

World History & Geography: Middle Ages to Exploration of Americas (400s-1700s CE)
7th Grade Social Studies Syllabus 2019-2020

Course Outcome:

- Description: Social Studies in the 7th grade focuses on world history and geography. Historical analysis leads to better choices for a better quality of life. The intent is to understand the-who, what, why, where, when, how-of people and places from the past and present to better understand how to plan for the future.
- To access Knox County or the State of Tennessee curriculum guidelines:
 - <http://www.knoxschools.org/Domain/1013>
 - http://www.state.tn.us/education/standards/social_studies/SS_Seventh_Grade.pdf

Instruction:

Units

- [Unit 1-East Asia](#)
- [Unit 2-Byzantine Empire](#)
- [Unit 3-Southwest Asia & North Africa](#)
- [Unit 4-West Africa](#)
- [Unit 5-Middle Ages in Western Europe](#)
- [Unit 6-Early Modern Europe](#)
- [Unit 7-Indigenous Civilizations of the Americas](#)
- [Unit 8-The Age of Exploration](#)

Materials Needed:

- 3-ringed binder: 1 ½ - 2”
- Tab dividers with pockets (5)
- Spiral notebook (100 page)
- Regular, lined notebook paper
- Ink pens: blue, black
- Colored pencils
- Pencil sharpener (hand held)
- Glue sticks to share

Resources:

- Spielvogel, Jackson J. *World History & Geography: The Middle Ages to the 1700s*. (2020) Columbus OH: McGraw-Hill Education.
- Spielvogel, Jackson J. *Discovering Our Past: A History of the World-Modern Times*. (2014) Columbus, OH: McGraw-Hill Education.
- Individual copies of the textbook will be given to students and will need to be brought to class daily. At a later date, your student will be given a user name and password to access the online textbook and its resources.
- Novel Study: [Crispin: Cross of Lead](#) By: Avi Honors: Novel to be announced at a later date
- Discovery Education United Streaming videos (approved by KCS)
- Learn360 videos (approved by KCS)
- Mastery Connect (online assessments)
- History Teachers youtube music videos
- BrainPop (online assessments, videos, content)

• **Compliance with Instructional Materials Policy & Procedure I-211:**

I utilize a variety of video and media source excerpts from *National Geographic*, *Planet Earth*, History Channel, PBS and BBC, History Teachers Videos Channel (youtube for educators), *Horrible Histories*, www.npr.org, www.newsela.com, www.Storyboardthat.com, opened.com, Discovery Education, <https://www.youtube.com/user/historyteachers>, and others.

Assessment:

Standard	Honors
1st and 2nd Semester Formative Assessment = 60% of final grade. 1st and 2nd Semester Summative Assessment = 40% of final grade. 2nd Semester includes TCAP -10% of final grade	1st and 2nd Semester Formative Assessment = 60% of final grade. 1st and 2nd Semester Summative Assessment = 40% of final grade. 2nd Semester includes TCAP -10% of final grade

Formative assessment grades include classroom assignments, homework assignments, selected bell ringer/journal entry assignments, quizzes, World History Interactive Notebook (WHIN), and other types of 'practice' work.

Summative assessment grades include unit tests, unit projects, DBQ Projects, longer written assignments, and other types of work to show mastery of standards.

•Make-Up Work Policy/Late Work Policy- All work is due on the due date completed to the best of your ability. It is **your** responsibility to ask for and complete any work missed due to tardiness or absences.

- ✓ Work assigned before absence is **due the day of your return**.
- ✓ You must complete your work in a timely manner. If you have any questions or are unclear about the directions, it is imperative that you speak to me about the assignment **PRIOR** to the due date.
- ✓ I document missing or late work by the student by entering a zero in Aspen (grade book) until assignment is turned in to me.
- ✓ **Aspen:** I usually update Aspen weekly. Please check announcements, assignment calendar, suggested websites, and messages.

General Expectations:

- **Communication Strategy:** Conference time is from 11:00-11:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For general communications use email:
Carla McLeod- carla.mcleod@knoxschools.org **Patty Morgan-** patricia.morgan@knoxschools.org
- For conferences please call the office @ (865) 539-7891.

Plagiarism

According to the Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition:

Plagiarism is defined as “presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinion as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased.”

It includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Copying verbatim all or part of another’s written work;
2. Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
3. Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
4. Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator.”

Consequences of Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism will have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accepting a grade letter drop OR taking a zero for the assignment. **Parents should be involved in making the decision.**

Knox County Board of Education Policy-Religion in the Curriculum I-431:

The Board affirms that it is essential that the teaching about religion—and not of a religion—be conducted in a factual, objective, and respectful manner in accordance with the following:

Music, art, literature, or drama with a religious theme or basis are permitted as part of the curriculum for school-sponsored activities and programs, provided it is essential to the learning experience in the various fields of study and is presented objectively;

The emphasis on religious themes in the arts, literature, and history shall be only as extensive as necessary for a balanced and comprehensive study of these areas. Such studies shall never foster any particular religious tenets or demean any religious beliefs; and student-initiated expressions to questions or assignments, which reflect their beliefs or non-beliefs, about a religious theme shall be accommodated. For example, students are free to express religious beliefs or non-beliefs in compositions, art forms, music, speech, and debate.

The curriculum taught in this class includes, but is not limited to, the historical study of multiple religions and their effects on world culture, politics, and everyday life. As stated in the State of Tennessee Curriculum, and on the included Pacing Guide, students will analyze the geographic, political, economic, social, and religious structures of the civilizations studied. Some religious texts will be studied as they pertain to historical events.

Primary Documents and Supporting Texts that are religion-aligned selections listed on the State of Tennessee Curriculum include the following:

- Excerpts from “The Analects”, Confucius
- Excerpts from *Summa Theologica*, Thomas Aquinas
- Excerpts from “Ninety-Five Theses”, Martin Luther
- Excerpts from “In Praise of Folly”, Erasmus
- Excerpts from both textbooks listed on syllabus and other sources

Grading Policy:

KCS Grading Scale: 100-93 A 92-85 B 84-75 C 74-70 D 69-0 F

- **Point System:** I grade on a point system within percentages of formative and summative assessments, and will assign in advance the total number of points a student can earn. For example, a quiz may be worth 20 points and a bell ringer may be worth 5 points. Summative work is usually worth 100 points. I use this system because each activity differs in time and skill factors.

Syllabus Signature Sheet

Parents and students: Please read the syllabus and sign below. Please return this sheet by Friday, August 16, 2019.

I have read the policies and expectations for the **7th Grade Social Studies** class and understand them. I have received links to the TN curriculum in the syllabus.

Student Printed Name:

Parent/Guardian Printed Name:

Student Signature:

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Date: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: Please make sure that the email address you would like the teacher to use to communicate with you about your student's progress is up to date in Aspen.

