Course Information Sheet

Mr. Steve Kline
Room D-11

World History

Course Description
We will study the chronological organization of history as it relates to people, culture, and events starting from the Renaissance through the Cold War (if we proceed faster than scheduled, we may get to into the 21st Century). We will also focus on important skills that are needed in high school and that will be used for the rest of your lives. These include the following: reading comprehension, critical thinking and problem solving, and understanding and appreciating different cultures. We will do this by studying historical documents, analyzing primary sources, and identifying common themes in history.

Grading Policy
Every assignment during the year is worth a certain number of points. Your grade is calculated by dividing the number of points you earned by the total number of points it was possible to earn during the marking period. While a grade for participation is not assigned, participation is very important and if I see active participation, it may help a borderline grade.

Tests: There will be several tests per marking period. Tests usually have two distinct sections: an essay and multiple choice. Tests will be announced in advance. If you are absent the day of a test or an announced quiz, you will be given the number of days absent to make up the test or quiz. Ex: Test is on Tuesday and you’re absent on Tuesday and return on Wednesday. You have to take the quiz or test on Thursday. You will be expected to make arrangements so that you can take it before or after school or during lunch.

Essays/Writing: Essay topics and extended response questions will be assigned during class and for homework. Essays must be handed to me in class; I will not accept an e-mailed essay, since there have been so many problems with formats and e-mails that "fail to reach me."

Quizzes: Readings from the textbook and other sources will be assigned frequently. To ensure that the material was read and understood, I may give unannounced quizzes at the beginning of class. These will be worth minimal points (5-10), but they add up, so keep up with the reading!

Projects: Various projects will be assigned throughout the year. They may be group or individual projects with different options to present information.

Homework: Please check the website for assignments. It will be updated regularly to reflect course assignments and upcoming dates of importance. Homework is graded on a point scale (5-10 points depending on the assignment). The grade you receive is based on the quality and accuracy of work. Poorly completed assignments will lower your grade. Please staple multiple page assignments before you come to class.
Late Work:
One letter grade will be deducted per class day late. If an assignment is due on a Friday, and you hand it in the following Monday, that is considered 1 day late. If you come to class and you left your assignment in your locker, you must hand it in the same day after school.

Plagiarism and Cheating
Don’t do it. The penalties are very severe.

Class Materials
Students must bring the following materials to class everyday:
1. Most importantly, your mind free from outside distractions
2. Writing implement of some sort and paper or notebook.
3. I will inform you on the days which you will need your textbook. On other days, you may leave it in your locker.

Attendance
-Arrive to class on time. After four tardies, you will receive an office detention. Before that you will be assigned detention with me in increments of 5 minutes (5 minutes for the first tardy, 10 minutes for the second, 15 for the third and then an office detention)
-You are responsible for everything discussed in class or in the readings. If you are absent, then you must get the notes and/or assignments from a classmate, check the class website and see me. It is your responsibility to get all the work and notes.
-If you will be absent on a field trip, you are still responsible for turning in all work on time.

Extra Help
I will be available for extra help before or after school. Please let me know in advance when you would like to meet.

Class Rules and Procedures
*Be on time and prepared for class. When the bell rings you should be in your assigned seat and ready to get started. Students will not be permitted to go to his/her locker for materials or homework. As stated above, grade deductions will be given for one-day late assignments.

*No calling out. Raise your hand and wait to be called in. When one person is talking, no one else should be.

*Respect all members of the class and the teacher.

*No food or drinks (except water) in the classroom

*The bell does not dismiss the class. Wait to be dismissed by the teacher.

* on days when we are working in groups, you may feel free to move about the room quietly and may use the bathroom as you need to, so long as there is an available pass. Discussion of the
assignment within the group is expected, but it should be kept at a low level. I will let the class know when the noise level becomes too high. The more effectively the class works in this setting, the more I will use this means of instruction.

Consequences
Depending upon the severity/nature of the infraction, consequences will include:

1. Verbal warning
2. Detention after school
3. Parent/guardian contact
4. Referral to the vice-principal/Dean of Discipline