

9th Grade Global History Syllabus

Overview

Welcome to 9th grade Global History! I am excited about the following things:

1. Getting to know all of you
2. History

This year, we're going to be trying something called Big History Project. Instead of studying only the history of humans on Earth, we're going to look at the history of the entire universe, beginning with the Big Bang. I don't want to overstate it, but it's probably going to be the most fun you've ever had in your entire life.

Course Goals

Global History is technically a two-year course, ending with the Global Regents Exam at the end of 10th grade. Don't worry about the Regents yet. My goal is for you to leave 9th grade feeling comfortable with the following skills:

- Review and assess evidence that explains our understanding of the universe.
- Develop claims about our understanding of universe and support it with evidence.
- Debate and discuss differing viewpoints with other students.
- Integrating multiple subjects (science, ELA, math, and history) into a complex understanding of the universe.
- Identify the interconnections among all human groups.

Course Outline

First Semester

Unit 1	What is Big History? <i>Why do we look at things far away and up close?</i>
Unit 2	The Big Bang <i>How did our understanding of the universe change?</i>
Unit 3	Stars and the Elements <i>How can looking at the same information from different perspectives pave the way for progress?</i>
Unit 4	Earth and the Solar System <i>How and why do theories become generally accepted?</i>
Unit 5	Life <i>How are we still evolving?</i>

Second Semester

Unit 6	Early Humans <i>What makes humans different from other species?</i>
Unit 7	Agriculture and Civilization <i>Was farming an improvement over foraging?</i>
Unit 8	Expansion and Interconnection <i>What are the positive and negative impacts of interconnection?</i>
Unit 9	Acceleration <i>To what extent has the modern revolution been a positive or negative force?</i>
Unit 10	The Future <i>What is the next threshold of complexity?</i>

Assignments and Grading

		Examples/Explanation
Assessments	40%	Assessments demonstrate how much you've learned. Examples include exams, quizzes, projects, essays, and presentations.
Homework/Classwork	35%	Homework builds upon what we've done in class. It will be in your best interest to get in the habit of writing down the assignments every day and doing them on time.
Participation	25%	You are expected to contribute and attentively listen during discussion or collaborative work. You will get a participation grade every day.

Websites

Kelly's 9th grade Global Website:

Find it at <http://kellyharveyhistory.weebly.com>. Bookmark it. If you're absent, you will need it to look at the daily log, if you need some extra resources, re-watch a video, etc.

Pupilpath:

Pupilpath is where you check your grades. Bookmark it. Download the app. Check it at least a couple times a week. Be warned! Your families can access the same things you can, so make sure your grade is something you're proud of.

Supplies

- A 3-ring binder (2-3" inches) with 20-30 sheets of loose leaf paper (required)
- Plastic dividers for the binder (recommended, but not required)
- Pens

Academic Policies

Attendance: You are expected to attend class daily, on time and prepared. If you are absent, check the daily log on my website. "I was absent" is not an excuse for missing work. Coming late to class three times equals a lunch detention.

Make-up Work: Late assignments will be marked down. I will set deadlines for when I will stop accepting late work (either the end of the unit or the end of a marking period). **Once the unit or marking period is over, there will be no make-up work accepted.**

Office Hours: If you have questions, concerns, or just want a quiet place to do work, talk to me. We'll figure out a time and place that works for you. **Struggling students may be required to attend tutoring on a case-by-case basis.**

Administrative Policies

You're young adults, and I'd prefer to treat you that way. I ask that you respect everyone's time and avoid creating disruptions or distractions in our classroom. This includes the expectation that you will follow all the school policies-- wearing your uniform, keeping your cell phone off and in your bag or locker, not chewing gum, etc. If I have to ask more than once in a class period for you to follow these rules, it gets taken out of the room to be dealt with by others. Please don't put me in that position.

Cheating/Plagiarism

Cheating is copying from another's work, using materials that you were not permitted to use, collaborating with another student without permission, using bribery or bullying to attain someone else's work. Plagiarism is taking someone else's ideas or writing and saying it's your own. I have a zero tolerance policy for both. It will result in an automatic zero on the assignment, as well as a referral to the Dean. Don't. Do. It.