

7th Grade Humanities

Course Overview:

This course was created with several objectives in mind. A strong emphasis will be placed on building historical thinking skills as well as understanding and interpreting social, political, and economic data from selected readings, maps, charts, and graphs. The students will begin the year by learning to work with the basic concepts of physical and human geography. The students will have opportunities to apply these skills throughout the remainder of the academic year as we explore various cultural systems and geographic regions.

The focus of this course will primarily be on developing areas of the world. The growth of the “Global Economy” (don’t worry, you will learn what that means) along with the role of the United States in international humanitarian and political efforts necessitates this. Throughout the year students will explore the geography, political systems, economic structures and cultures of Africa, the Middle-East, Eastern Asia, Eastern Europe, and Central and South America. Students will be challenged to think outside of their familiarity zone as we learn about these regions. They will also be encouraged to create and defend theories about the future of specific regions and nations based on research and analysis of geographic and historical information along with present data and current events.

By the end of the year, students will be comfortable reading and interpreting informational documents, charts, maps, etc. related to the various societies and environments around the globe.

*** Note: We will make regular use of primary and secondary sources, internet websites, and audiovisual resources throughout the year**

Materials:

2 inch Three-ring binder
Spiral Notebooks (2)

1 Box of black or blue pens
Green Pens (2)

Course Requirements:

Fall

Short Responses/Map work/ 10pts each
Essays/Notes/Quizzes
In class Group Projects 15pts each
Current Events 20pts each
Unit Tests 30pts each
Final T.B.D.

Spring

Short Responses/Map work/ 10pts each
Essays/Notes/Quizzes
In class Group Projects 15pts each
Current Events 20pts each
Unit Tests 30pts each
Final T.B.D.

* Homework assignments will be posted on the board in class and on the NPA teacher website.

Grading Scale

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 90 – 100% of points possible = | A |
| 80 – 89.4% of points possible = | B |
| 70 – 79.4% of points possible = | C |
| 60 – 69.4% of points possible = | D |
| 59.4% or less of points possible = | F |

* This is a total points system, meaning grades are based on total points accumulated during each quarter and semester.

Classroom Rules

Respect:

We are here to learn about the cultures and geography of the world but we are also here to learn about one another's differences and similarities. This can only be accomplished in a respectful environment. Respect the teacher's right to teach and the right of students to learn. Disruptions in the form of drawing during lecture, talking amongst one another, eating during class, packing up prior to the bell ringing, etc. will not be tolerated. Personal attacks will not be tolerated. Disciplinary action will take place in the following order:

1. Verbal Warning
2. Detention
3. Call Home
4. Parent/Teacher meeting

Academics:

At NPA the teachers, parents, and students have high academic standards for one another. Students will be expected to do their best to meet and exceed those standards.

Timeliness:

Punctuality is one major part of academic success. Students will be expected to be on time to class. Late students should arrive to class with a written excuse from the office. Those who regularly come to class will face intervention.

Work should be turned in on time every time. If an absence is unexpected, but excused, the amount of time missed will be given to make up the work. If the student was present when the assignment was assigned but absent on the due date, he/she will be expected to turn that assignment in upon their return.

Incomplete or rushed work will not be accepted. Assignments that have been rejected may be redone and turned in as late work.

Late work will only be accepted during the unit for which it is assigned and will earn 50% of the grade it would have received if turned in on time. Major assignments will lose 10% per school day late (weekends will count as one day).

To the Students,

I look forward to a challenging and enjoyable year. As an educator I have a unique opportunity to help you learn and grow. I also have the privilege of seeing information from your perspectives and pondering the questions your viewpoints produce. I will not know all of the answers but together we will explore and learn.

To the Parents,

This course will be challenging and I will do my best to keep you informed of your student's progress. I encourage you to utilize the "Family Link" website to check on current grades and student performance. I value your feedback and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at school or by email (jbailey@northlandprep.org).

Sincerely,

Mr. Bailey
Northland Preparatory Academy
Humanities Teacher

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____