

Welcome Parent/Guardians,

My name is Mr. Asher and I teach World History and AP European History. Welcome to your child(ren)'s classroom! I believe that what happens in these classrooms will affect your child(ren)'s future. Your child(ren)'s time here will be well spent. He or she may even come home exhausted from all the thinking done throughout the day, but I will make every minute count. In addition to traditional classwork, your child(ren) will be asked to complete several projects throughout the year. The following is a description of grading policy, course outline, as well as the school's policy on academics as well as its dress code. I hope you find it helpful.

Grades

My grading policy will be as follows:

¼ - Semester Exam

¼- Weekly test

½ - Homework /Projects/Classwork

The current Pupil Progression Plan permits two methods for calculation student grades:

Individual grades and averages are expressed as letter grades. Letter grades are averaged according to the following quality point scale:

A= 4 quality points

B= 3 quality points

C= 2 quality points

D= 2 quality points

F= 0 quality points

Individual grades and averages are expressed as numerical grades. Numerical averages are converted to letter grades for the Report Card according to the following scale

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 75-79

D 70-74

F Failing=69 and below

Students' grades will be based on a semester of work. Students will earn ½ units of credit at the end of each semester this year. Quarters one and three will be progress reports only.

In order to succeed in my class, my students must be prepared to study hard and complete all work assigned to them. Homework assignments will consist primarily of taking notes from the sections of the book that will be covered the next day. In addition, take-home assignments will be designed to reinforce the day's activities. Please make that this work is completed and returned the next day. If there is no homework assignment, please have your child study his/her notes or previous assignments. Education is a team effort. Without the involvement of the parents in their child's education, there is a chance that the child will not succeed. Please check your child(ren) work every night and become involved in his/her school activities.

Course Outline

World History

- Map skills/Middle Ages
- Renaissance, Reformation, and Scientific Revolution (1450–1770)
- Exploration and Expansion (1450–1770)
- Political Revolutions (1750–1914)
- The Industrial Revolution (1750–1914)
- Nations and Empires (1750–1914)
- Totalitarianism and Global Conflict (1900–1945)
- Changing World of Superpowers (1945–Present)
- Contemporary World Trends and Issues (1945–Present)

In addition, members of my class will participate in a digital arts program sponsored by The Pearson Foundation and the Digital Arts Alliance. The students will use a movie making program called Adobe Premier to create World History project. The project will combine traditional research, writing, and collaboration activities with digital storytelling to produce a multimedia project. This program affords the students the opportunity to explore new modes of expression, new ways of working independently and with peers, and new way of seeing their own relationship to their academic goals and objectives. This project is scheduled to begin in the 2nd Semester. You will receive a detailed letter informing of the project.

Books

World History Text: *World History: The Human Journey*

Every student will be assigned a textbook and as a result, student is responsible for the care and upkeep of this textbook. To protect it from any damages the textbook should be covered. Students should not write or deface the book in anyway. Any book that is damaged or lost must be replaced by the student. The price of this textbook is \$ 70.95.

Academic Honesty Policy

While the students in my classes will be given the opportunity to work in groups, each student will be responsible for his/her on work. Copying another student’s work or cheating will not be tolerated. Karr has a reputation of academic excellence and as such I expect my students to do the best he/she can.

Karr students are expected to complete all assignments and all tests/exams honestly. To ensure that all Karr students produce their own work, the following Academic Honesty Policy is enforced.

Type of Offence	Major	Minor
1 st	Exam Chapter/Unit Test, Research/Term Paper F on Assignment; Parent conference	Quiz, Classwork, Homework F on Assignment; phone call to parent
2 nd	F on Assignment; In School counseling, removal from elected office/position, unable to represent school at outside academic or leadership functions	F on Assignment; Parent/Teacher conference
3 rd	F on Assignment; Saturday School	F on Assignment; In School counseling, removal from elected office/position, unable to represent school at outside academic or leadership functions
4 th	F on Assignment; Suspension	F on Assignment; Saturday School
5 th	F on Assignment; Suspension	F on Assignment; Suspension

Classroom Rules

In order to keep order and to ensure that your child has the opportunity to receive the best possible education I can provide, I have created the following classroom rules.

- Students are to come class on time and prepared to work
- Students are expected to raise his/her hand and wait to be recognized before participating in class discussions
- Eating and drinking in class is not permitted
- Students are to keep their area clean.
- Cell phones are not permitted in class.

Radios, cassette players, CD players, MP3 players, and beepers are prohibited and will be confiscated. Cellular phones are allowed but must be turned off before the student enters the school building and ***must be kept out of view.*** **Students are not allowed to use cellular phones during the school day.** Improper use will result in the confiscation of the cellular phone; parents may retrieve confiscated cell phones at the principal’s discretion.

Absences

- Students are responsible for all work that is missed due to absences
- When a student is absent it is recommended that he/she get the assignment from a classmate.

Uniform Policy

Shirts—Purple short-sleeved golf shirts or purple long sleeve “team” oxford shirts are permitted. Collars must be worn down in the normal position; shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Pants—Only khaki long slacks are acceptable, no exceptions. **Skirts, shorts and jean pants are not permitted.** **PANTS MUST BE WORN AT THE WAIST.**

Uniforms must fit properly and be maintained in good conditions. Only closed toe shoes are permitted.

If you need to contact me, my Planning Period is from 3:00-3:45. If that time is inconvenient, I am generally in my classroom by 7:00 A.M. and am willing to talk to you at that time. In addition, I am available for tutoring from 7:30-8:00 daily as well available after school upon request. The school phone number is 368-7115.

Thank you ,
K. Asher

Welcome Parent/Guardians,

My name is Mr. Asher and I teach World History and AP European History. Welcome to your child(ren)'s classroom! I believe that what happens in these classrooms will affect your child(ren)'s future. Your child(ren)'s time here will be well spent. He or she may even come home exhausted from all the thinking done throughout the day, but I will make every minute count. In addition to traditional classwork, your child(ren) will be asked to complete several projects throughout the year. The following is a description of grading policy, course outline, as well as the school's policy on academics as well as its dress code. I hope you find it helpful.

Grades

My grading policy will be as follows:

Semester Exam-25%

Unit Tests-50% Multiple-choice quiz, and a DBQ /free-response /thematic essay. Multiple-choice questions will include the use of maps, editorial cartoons, pictures/painting from the period, graphs and statistical data.

Essays-25% Paper must be type, double-spaced using MLA format. Paper must list works cited and have internal citations, used correctly. Paper must use correct, spelling, grammar, and mechanics.

The current Pupil Progression Plan permits two methods for calculation student grades:

Individual grades and averages are expressed as letter grades. Letter grades are averaged according to the following quality point scale:

- A= 4.8 quality points
- B= 3.6 quality points
- C= 2.4 quality points
- D= 1.2 quality points
- F= 0 quality points

Individual grades and averages are expressed as numerical grades. Numerical averages are converted to letter grades for the Report Card according to the following scale

- A 90-100
- B 80-89
- C 75-79
- D 70-74
- F Failing=69 and below

Students' grades will be based on a semester of work. Students will earn ½ units of credit at the end of each semester this year. Quarters one and three will be progress reports only.

An AP course is essentially a college course. As such, the student will be required to do a lot of reading as well as writing in order to succeed in the class. Homework assignments will consist primarily of taking notes from the sections of the book that will be covered the next day. In addition, take-home assignments will be designed to reinforce the day's activities. Please make that this work is completed and returned the next day. If there is no homework assignment, please have your child study his/her notes or previous assignments as well as read the next section of the textbook. Education is a team effort. Without the involvement of the parents in their child's' education, there is a chance that the child will not succeed. Please check your child(ren) work every night and become involved in his/her school activities.

Course Outline

- Introduction and the Later Middle Ages (1.5 weeks)
- Unit 1. The Renaissance—includes humanism and the rise of the New Monarchs, (2 weeks)
- Unit 2. The Reformation, Religious Wars, and the Age of Exploration (3 weeks)
- Unit 3. The Age of Absolutism and Constitutionalism (4 weeks)
- Unit 4. The Eighteenth Century—includes the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and economics and society (5 weeks)
- Unit 5. The French Revolution and Napoleonic Era (2 weeks)
- Unit 6. The Industrial Revolution (1 week)
- Unit 7. Politics from 1815 to 1848 and Nineteenth-Century Society (3 weeks)
- Unit 8. Unification, the Age of Mass Politics, and Imperialism (3 weeks)
- Unit 9. World War I and the Interwar Period (2 weeks)
- Unit 10. The Rise of Dictatorships and World War II (3 weeks)
- Unit 11. Cold War Conflicts and Social Transformation (2 weeks)
- Unit 12. 1945 to the Present (1 week)
- Unit 13. AP European History Exam Review (3 weeks)

Textbook

McKay, John P., Hill, Bennett D. and Buckler, John. *A History of Western Society Since 1300*. 8th ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2006

Sherman, Dennis, ed. *Western Civilization: Sources, Images, and Interpretations from the Renaissance to the Present*. 7th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006

Wiesner, Mary E., Ruff, Julius R, and Wheeler, William Bruce. *Discovering the Western Past: A Look At The Evidence Volume II: Since 1500*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2004

Readings in World History. Boston: Holt, Rinehart and Winston., 2000

Every student will be assigned a textbook and as a result, student is responsible for the care and upkeep of these textbook. To protect it from any damages the textbooks should be covered. Students should not write or deface the books in anyway. Any book that is damaged or lost must be replaced by the student. The price of these textbooks are:

- A History of Western Society Since 1300*. 8th ed.: \$ 75.87.
- Western Civilization: Sources, Images, and Interpretations from the Renaissance to the Present*. 7th ed.: \$62.00
- Discovering the Western Past: A Look At The Evidence Volume II: Since 1500* : \$41.00

Academic Honesty Policy

While the students in my classes will be given the opportunity to work in groups, each student will be responsible for his/her on work. Copying another student’s work or cheating will not be tolerated. Karr has a reputation of academic excellence and as such I expect my students to do the best he/she can.

Karr students are expected to complete all assignments and all tests/exams honestly. To ensure that all Karr students produce their own work, the following Academic Honesty Policy is enforced.

Type of Offence	Major	Minor
1 st	Exam Chapter/Unit Test, Research/Term Paper F on Assignment; Parent conference	Quiz, Classwork, Homework F on Assignment; phone call to parent
2 nd	F on Assignment; In School counseling, removal from elected office/position, unable to represent school at outside academic or leadership functions	F on Assignment; Parent/Teacher conference
3 rd	F on Assignment; Saturday School	F on Assignment; In School counseling, removal from elected office/position, unable to represent school at outside academic or leadership functions
4 th	F on Assignment; Suspension	F on Assignment; Saturday School
5 th	F on Assignment; Suspension	F on Assignment; Suspension

Classroom Rules

In order to keep order and to ensure that your child has the opportunity to receive the best possible education I can provide, I have created the following classroom rules.

- Students are to come class on time and prepared to work
- Students are expected to raise his/her hand and wait to be recognized before participating in class discussions
- Eating and drinking in class is not permitted
- Students are to keep their area clean.
- Cell phones are not permitted in class.

Radios, cassette players, CD players, MP3 players, and beepers are prohibited and will be confiscated. Cellular phones are allowed but must be turned off before the student enters the school building and **must be kept out of view.** **Students are not allowed to use cellular phones during the school day.** Improper use will result in the confiscation of the cellular phone; parents may retrieve confiscated cell phones at the principal’s discretion.

Absences

- Students are responsible for all work that is missed due to absences
- When a student is absent it is recommended that he/she get the assignment from a classmate.

Uniform Policy

Shirts—Purple short-sleeved golf shirts or purple long sleeve “team” oxford shirts are permitted. Collars must be worn down in the normal position; shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Pants—Only khaki long slacks are acceptable, no exceptions. **Skirts, shorts and jean pants are not permitted. PANTS MUST BE WORN AT THE WAIST.**

Uniforms must fit properly and be maintained in good conditions. Only closed toe shoes are permitted.

If you need to contact me, my Planning Period is from 3:00-3:45. If that time is inconvenient, I am generally in my classroom by 7:00 A.M. and am willing to talk to you at that time. In addition, I am available for tutoring from 7:30-8:00 daily as well available after school upon request. The school phone number is 368-7115.

Open House is tentatively scheduled for September 5, 2007. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Thank you ,
K. Asher