



Course Syllabus
Ms. Jasiekiewicz

Course Description:

Welcome to World History! This course surveys the world from 1200 to the present, tracing the rise and fall of empires, the spread of ideas, revolutions, conflicts, and the global patterns that shaped human societies. Instead of memorizing names and dates, you will think like historians—asking questions, analyzing evidence, and building arguments from primary and secondary sources.

Together, we will explore how peoples and cultures have interacted, how global systems have changed, and how the past continues to shape today's world. By year's end, you will understand key developments in world history and have the tools to critically examine the stories we tell about the past.

Course Units:

- **Unit 1: Historical Thinking**
Learn the tools of the historian.
- **Unit 2 The Global Tapestry (1200–1450)**
Explore the rich diversity of societies across Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas. We'll examine how cultures connected through trade, religion, and migration.
- **Unit 3: Transoceanic Connections (1450–1750)**
Investigate the Age of Exploration and its consequences, from global trade networks to cultural exchanges—and the lasting impact of colonization.
- **Unit 4: Revolutions (1750–1914)**
Examine political, intellectual, and social revolutions across the globe, including the Enlightenment, independence movements, and new ideas of rights and governance.
- **Unit 5: Industrialization (1750–1914)**
Analyze how industrialization transformed economies, societies, and the environment, and how people adapted to a rapidly changing world.
- **Unit 6: Industrial Empires (1850–1950)**
Explore imperial expansion, resistance to colonization, and the unequal power dynamics that shaped the modern global order.

- **Unit 7: Global Conflict (1914–1945)**
Investigate the causes, course, and consequences of World War I, the interwar years, and World War II, with a focus on global perspectives.
- **Unit 8: Cold War & Decolonization (1945–1990)**
Trace the rivalry between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, while examining independence movements, revolutions, and new nations reshaping the world.
- **Unit 9: Globalization (1900–Present)**
Study the acceleration of interconnectedness in technology, trade, culture, and communication, and consider the challenges and opportunities of a globalized world.
- **Unit 10: Human Rights & Genocide**
Confront the darkest chapters of modern history by analyzing human rights violations, genocides, and the global struggle for justice and accountability.

Course Materials & Resources:

We will be using the OER Project's *World History: 1200 to Present* as our primary curriculum. In addition, students will work with a variety of primary and secondary sources, which will be provided in class or digitally. No textbook is required.

What You'll Need Each Day:

- Classroom folder (provided)
- Chromebook (charged)
- Headphones/earbuds
- Pencil and pen

Assignments and Grading:

Students will be assigned a variety of work, including classwork, homework, quizzes, tests, and projects. It is the expectation that all assignments are completed and submitted on time. Each assignment will be given a point value, and quarter grades will be calculated as:

$\text{Total Points Earned} \div \text{Total Points Possible} = \text{Quarter Grade}$

Your final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Quarter 1: 20%
- Quarter 2: 20%
- Quarter 3: 20%
- Quarter 4: 20%
- Midterm Exam: 10%
- Final Exam: 10%

Late Work & Make-Up Policy:

- **Late Work:** Late assignments may receive reduced credit unless due to an excused absence.
- **Make-Up Work:** Students have 3 days for every day they are absent to make up missed assignments.
- If more time is needed, students must make arrangements with me. In cases of extraordinary circumstances, students should discuss the situation with me as soon as possible.

Students are responsible for all work assigned in class, whether or not they are present!

Academic Integrity:

All students are expected to uphold the standards of academic honesty outlined in the **Wachusett Regional High School Student Handbook**. Cheating, plagiarism, or any form of dishonest work will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action and a grade of 0.

Technology & Cellphone Use:

Students are expected to adhere to the cellphone policy outlined in the **Wachusett Regional High School Student Handbook**.

- Cellphones must be deposited in pockets (or designated area) with no questions asked at the start of class. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action.
- Chromebooks will be used for class assignments and research. Students must work responsibly on their devices.
- Students who do not use technology as required or attempt to circumvent expectations will be disciplined according to school policy.

Classroom Behavior & Expectations:

Students are expected to maintain a **polite, respectful, and responsible learning environment** at all times. This includes:

- **Being on time:** Students must be in their seat and ready **before the second bell rings**. This means phones put away, classroom folders out, and Chromebook ready. If tardy, a pass is required.
- **Respecting others:** Treat classmates, the teacher, and all school staff with courtesy and respect.
- **Leaving the classroom:** To sign out for the bathroom or any other destination, students must ask permission and **sign out using the Securely Pass** on the classroom device (not personal devices).
 - **Pass use:** Abuse of passes will result in disciplinary action according to school policy.

By following these expectations, students contribute to a productive, safe, and supportive learning environment where everyone can focus and succeed!!!