

6th Grade Humanities Syllabus

2017-2018 School Year

Course Objectives:

- Students will learn ancient world history and obtain a more comprehensive understanding of the English language through reading and writing.
- Students will learn about ancient cultures and explore their connection to our daily lives.
- Students will continue to develop their critical thinking skills.
- Student writing will mature through the writing process.
- Students will study and use grade-level academic vocabulary.

Teacher Expectations:

- Follow Directions.
- Be prepared for class. (Bring materials and class work.)
- Be on time, in your seat and ready to work.
- Use appropriate language. (No teasing, bullying or putdowns.)
- No food, gum or drinks in class. (Water is allowed.)

Possible Consequences:

- 1st: Warning
- 2nd: Move seat
- 3rd: Teacher student conference
- 4th: Temporary class removal & parent contact
- 5th: Referral to office

Work Expectations and Grading Policy:

1. Come prepared. Always bring your materials (see required supplies) and a positive attitude. **Daily points are earned for bringing and reading your own independent book.**
2. Actively listen and participate in class discussions.
3. Take pride in your work and complete all assignments to the best of your ability.
4. Turn assignments in on time. Each assignment earns a certain number of points; the total of which equals a percentage. Grades are based on the percentages listed below. **At no time is cheating or plagiarism allowed. Any student caught cheating/plagiarizing will receive a zero on that assignment or test, a phone call home, and a referral to the Principal's office.** If a student is absent, they are allowed to make up all missed work. Late work, other than absences, may earn half credit.

A=	Mastery	100 - 85%
B=	Proficiency	84 - 70%
C=	Basic	69% - 55%
D=	Below Basic	54% - 40%
F=	Far Below Basic	39% - 0%

Textbooks:

California Collections

History Alive! The Ancient World

Possible Classroom Novels:

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Before We Were Free by Julia Alvarez

A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park

Golden Goblet - Eloise Jarvis McGraw

Phantom Tollbooth - Norton Jester

Detectives in Togas - Henry Winterfeld

***In addition to these novels, there will be student selected novels (independent reading books) and coursework texts requiring a significant amount of outside reading.**

Our standards-based classes are aligned with the Common Core State Standards (CCSS.) The ancient civilizations study begins two million years ago and end in 500 BC. The Language Arts component of this Humanities class will cover reading, writing, speaking and listening standards.

Social Studies Units:

Unit 1: Early Humans and the Rise of the Civilization

Chapters 1-6 will cover geography, archaeology, and explore the development of cultures over time. We will begin our studies with the early humans, focusing specifically on the growth of the hunters/gatherers. These chapters explore the development of civilizations from the city-states of Sumer to the first civilization of Mesopotamia.

Unit 2: Ancient Egypt and the Near East

Chapters 7-12 will show the rise of the Egyptian civilization and then explain the “origins of Judaism and the struggle to preserve it.” Students will learn about the first forms of government, and learn the difference between polytheism and monotheism.

Unit 3: Ancient India

While studying ancient India in chapters 13-18, students will learn about Buddhism, Hinduism, the caste system and the religious influence on government in ancient India.

Unit 4: Ancient China

In chapters 19-24, students will learn about the importance of geography in the development of ancient China as well as the religious influence on its early governments. Finally we will look at Chinese inventions and their influence on society today.

Unit 5: Ancient Greece

In chapters 25-31, students will explore the tremendous religious, political, and artistic influence of this great culture and its impact on our American culture. Students will study Greek mythology and structure of government and compare its close relationship with the governmental structures in the U.S.

Unit 6: Ancient Rome

In chapters 32-37 students will be able to relate the contributions of the ancient Romans to present-day democracy and politics.

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Due: Friday, August 25th 2017

Please sign below once you and your parent/guardian have read and understood the Humanities syllabus.

Student Name (Print): _____ Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Contact Info:

Name (Print) _____

Preferred Phone Number: _____

Email: _____