**AP World History**

Ms. Chapter

**Website:**

This course syllabus can be found at our class website: [www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com](http://www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com). Along with the syllabus, you will find an assignment calendar for the entire year, downloadable class handouts, a school supply list, and a community forum where both students and parents can reach out to me, other students, or other parents with any questions, comments, or concerns about the class. Please visit this website ASAP and familiarize yourself with it!

**Course Description:**

This year, we will be study a large amount of material in preparation for the World History AP exam in May. The scope of this course is very large, so to get the proper depth of understanding, we will be focusing on the five main themes of the AP World History course:

Theme 1: Interaction Between Humans and the Environment

Theme 2: Development and Interaction of Cultures

Theme 3: State-Building, Expansion, and Conflict

Theme 4: Creation, Expansion, and Interaction of Economic Systems

Theme 5: Development and Transformation of Social Structures

While we study these themes throughout the year, we will also be working on developing the four historical thinking skills which will be tested on the AP exam: crafting historical arguments from historical evidence, chronological reasoning, comparison and contextualization, and historical interpretation and synthesis.

**Study Period:**

In addition to regularly scheduled class meeting times, AP students are required to spend their after-lunch study time on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in my classroom. We will use this time to work on the AP test format and study the large amounts of material that is covered on the AP exam. Any student who wishes to remain in the AP class must dedicate themselves to being in class at these times. Any tardiness or absence without prior notice will be counted as such.

**Rules:** (There are only 3!)

* **Respect:** Be respectful of your classmates, teachers, and school community as a whole.
* **Responsibility:** Be aware of the choices you make as well as their positive and negative consequences.
* **Safety:** Do not cause harm to others or yourself.

**Discipline:**

* 1st Offense: Verbal warning
* 2nd Offense: Final verbal warning, classroom consequence
* 3rd Offense: Note or phone call home. Required parent involvement.
* 4th Offense: Parent conference. Discuss consequences and how to fix problems.
* 5th Offense: Immediate consequences with direct administration involvement.

**Required Materials (Supply List):**

* Textbook (will be provided)
* 2 inch 3-ring binder
* 8 pack index dividers for three ring binder
* College rule lined paper, 3 hole punched, 8.5x11
* 500 count lined index cards (3x5 or 4x6)
* Blue or black ink pens
* Highlighter

**Suggested Materials (not required):**

* 3-hole punch for binder
* paper clips or rubber bands to secure index cards
* plastic bag to hold index cards
* mini stapler
* AP test prep book (i.e. Kaplan’s, Barron’s, or Crash Course)

**Grading Policies:**

This year, we will be moving rapidly through a large amount of material. Each week, we will be working on a fresh chapter (unit). These week –long units will be worth approximately 200 points, although there may occasionally be additional assignments which increase the point value of that unit. For each unit, your grade will be based on the following (percentages and point values are approximate):

**Homework:** 50 points (25%)

**Reading Notes:** (25 Points) Each week, you will be assigned to read a chapter and take notes on it. You will be taught several specific methods to use to take these notes. They will typically be due on Tuesday of the week that we study that chapter. For specific due dates, please see the assignment calendar on our class website: [www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com](http://www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com). These due dates are NON-NEGOTIABLE and will not change throughout the year, regardless of assemblies, half days, school emergencies, and freak blizzards or roaming packs of wolves barring entrance to the school.

**Notecards:** (25 points) Each chapter, you will receive a list of 15-20 important vocabulary words from the unit. You will create flash cards with the definition and significance of each of these words. They will typically be due on Friday of the week that we study that chapter. For specific due dates, please see the assignment calendar on our class website: [www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com](http://www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com). Once again, these due dates are NON-NEGOTIABLE and will not change throughout the year, regardless of assemblies, half days, school emergencies, and freak blizzards or roaming packs of wolves barring entrance to the school.

**Classwork:** 30 points (15%)

We will typically do at least two in-class assignments or activities each week. Sometimes you will receive a group grade, and sometimes you will receive an individual grade. Either way, this grade will equal approximately 30 points per week.

**Essay Writing:** 50 points (25%)

Each week, we will write one essay in class, typically on Wednesday. These essays will be one of the three formats from the AP test. During the first semester, you will receive the essay prompt ahead of time, and your in-class rough draft will be worth 25 points. You will receive 16 points simply for doing the essay. I will then give your essay an additional score between 1 and 9, just as you will receive on your AP essays. I will add those two scores together for a total of up to 25 points. On Friday, you will receive your essay back, corrected, and will rewrite the thesis and the first body paragraph. This essay will be resubmitted, stapled to your rough draft, the following Wednesday. I will grade your rewrite based on the same 25 point system, for a total possible point value of 50 points each week (including the rough draft). The second semester, you will write your essays “cold” – you will receive a prompt and have 40 minutes to write a five paragraph essay, just as you will do on the AP exam.

**Quiz**: 0 points

Each Tuesday, you will take a quiz based on your reading for that week. For this reason, it’s especially important that you turn your notes in on time every week, so you do well on your quiz. The quiz on its own has no point value, but any student who scores 80% or better on that week’s quiz will get to skip the multiple choice section on the Friday test.

**Test:** 50 points (25%)

Every Friday, you will have a test on the chapter we are studying. This test will be based on your reading and vocabulary notecards, and will contain some or all of the following: multiple choice, vocabulary identification, practice thesis statements, reading interpretation questions, short answer questions, essay outlines, or essays.

**Participation:** 20 points (10%)

Students will receive 20 points a week for participation. To receive these points, you must participate in all class activities and do all in-class assignments, be they individual or group assignments.

**General Policies:**

**Daily Procedures:** Each day, you will be expected to bring to class your class binder, any homework that is due, a blue or black ink pen, and a highlighter. When you walk in, you are expected to immediately turn in any homework that is due and pick up any handouts for the day. You should then sit down and take out your daily agenda handout for that unit and write down the daily objectives, agenda, and homework assignment will I take roll.

**Notebook:** You are responsible for having a two inch three-ring binder for this class alone. This binder will be broken into 8 sections: Syllabus, Assignment Calendar, Homework notes, Class notes, Class Handouts, AP Handouts, Reading Handouts, and Miscellaneous. I will check your notebooks on Monday, August 26th for a grade.

**Absences/Makeup Work:** Any unexcused absences will result in a loss of participation points. If you miss any in-class assignments, quizzes, or tests due to absence, they must be made up WITHIN A WEEK of the absence. Regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused, YOU AS THE STUDENT are responsible for asking for and making up any missed work. Missed assignments and handouts will be in the missed work basket for several days after they are given. Any homework assignment that is due on the day of an absence must be turned in the day that you RETURN to school. Any homework that isn’t returned immediately is subject to a loss of points for lateness. (To view the assignment calendar for the year, please visit our class website at [www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com](http://www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com))

**Tutoring:** I will be available Thursday after school from 2:30-3:00 pm for tutoring. In addition, any student who did NOT receive 80% on their quiz may come into my classroom during this time and review the incorrect answers on their quiz using the book. To avoid simple copying and memorizing of the questions, students will not be allowed to use pen and paper or electronic devices during this time.

**Late Work**: Students may turn in late work up until the week before the end of the quarter. For every day that an assignment is late, you will lose 10% of that assignment’s grade. Once an assignment is a week late, it is worth 50% of the original points. The last day to turn in late work for each of the four quarters is as follows: 1st quarter – October 11th, 2nd quarter – December 13th, 3rd quarter – March 7th, 4th quarter – May 23rd.

**Contact:**

A note to parents: My goal is to create a safe and inviting atmosphere in which students can learn to love history. I am ready, willing, and eager to assist you and your child in any way that I can. There are several different ways to get in touch with me.

* **Website!** If you have any questions regarding class policies, homework assignment due dates, or class handouts, please try my website first, at [www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com](http://www.mschaptershistoryclass.weebly.com). There is a plethora of information there related to the class and the subject of history. You can also visit the class Community Forum if you would like to post a question about the class. Please visit the forum regularly to view announcements and get feedback from other parents and students.
* **Email Me!** This is great for any questions you can’t find the answer to on the website, or any student specific or sensitive questions; for example, those relating to a student grade. My email address is echapter@coralacademylv.org.  I'll do my best to answer as swiftly as possible.
* **Visit Me!** My door is always open!  Come see me in room S3 at the Sandy Ridge Campus - 1051 Sandy Ridge Ave, Henderson.  I'm on campus by 7:15 most mornings and stay for at least an hour after the last bell, which rings at 2:20.  If those times don't work, please contact me and we'll schedule an appointment.

\*A final note: In order to cover anything left out, all local, city, county, and state laws will be enforced in my classroom, as well as any international treaties and accords. I reserve the right to make changes to the class and syllabus as necessary.

**Syllabus Agreement:** Please detach this page and return it to me by **Monday, August 26th.** Please keep the rest of the syllabus in the handouts section of your binder as a reference.

As a contract, both you and at least one parent or guardian must read and sign this syllabus. Please also add an EMAIL ADDRESS and a contact number for my reference. Thank you.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, have read and agree to the terms of Ms. Chapter’s syllabus for my AP

*(Student Name)*

World History class for the 2013-2014 school year, at Coral Academy of Las Vegas.

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*Student Signature*

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*Parent/Guardian Signature*

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*Parent email*

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*Parent Contact Number*