

Boulder Valley School District

Course Outline

Course Name: World History

Course Code: T39

Designated Grade Levels: 10, 11

Course Duration: Two semesters

Prerequisite / Recommendation: None

Fees, Supplies: Colored pencils, three-ring binder

Credits: 10 credits

Teacher: Bessett

School: Fairview High School

Course Overview:

World History is a comparative study of the major cultures of the world from an historical perspective. This course will focus on six major regions of the world: Middle East (Southwest Asia), Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas. While examining these different regions, historical research skills will be emphasized. At least one major, comprehensive research project will be completed each semester. Primary source materials (readings, art, artifacts, etc.) will be integral components of each unit of study.

By the completion of the course, students will be able to . . .

- Demonstrate how history can be organized chronologically, thematically, and topically.
- Formulate historical hypotheses from multiple, historically objective perspectives, using multiple sources.
- Describe and explain the circumstances under which past and current societies have interacted and changed, resulting in cultural diffusion.
- Analyze how differences in the physical environment have contributed to economic differences through history and the world.
- Analyze how religious systems have acted as major forces throughout history.
- Explain how military conquest and invasion have been used to assume, maintain and extend political power throughout history.

Teacher Comments:

The instructor will be a *facilitator* of learning. Students in effect will become their own "teachers" with guidance from the facilitator. In this way, students will take ownership of what they accomplish and discover with their study of history. More importantly, students will develop an appreciation for studying and preserving the historical record. Studying events both large and small, students will discover how to critically evaluate historical material in an attempt to draw their *own* conclusions and inferences surrounding individuals and events.

Learning Materials or Resources:

World History: Traditions and New Directions, Addison-Wesley, 1989.

(This is an excellent text, and an example of how 'newer is not better.' For over two decades of newer publications supposedly bringing better delivery methods to students, this text has remained the preferred choice of both students and teachers. Modern world events such as the fall of the Soviet Union and the Global War on Terrorism will not be covered in this text, but with supplementary materials.)

<http://bessett.fhsib.org>