

World History to 1500

2019-2020

Mrs. Kennedy's Course Syllabus

Welcome to 8th grade World History!

Oak Mountain Middle School

WHAT INFORMATION WILL BE COVERED IN THIS CLASS?

The study of world history in Grade 8 addresses the time period from prehistoric man to the 1500s. Content standards for this grade incorporate the strands of economics, geography, history, and political science, with an emphasis on the history and geography strands. This course covers the migrations of early peoples, the rise of civilizations, the establishments of governments and religions, the growth of economic systems, and the ways in which these events shaped Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Unique to this course are the experiences that provide for the study of the ways human beings view themselves over time. The prevailing use of terms to describe the Gregorian calendar is B.C. (before Christ) and A.D. (Anno Domini, Latin for "in the year of our Lord"). The terms B.C.E (before the Common Era) and C.E. (in the Common Era) are beginning to appear in some schools of theology, state and national assessments, and in national history standards. The use of the abbreviations B.C.E. and C.E., also based on the Gregorian calendar, does not, in any way, diminish/negate the importance of the abbreviations B.C. and A.D.

---Alabama State Course of Study: Social Studies

HOW DOES THE STUDY OF WORLD HISTORY BENEFIT YOU?

Learning is a lifelong process. Ancient world history is the median I have chosen to teach you to be a lifelong learner and to teach you the skills necessary for you to reach your fullest potential. We have the unique opportunity to criticize and praise the failures and successes of peoples of yesteryear. You too have experienced successes and failures in your life. You must always take a moment to reflect on the successes (to continue doing the things that made you successful) and the failures (to correct and learn from the things that led to your failure) to improve yourself as a productive member of our complicated society. Use the same strategies we use to analyze ancient world history to analyze yourself and hopefully you will be able to make wiser decisions, solve problems, and become a lifelong learner. Please allow yourself to gain an appreciation of historical inquiry by viewing history not as endless factual detail, but as a story of the development of people just like yourself. History can never be learned completely, but everyone knows some history. Your goal is to learn the skills necessary to continue to learn and discover new aspects of history and any other areas of interest to you.

This class will also help you succeed in other classes you take at Oak Mountain Middle School and in your future educational endeavors. Furthermore, you are required to take this course as partial completion of your 8th grade course work at Oak Mountain Middle School, as set forth by the Alabama State Department of Education.

WHO IS YOUR TEACHER?

My name is Julie P. Kennedy. This is my fourth year at Oak Mountain Middle School and tenth year teaching. I received my Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the Troy University and Master's degree in Secondary Education (Social Sciences) from the University of Montevallo. I have been married for 24 years to Patrick E. Kennedy. We are blessed to have three children (Patrick Jr. ~ 20; Wilson ~ 16; and Lauren ~ 11). I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling, and teaching! I look forward to learning more about each one of you this school year. I can be reached at jkennedy@shelbyed.org. Please reach out anytime I can do anything for you!

WHAT TYPE OF BEHAVIOR EQUALS SUCCESS IN THIS CLASS?

Classroom Rules/Expectations

1. Be respectful to the teacher and other students at all times.
2. Raise your hand before speaking or leaving your desk.
3. Be on time and prepared for class.
4. When the dismissal bell rings, stay in your seat until dismissed by the teacher.
5. Be “Nothing But the Best!”

Classroom Procedures

- Enter the classroom quietly and sit in assigned seat before the tardy bell rings each day. If you are not in your seat when the bell rings, then you will be marked as “tardy.”
- Once you have entered the class, you should:
 1. Take any handouts on the table by the door and sharpen pencils.
 2. Copy down homework in your agenda from homework board.
 3. Copy bell ringer from board and answer in detail.
 4. Put any handouts and process assignment into binder.

WHAT MATERIALS WILL YOU NEED FOR CLASS?

Textbook:

Burstein, Stanley M. & Shek, Richard. *World History: Ancient Civilizations: Through the Renaissance*.
Orlando: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015. Print.

Notebook:

- 1.5” three-ring binder
- Loose-leaf paper
- 2 packs of 3x5 index cards
- 15 Clear Sheet Protectors
- 5 Tab Dividers (1. Bell Ringers; 2. Notes; 3. Section Assessments; 4. Previous Topics; 5. Learning Targets)

Pens or Pencils:

- Any color pens
- #2 mechanical pencils
- Twistable colored pencils

HOW WILL YOUR GRADES BE COMPUTED FOR THIS CLASS?

Shelby County Schools’ grading policy is as follows:

- Bronze Grades are skills practice grades and will constitute 10% of your grade.
- Silver Grades are formative assessments (quizzes) and will constitute 30% of your grade.
- Gold Grades are summative assessments (tests) and will constitute 60% of your grade.

Shelby County Schools use the following 10-point grading scale:

A	90-100
B	80-89
C	70-79
D	60-69
F	0 – 59

EIGHTH GRADE
World History to 1500
2019-2020 Curricular Plan

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Topic Title</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Sections</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>State Course of Study</u>
<u>FIRST NINE WEEKS</u>					
1	The Stone Ages and Early Cultures	2	1 – 3	30 - 45	1.1-4
2	Mesopotamia and the Fertile Crescent	3	1 – 4	58 - 81	2.1-2
3	Ancient Egypt and Kush	4	1 – 5	90 - 117	2.1-2
4	The Hebrews and Judaism	7	1 – 3	212 - 229	2.1 & 3.1
<u>SECOND NINE WEEKS</u>					
5	Ancient India	5	1 – 5	130 - 157	2.1-2 & 3.1 & 8.1
6	Ancient China	6	1 – 5	166 - 295	2.1-2 & 3.1 & 8.2
7	China	14	1 – 4	444 - 464	8.2 & 12
8	Ancient Greece	8	1 – 3	238 - 259	4
<u>THIRD NINE WEEKS</u>					
9	The Greek World	9	1 – 4	272 - 294	4 & 5.1-3
10	The Roman Republic	10	1 – 3	316 - 335	6.1 & 7.1-2
11	Rome and Christianity Byzantine Empire	11 Case Study	1 – 3	302 - 326 344 - 365	3.1 & 6.1 & 7.1-2 9.1 & 10
12	The Islamic World	12	1 – 4	386 - 403	11.1
<u>FOURTH NINE WEEKS</u>					
13	Early Africa Civilization	13	1 – 4	412 - 431	13.1-2
14	The Early Americas	16	1 – 3	510 - 525	14.1
15	The Early Middle Ages	17	1 – 4	548 - 567	15.1-2 & 16. 1-3 & 17.1
16	The Later Middle Ages	18	1 – 5	576 - 601	15.1-2 & 16. 1-3 & 17.1
17	A Visitor from the Past	---	-----	-----	1 through 17; Review

Oak Mountain Middle School
Every Assignment Every Time (EAET)

Philosophy:

Oak Mountain Middle School expects and encourages nothing but the best in each child. Teachers hold high expectations and provide students with the tools needed to become self-directed learners. Students are actively engaged in meaningful learning experiences which will prepare them to be productive citizens in our global society. The home and community are vital components of the school support team.

Policy:

Assignments are a vital component of a child's learning experience. Work is expected to be completed on time. Incomplete and/or poorly attempted assignments are not acceptable.

Procedure:

- EAET's in the 8th grade will only be issued for Gold and Silver Grades. Bronze level work will not be eligible for EAET's.
- If an assignment is incomplete, poorly attempted, or not submitted on time, the student will receive a notice requiring a parent signature and an opportunity to complete the assignment. This will apply only to Gold and Silver levels.
- Students who turn in the parent-signed notice and completed assignment on time the following school day (refer to EAET form) will receive 60% of the earned grade. Failure to do so results in an Academic Saturday School referral, and the assignment will be completed for 50% of the earned grade.
- Upon the fourth and subsequent EAET form (per subject, per grading period), the assignment may be completed for 50% of the earned grade, and the student will be automatically referred to Academic Saturday School.
- Long-term projects may be based on each teacher's rubric for the project, which will include penalties for late work.
- Core academic classes will follow this procedure while Physical Education and elective courses may have exceptions based on their course content.
- **For 8th grade ONLY:**
 1. **1st semester – EAET's for Gold and Silver levels only.**
 2. **2nd semester – No EAET's will be issued for any level.**

The Oak Mountain Middle School Vision, Mission, Values & Beliefs

Vision

To model and promote the behaviors necessary for academic and social success.

Mission

To expect and encourage nothing but the best in a nurturing, opportunity-rich environment.

Values

- Teach the Whole Child
- Teach for Success
- Teach for Results
- Teach for Excellence
- Teach for the Future

Our Staff Believes:

1. All students should be offered a variety of experiences to enhance their individual achievement and to develop them intellectually, emotionally, socially, and culturally.
2. A student's academic success is encouraged by positive relationships with teachers and staff who embrace diversity and high expectations.
3. Teachers should provide students with the tools needed to become self-directed learners with creative thinking skills.
4. Teachers have a responsibility to act as positive role models and provide a safe and caring environment to promote student learning.
5. Collaboration between the school, home and community are vital components of the school support team.

WHAT ACTIVITIES WILL YOU PERFORM DURING THIS CLASS?

- ✓ Complete daily bell ringer activities
- ✓ Read selected readings from the prescribed text
- ✓ Complete Section Assessments
- ✓ Participate in classroom discussions
- ✓ Answer a variety of content questions
- ✓ Ask a variety of content questions
- ✓ Discuss issues with classmates
- ✓ Take notes from presentations
- ✓ Explain concepts to the class
- ✓ Complete in-class assignments
- ✓ Work in cooperative learning groups
- ✓ Participate in hands-on activities
- ✓ Create various visual aids
- ✓ Analyze primary resources
- ✓ Participate in Strategic Teaching Lessons
- ✓ Talk, Write, Investigate, Read, Listen
- ✓ Complete topic tests
- ✓ Complete quarterly exams

WHAT OTHER INFORMATION DO YOU NEED TO KNOW?

1. You are responsible for everything that happens in class when you are absent. I will post daily assignments in the classroom and on my blog at the following address:
<https://podcasts.shelbyed.k12.al.us/jkennedy/>
2. I am excited to have the opportunity to teach each one of you and look forward to our year together!

HOW WILL YOU USE THIS SYLLABUS?

The syllabus will be available to you all year on the class blog at the following address:

<https://podcasts.shelbyed.k12.al.us/jkennedy/>

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7th & 8th Grade Social Studies
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