

# Honors World Cultures

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## COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description:

Honors World Cultures (HWC) is a 5 credit, full year course designed to fulfill the social studies requirement for freshmen. This course will provide you with a comprehensive understanding of how people encounter "the other" across space and time. Additionally, you will learn how various factors - geographic, political, economic, religious, military and cultural - have contributed and continue to shape the development of the human society. You will learn how to interpret historical events from primary sources, respond with evidence to the issues raised, and research major topics in each unit. The class will revolve around the following essential questions: **How do humans interact with each other? What is the impact of human interactions on society and the world?** The course is based on NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards for Social Studies: 6.2 World History: Global Studies "All students will acquire the knowledge and skills to think analytically and systematically about how past interactions of people, cultures, and the environment affect issues across time and cultures. Such knowledge and skills enable students to make informed decisions as socially and ethically responsible world citizens in the 21st century."

Supplies Needed:

Computer/App access for Schoology & Remind (separate files for sign-up)  
 1 or 1 ½ inch three-ring binder  
 Pens, pencils and highlighters  
 Folder with holes for binder  
 Loose leaf paper (wide ruled preferred)

Grade Distribution:

Your marking period grade will be based on earning points using a point system. The total number of points possible for each marking period grade is divided by the total number of points earned.

- A.) Homework and Class work
  1. Assignments may vary in points possible and type of assignment.
  2. Late homework will not earn credit.
  3. This grade will be based on effort and quality. Completing an assignment does not guarantee full credit.
- B.) Assessments
  1. Tests, quizzes, essays and projects vary in points.
  2. A rubric will be given out with the requirements for each project & essay.

Genesis will accurately reflect earned points for all assignments. Parents/Guardians and students are responsible for monitoring grades using Genesis.

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Grading Policy:

In accordance with school policy, the following grade distribution will be used to calculate the final grade for this course  
 22% - First Marking Period  
 22% - Second Marking Period  
 22% - Third Marking Period  
 22% - Fourth Marking Period  
 12% - Final Course Project (Note: Students will work on this ALL YEAR long & must show progress towards proficiency each marking period.)

Classroom Discipline Procedures:

First Violation: Student will be addressed privately and given a warning. A plan created by both the student and the teacher will be implemented to correct and prevent inappropriate behavior.  
 Second Violation: Parents will be contacted and detention given if necessary.  
 Third Violation: Student will be referred to administration for further disciplinary action.

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**Course Schedule: Scope and Sequence**

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<b><i>Approximate Time Frame</i></b>	<b><i>Units, Areas of Study, Skills</i></b>
Marking Period 1	<p>Unit 1 - The Age of the 4E's: Exploration, Encounter, Exchange &amp; Exploitation (1350-1600)            Specific Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical Analysis of the First Global Age</li> <li>• Colombian Exchange</li> <li>• Impact of Colonialism, the African Diaspora &amp; Slavery</li> </ul> <p>Unit 2 - The Scientific Revolution, Absolutism and Enlightenment (1350-1700)            Specific Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in government due to Renaissance Ideas</li> <li>• Impact of the Scientific Revolution</li> <li>• Analysis of the Age of Enlightenment and Absolute Monarchs</li> </ul> <p>Students will develop the following knowledge &amp; skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization &amp; Note Taking</li> <li>• Content Specific Vocabulary</li> <li>• Geography and Map Skills</li> <li>• Document Based Primary Source Analysis</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Essay writing with an emphasis on the 3 point thesis statement and use of document evidence to support ideas</li> <li>• Marking Period 1 Progress toward Final Exam Project</li> </ul>
Marking Period 2	<p>Unit 3 - The Age of Revolutions &amp; Imperialism (1750-1914) Specific Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The French Revolution, Napoleon &amp; the Congress of Vienna</li> <li>• Latin American Revolutions</li> <li>• The Industrial Revolution</li> <li>• Political reforms &amp; Nationalism</li> <li>• Imperialism in Africa and Asia</li> </ul> <p>Students will develop the following knowledge &amp; skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased proficiency built upon previous marking period</li> <li>• Marking Period 2 Progress toward Final Exam Project</li> </ul>
Marking Period 3	<p>Unit 4 - A Half-Century of Crisis and Achievement: The Era of the Great Wars (1900-1945) Specific Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End of isolation in China and Japan</li> <li>• World War I</li> <li>• Rise of Communism in Russia and China</li> <li>• World War II</li> <li>• The Holocaust &amp; other Genocides</li> </ul> <p>Unit 6 - The 20th Century since 1945: Challenges for the Modern World (1945-Present) Specific Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Cold War &amp; its end</li> <li>• Korean and Vietnam Wars</li> <li>• Arab-Israeli Conflict</li> <li>• Collapse of the Soviet Union</li> <li>• Technological Advances in Media</li> <li>• Globalization</li> <li>• Terrorism and Security</li> <li>• UN Declaration of Human Rights</li> </ul> <p>Students will develop the following knowledge &amp; skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased proficiency built upon previous marking period</li> <li>• Marking Period 3 Progress toward Final Exam Project</li> </ul>

<p>Marking Period 4</p>	<p>Unit 6 - Contemporary Issues  Specific Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human Rights Issues</li> <li>• International Organizations &amp; NGOs</li> <li>• Social, Political &amp; Economic Inequality - Analysis &amp; Action Planning</li> </ul> <p>Students will develop the following knowledge &amp; skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased proficiency built upon previous marking period</li> <li>• Marking Period 4 Progress toward Final Exam Project</li> <li>• Human Rights Public Service Announcement</li> </ul>
<p>End of June –  Final Project Presentation</p>	<p>The final project will assess knowledge and skills gained from the course of study. It is a summative, ongoing, student centered assessment modeled on the PHS senior project.</p> <p>The assignment is based on the NJ CCCS for Social Studies 6.3 Active Citizenship in the 21st Century: All students will acquire the skills needed to be active, informed citizens who value diversity and promote cultural understanding by working collaboratively to address the challenges that are inherent in living in an interconnected world.</p> <p>Students will be given rubrics for each marking period as well as a final project presentation rubric. All students will present their projects to their classes. The final project is meant to be an iterative and organic process with many revisions leading to an enlightened understanding of our modern world.</p>