

**2017-2018 Syllabus: World History Gold**

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| **Mr. Sobotta** | **Voice Mail: 4803** |
| **Course: World Gold** | **sobottak@wlwv.k12.or.us** |
| **Home Room: A102** | **Office Hours: M-F by appointment** |

Course Description

World History Gold is a one-semester social studies course open to students in grades 10-12. The course is designed to take students from the present to the past to the future, all to answer the question, why do we study history? Each unit begins with analysis of a current-day issue with potential global impacts. Next, students examine the world history that shaped the current-day issue. Then, armed with knowledge of the current issue and the history that impacted it, students meet as state ambassadors in a model United Nations to address the situation and create a better tomorrow.

Units of study range from 2-4 weeks. Units can vary each semester depending on current world events. Common units include:

* Israel, Palestine and the Holy Land conflict.
* China, Japan and the dispute over territorial islands and seas.
* Al Qaeda, the Arab Spring and growing tension throughout Africa.
* Mexico, Columbia and the Drug War.
* Iran, Syria, Iraq and civil conflict in the Middle East.
* Conflict along the Korean Peninsula

Social Studies Department Mission Statement

We teach students the content knowledge, intellectual skills, and civic responsibilities necessary for fulfilling the duties of lifelong citizenship in a participatory democracy. These skills include communication, collaboration, critical thinking, creative problem solving, and capable learning.

Learning Outcomes

As students learn world history and world events, they develop key intellectual skills:

* Communication – In informal discussions, formal debates, short written responses, and research papers, students learn to write, speak and listen effectively.
* Collaboration – In United Nations simulations, students learn to work effectively with others.
* Critical Thinking – In study of history and current events, students learn to:

Frame Issues – Define and clarify an issue so that its features are understood well.

Research Issues – Find, use and evaluate information on an issue.

Examine Issues – Identify characteristics, causes and consequences of an issue.

Evaluate Issues – Draw reasoned conclusions on an issue based on supporting data.

*Student mastery of these critical thinking skills is assessed with use of the Oregon Social Studies Analysis scoring guide.*

* Creative Problem Solving – In U.N. simulations, students cooperatively develop defensible solutions to complex problems.
* Capable Learning – In study of history and current events, students learn to find, judge and use information.
* Committed Citizenship – In study of current events and efforts to address global issues, students learn their responsibilities as citizens of the world.

***Participation***

Do participate!  This is social studies and we need your attention, your courtesy, and your input. Just a reminder, cell phones tend to keep people from participating in the here and now of the classroom.  Please silence them when you come to class, and do not take them out during the class period.  BE AWARE THAT IF I SEE YOUR CELL PHONE, I WILL LIBERATE IT FROM YOUR POSSESSION ***FOR THE ENTIRE DAY.***

**Homework Expectations:**

Students are expected to turn in all assignments. Each homework assignment has been specifically designed to increase the opportunity for each student to be successful in this course. I strongly feel that responsibility and accountability are tools that need to be developed before students enter the real world. With that being said, a penalty of 50% point reduction will be assessed to all unexcused late assignments.

**Schoolmaster Parental-Access-Support-System (PASS):**

You will need to use your child’s 6-digit ID and PIN number to access this account. Information is available on the West Linn High School website.

**Grading:**

I use the standard grading scale where an A = 90% and up, a B = 80%-89%, etc.

In class writing and reflections—10% Tests & Quizzes—25%

Nation Project—10% Final Assessment—10%

Global issue analysis paper—10% Participation in U.N. simulations—20%

Homework & notes on readings—15%

**Makeup Policy and Long Term Project Policy:**

∙Make-ups will only be permitted for excused absences, and must be arranged the first day back.

∙You have one day per day missed to make up assignments for an excused absence to receive full credit.

∙Makeup tests must be taken within **one week** from the original test date, no exception.

*\*****Additional classroom procedures and expectations will be covered in class. Students are responsible for both.***

**Excused and Un-excused Absences:**

∙Parents must contact the WLHS attendance office to excuse an absence. Un-excused absences will result in loss of points for the day and assignments cannot be made up for credit.

***Parents/Guardians:*** If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me anytime, preferably **by email**. Thank you for your time and support.

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**PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THIS PORTION FOR CREDIT**

I have read the above course statement and understand its contents. I agree to participate in class and complete the course work. I also agree to follow the guidelines set forth in this course outline.

Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Print name Signature Date**

Student: **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Print name Signature Date**