Castro

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Office: Rm 314

Office hours: Mo–Th, 7:15–8:15am; Wed, 2:30–3:30pm

Course Description

This one-semester course for sophomores is designed to investigate the geopolitical, economic, social, and ideological factors involved in world history from the mid-1800s until the present. Students will engage in the work of real historians: finding historical materials, reading, analyzing, formulating hypotheses, and communicating their conclusions. As such, students should expect a significant amount of reading and writing in the course.

Blended Learning

There are several units across the semester for which students will be engaged in sustained individual study and work during the school day, and they will be doing this work elsewhere on campus, not in the classroom. Students may not leave campus, may not disturb other classes in session, and must complete the requisite work in Canvas.

Essential Questions

- Why are geopolitics the way they are now?
- What role does leadership play in history?
- What are the unifying and dividing factors in world history?
- What is the likely trajectory of human history?

Course Learning Outcomes

- Critically evaluate, analyze, and synthesize primary and secondary historical, scientific, and technical texts to form well crafted and carefully supported written and oral arguments.
- Deepen an understanding of key historical and scientific concepts and facts; use these in constructing explanations.

Course Materials

You must have your iPad, with sufficient electrical charge for the class period, every day. The study of history relies on access to materials and resources outside the four walls of our classroom; your iPad is the door to that wider world of information. Some students have opted to use a laptop; that is permissible as well.

Loaded on your iPad, you will need:

- [World History: Patterns of Interaction](#), our textbook
- [Notability](#)
- [Canvas](#) app (need URL: canvas.siprep.org)
- Lockdown Browser iOS [app](#) (or laptop [application](#))
- A flashcard app (preferably one that imports from/ exports to [Quizlet.com](https://quizlet.com))
- Apple [Pages](#) app
- Google [Docs](#) and [Slides](#) apps
- [Maps of Our World](#) game app
- Adobe [Spark Page](#)

N.B: you likely have many of the apps above from your freshman year.

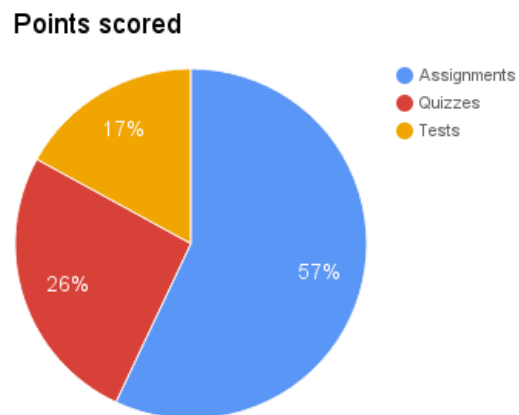
In addition to the digital materials above, you will need in class, each day:

- Pen
- Pencil
- Notebook dedicated to WH2 (e.g. standard [composition book](#) or [Moleskine](#))

Assessment and Grading

The study of History is a cumulative process; everything that we consume and analyze adds to our understanding of historical events and processes. As such, the principles of “standards-based grading” are a natural fit with World History 2. With the exception of the Midterm and the Final, all assignments, quizzes, and tests can be repeated, with mastery of the content and skills of World History as the goal (cf. **Reassessment** below). Further, *when* someone learns something is less important than the actual learning; as such, there is no penalty for late work, which is accepted for seven days after the due date.

There are no category weights for this course, as all grades are recorded as points and all points are equal, but based on past experience and the syllabus for the course, the chart to the right shows the distribution of points:



Academic Integrity

In the field of history, there is no greater sin than passing the work of another off as your own. You are responsible for understanding what constitutes cheating (see [Student/Parent Handbook](#).) Any student cheating on an exam or plagiarizing work will be

given a zero for that assignment, and the matter will be passed to the Dean's Office for further disciplinary action. If you did not complete an assignment, it is far better to discuss this with me than to try and plagiarize someone else's work or cheat.

On a related note, students are reminded that the school's [Responsible Use Policy](#) is enforced in this class.

Online Material

A significant portion of the material and work associated with this class will involve Canvas. Homework assignments will only be announced in Canvas, and the vast majority of work will be collected via Canvas. Students will be required to use a variety of digital tools effectively and efficiently. If a student does not know how to accomplish a particular technology-related task (for example, converting a word processed file into a PDF), students are expected to proactively seek help. I am available during the **Office Hours** noted above, or there are others on campus who are willing and able to help, such as: the Educational Technologist, any Librarian, or anyone in the Tech Office.

Students will have long-term projects, such as learning the significant countries of the world, which they are expected to complete on their own. This work is assigned online, and collected online.

Time management and the careful following of directions are essential to success in this course.

Reassessment

As stated above, quizzes, tests, and homework assignments can be reassessed (with the exceptions of the Midterm and the Final, and few, select other assignments.) Please note these important policies for reassessment:

- You have 7-days to complete the reassessment. (In Canvas, assignments/ quizzes/ tests are set to "close" automatically after 7-days.)
- Quizzes or tests can be completed during your Resource Period in Rm 116, or in Rm 314 during my Office Hours.
 - In the Resource Room:
 - sign-in to the Resource Room
 - Activate guided access, load the Lockdown Browser app, and get to the access code screen
 - ask the Social Science teacher on duty for the password to the test or quiz for which you want to reassess
- The rules of the original assessment apply to the reassessment (i.e. If no books or notes were allowed on the test, no books or notes are allowed on the reassessment; if the assessment was "open note" then the reassessment is also "open note.")
- For the first quarter, for resubmitted homework or classwork, only the *highest* score a student earns on the assignment is entered into Powerschool. In the second quarter of the course, the *average* of a student's attempts is recorded in Powerschool.