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Room Number: E229

Course Description: This is a 2 year college level course that covers both World History topics as well as American History topics. The course will focus on writing skills and integrating concepts such as perspective, change, and continuity. Presenting historical explanations from an international perspective is an objective of the IB history course and, therefore, candidates will be expected to study content from a global perspective as well as a regional perspective. The class is organized in a topic format rather than an all-encompassing survey of history.

Units of Study:

Year 1

1. Unit 1-Prescribed Subject 3: Case Study 1-Japan (1931-1941)
2. Unit 2-Prescribed Subject 3: Case Study 2-Germany/Italy (1933-1940)
3. Unit 3-World History Topic 10: Authoritarian States (20th century)
4. Unit 4-World History Topic 12: The Cold War (20th century)

Year 2

5. Unit 5-HotA Section 12: The Great Depression (1920s-1939)
6. Unit 6-HotA Section 13: The Second World War (1933-1945)
7. Unit 7-HotA Section 16: The Cold War (1945-1981)

Ongoing

- Internal Assessment (Student choice of topic-see below)

Attendance: Students are expected to attend class and be on time. Students not in class when the bell rings will be sent to SMC. Tardy students will be marked accordingly. 4 tardies will equal lunch detention. .

Homework: From time to time students will be given homework assignments that should be completed by their due date.

Assessments/Exams: At the end of each unit of study, students will have an exam. The format of the exam will be the same as the exam the students will take at the end of their senior year. The exam will be expected to be completed in class that day.

Practice Questions: Each unit of study, students will be given practice questions that they are expected to answer. The questions will mimic the style of questions given on the final IB exams

that the student will take at the end of their senior year. These responses will be graded using the IB mark scheme and will be put in the gradebook accordingly. There will be an average of 3 questions to respond to per unit. More information will be given the first week of classes.

History Internal Assessment: (Taken from the IB History Guide) “All students complete a historical investigation into a historical topic of their choice. The internal assessment allows flexibility for students to select a topic of personal interest.” More information will be provided once the school year begins.

Make-Up Work: All work is due on time. If the student is absent the day an assignment was handed out, it is the student’s responsibility to review Canvas and determine what was missed and make up any work.

Grades: Your grade will be on the “points” system. Grade configuration will be total points earned out of total points possible each grading period.

- Midterm Exam: **80 pts** (goes in T3 or T6 per MRHS IB policy)
- Assessments/Exams: **each worth 40 points**
- Practice Questions: **each worth 15 points**
- Quizzes: **each worth 15 points**
- Other small assignments: **10 points**

Suggested Materials:

- Highlighters
- Pencils
- Pens (Dark Blue or Black Ink) - no gel pens

Classroom Expectations: All school rules apply.

Consequences:

- Verbal warning.
- Minor Infraction.
- Discipline referral to the administration.

Connection to the IB Core

- **Theory of Knowledge (TOK)**-History is one of the 5 areas of knowledge that are at the center of the TOK course. It is an interesting area of knowledge because it raises questions such as how far we can speak with certainty about anything in the past, and whether historians' accounts are necessarily subjective. Example of discussion questions that can be used to make links to TOK include the following:
 - What is the role of the historian?
 - Is it possible to describe historical events in an unbiased way?
 - Who decides which events are historically accurate?
- **Extended Essay (EE)**-History is one of the most popular subject choices for DP students' extended essays. The history course and the EE are the two main areas where students will learn and utilize research skills. Examples of topics for EEs recently submitted in history include the following:
 - To what extent was the American Phoenix Programme a failure in Vietnam between 1965 and 1972?
 - How important a factor was topography in the Northern victory at the Battle of Gettysburg?
 - How significant was the contribution of urban resistance to the success of the Cuban Revolution?
- **Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)**-CAS can be found in all IB subject areas. Examples of CAS experiences that have links to history include the following:
 - A creativity experience creating artwork to accompany a school magazine article commemorating a historical event or figure
 - A service experience volunteering at a care home for elderly patients and talking to the resident about their experiences of living through historical events
 - A combined activity and service experience organizing and participating in a fun run to raise funds for a veterans charity

Miscellaneous:

1. Cell Phones: Cell Phones may not be used unless authorized by Mr. Branan. Per school policy, students will be expected to place their phone in their designated pouch. They may remove their phone at Mr. Branan's discretion.
2. Cheating and Plagiarism: Cheating on any assignment will not be tolerated and per school policy will result in a 0/F and a disciplinary referral to administration. It is important that students have a firm understanding of plagiarism. This includes using unauthorized sources such as friends, other students, and/or artificial intelligence. This will be discussed in greater detail in class on the first week.