

HONORS WORLD HISTORY



January 25, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I'm excited to guide your child through **HONORS WORLD HISTORY** this semester! *With only 18 weeks to cover all of human history this can be a very demanding class!* Due to both the quantity and foreign nature of much of the content of the curriculum, some students even find Honors World History to be the most challenging course of their freshman year.

HONORS WORLD HISTORY IS A REQUIREMENT FOR GRADUATION. Students have been given a syllabus outlining our schedule and covering class rules. I'm happy to partner with you for your student's success! Extra help is available during Pride Time and Smart Lunch, and I'm available anytime via e-mail. Many resources are also available on my website, <http://accordingtophillips.weebly.com>.

Student Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Parent E-mail address

Parent phone number

What are your student's strengths? _____

What do you perceive to be your student's greatest weaknesses? (Check all that apply):

Motivation:

- Caring about school performance
- Approaching teachers for help (especially before it's too late!)

Time management:

- Placing homework & academics above after-school activity/ after school job/down time
- Finishing readings/homework in allotted time

Organization:

- Staying neat & tidy/ keeping handouts in order
- Tracking due dates & meeting deadlines
- Completing make-up work
- Note taking

Communicating:

- Paraphrasing/restating other's ideas in own words
- Essay writing
- Test taking

Reading:

- Working through difficult vocabulary
- Understanding main ideas of sentences/paragraphs
- Identifying important facts from insignificant details
- Drawing inferences (reading between the lines)
- Drawing connections to previous learning/seeing the big picture

Technology:

- Writing a professional business e-mail
- Using word processing software
- Using the internet for research
- Creating digital presentations

Research:

- Paraphrasing/restating other's ideas in own words
- Identifying reliable resources
- Identifying important facts from insignificant details

What else should I know about your student? _____

Below is a list of films which we may view in whole or in part this semester. Time won't allow us to view most of these films but since a few are R-rated and require your parental permission to be seen by your student, I want to have your permission on file if our schedule allows us to watch something. In fact, we probably won't watch most of these films, but they are all ones I own and have readily available if we have the opportunity (or if I'm suddenly out and the class has a substitute teacher). There may be other relevant movies available to stream that I might choose for us to see in whole or in part too.

If this permission form is not returned or if you have objections to your child viewing any of these films, he/she will be provided an alternative assignment during those class days. Please review films at www.imdb.com or www.commonsemmedia.org for details. If you have questions about any of them and how they pertain to our curriculum, please contact me and I will be happy to discuss the matter with you.

- *Amadeus* (1984) PG – biography of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
- *Elizabeth* (1998) R – biography of Queen Elizabeth I of England
- *Enemy at the Gates* (2001) R – WWII film at the Battle of Stalingrad, 1942-1943
- *Flyboys* (2006) PG-13 – biography of American volunteer pilots during WWI
- *Gallipoli* (1981) PG – follows Australian soldiers during WWI
- *Marie Antoinette* (2006) PG-13 – biography of Queen Marie Antoinette of France
- *Master and Commander: the Far Side of the World* (2004) PG-13 – naval adventure during the Napoleonic Wars
- *Mongol* (2007) R – biography of Genghis Khan, founder of the Mongol Empire
- *Shake Hands with the Devil* (2007) R – the Rwandan Genocide as seen by the general in command of UN peacekeepers
- *The Four Feathers* (2002) PG-13 – follows British soldiers in Sudan during the 1880s
- *The Last Samurai* (2003) R – a US Civil War veteran struggles between tradition and modernization in 19th century Japan
- *Troy* (2004) R – Ancient Greeks fight in the Trojan War
- *Vikings* (2013-present) TV-MA – History Channel drama series about Vikings in Medieval Europe

Please select one of the following options:

_____ Yes, my child has permission to view R or TV-MA material related to the curriculum of Honors World History.

_____ No, my child does not have permission to view these films and will complete alternative assignments.

Parent Signature

Date

Thank you for your help and I look forward to working with you and your student this year!

Warm Regards,

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