



WORLD HISTORY TO 1500

2019 - 2020 Syllabus

Discovery Middle School
1304 Hughes Road
Madison, AL 35758

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Course Description: This course covers world history from the beginning of time to the year 1500 and is aligned with the Alabama Course of Study Social Studies Standards. Content standards for this grade incorporate the strands of economics, geography, history, and political science. The curriculum encompasses the migrations of early peoples, the rise of civilizations, the establishment of governments and religions, the growth of economic systems, and the ways in which these events shaped the world.

Additional information for this course can be found on the Alabama Department of Education website: <https://www.alsde.edu/sec/ses/Curriculum%20Guides/cgsocialstudies.pdf>

Course Objectives: Students will analyze the development of government and legal systems. They will examine the history and impact of major religious and philosophical traditions as well as the connections between developments in science and technology and the growth of industrial economics. Students will learn to analyze a variety of primary and secondary sources such as biographies, autobiographies, novels, speeches, letters, artifacts, poetry, music, and works of art to support this study.

Classroom Expectations: Classroom Rules and Procedures:
This classroom will abide by the policies set forth by the Alabama Department of Education, Madison City Schools, Discovery Middle School, and the following:

- Everyone will be treated with respect.
- Everyone will take responsibility for his or her actions.
- The learning process will be maintained at all times.

Accommodations:
Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.

Concerning laptop utilization:

1. Student laptops should not be hard wired to the network or have print capabilities.
2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.
3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.
4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.

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Grading Policy: Test grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as class work can be made up and graded for **excused** absences only. Until work has been made up, “NTN” (“not turned in,” which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book. This will be updated as soon as work is completed and turned in.

Late Work: For unexcused absences and/or work turned in late, the following policy will apply:

- The assignment will drop one LETTER grade for each school day that passes. For example, if an assignment is turned in one school day late, the highest a student can receive is 89%; two days late, 79%, etc.
- Once the late assignment has dropped to 59%, a student may receive a 50% for late work turned in any time within a grading period (9 weeks). Half credit is always better than no credit!

Make-up Test Policy: It is the student’s responsibility to set up a time to make up a missed test. Students may schedule to make up a test before or after school. Tests cannot be made up during class. Until a missed test is made up by the student, “NTN” (“not turned in,” which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book.

Textbook: *Discovering Our Past: A History of the World (Early Ages)*
ISBN-13 : 9780076594948
Instructions for accessing the online textbook will be provided the first weeks of school.

Materials and Supplies Needed: ½” 3-Ring Binder
Notebook Paper
Colored Pencils
Ruler
Post-it notes –any color

Course Outline: Unit 1: Historian Skills/Historical Bias (Ch. 1)
Unit 2: Prehistory/Neolithic Revolution/Mesopotamia (Ch. 3 & 4)
Unit 3: Egypt (Ch. 5)
Unit 4: Israelites (Ch. 6)
Unit 5: Ancient India (Ch. 9)
Unit 6: Ancient China (Ch. 10)
Unit 7: Greece (Ch. 7 & 8)
Unit 8: Rome (Ch. 11 & 12)
Unit 9: Christianity and Islam (Ch. 13 & 14)
Unit 10: Middle Ages (Ch. 19)