**7th Grade World History**

Juan Crespi Middle School

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Ms. Kelsey Nelson

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This is Ms. Nelson’s second year teaching at Juan Crespi! Last year, she taught English Lanugage Arts and now she is very excited to make the switch to World History! Before coming to Crespi, Ms. Nelson taught 8th Grade English Language Arts at Gompers Middle School in Los Angeles, CA. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she studied journalism, classical humanities and Italian. She speaks Italian and can also read and write in Latin. She enjoys running, soccer, playing piano and watching the UW Badgers win at football. If you enjoy discussing ancient things or contemporary sporting events, ask her!

**Class Expectations, Rewards and Consequences**

*Class Expectations*

1. Follow directions the first time they are given.
2. Be prepared for class every day.
3. Keep your hands, feet and belongings to yourself.
4. Use appropriate language in the classroom.

*Rewards*

Weekly raffles for baked goods and other prizes will be held on Fridays.

*Consequences*

1. Verbal reminder
2. Phone call home and quality time with Ms. Nelson – in detention
3. Phone call home and a trip to the office

\*Extreme choices will result in extreme consequences. It is *your* choice!

**Class Goals**

1. **All** students will achieve 80% or greater on all unit assessments and final assessments.
2. **All** students will score either proficient or advanced on the CST-prep examination at the end of the year. (CST is in 8th grade for this material)

**Materials**

1. *History Alive!* Textbook and Workbook
2. 1” Binder with Binder Tab Section Dividers (10 total tabs)
3. AT LEAST 2 pencils
4. Looseleaf, lined paper

**Course Overview**

Unit 0 – Geography and Map Skills

Unit 1 – Rome

Unit 2 – Medieval Europe

Unit 3 – Islam and the Crusades

Unit 4 – West Africa

Unit 5 – China and Japan

Unit 6 – Renaissance

Unit 7 – Reformation

Unit 8 – Central and South America

Unit 9 - Enlightenment

**Classroom Procedures**

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| *Procedure* | *Specific Steps* |
| Entering the classroom | Students must walk in quietly and calmly. When they are in the classroom, students should complete the following before the bell rings:1. Collect any papers from the table near the door on their way into the classroom.
2. Sit in their assigned seat.
3. Have all required materials on their desk (notebook, pencil, anything else listed on the board)
4. Write homework in their planners, copy down the daily objective and start the Do Now silently.
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| Tardiness | Late students should enter the room quietly and quickly, signing in to the Tardy List posted next to the door on their way into the room. The should get all papers for that day’s class and then they should quietly take a seat and join class. **If you are late three times, you will have detention.** |
| Absent (make-up work) | If you are absent, **it is your responsibility to get caught up.** Absent students should check the absent folder (attached to the student filing cabinet) for handouts. You must get the notes from a classmate, complete the work and show it to Ms. Nelson to receive credit. You will have the same amount of time other students had to complete the work: for example, if the worksheet was assigned on Monday and due on Wednesday, you will have two days to complete the make-up work.  |
| Homework Policy | Ms. Nelson will check your homework FOR COMPLETION during the Do Now. Students will receive a stamp for completing their homework. Homework will be collected either on pre-assigned days or, if it is a homework packet, it will be collected FRIDAYS. |
| Food and drink | Only water is allowed during class. Students are not allowed to chew gum or eat food during class. |
| Cell phones, iPods, etc. | No cell phones, iPods or other technology items are allowed at Crespi. If they are seen in class during a non-designated time, Ms. Nelson will take the device and deliver it to the office. As a reminder, school policies dictate that for the:1. First offense: the student picks up the phone after school
2. Second offense: a parent or guardian picks up the phone
3. Third offense: this is now considered defiance and appropriate consequences will be rendered.
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| Out of your seat | You are now in middle school, so Ms. Nelson trusts that if you need to get a tissue or pick up a paper, you will do so appropriately. However, you need to request a pass before leaving the classroom for ANY REASON—bathroom, office, emergency, etc. This is for your safety! |

**Grading Policy**

Class Points\* (including participation, exit tickets, etc.) – 5 points weekly

Homework\* – 5 points weekly

Quizzes and Projects – 25-50 points

Writing Assignments– 25-50 points

Assessments – 50-100 points

\**These grades will be based on completion*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A | 100 - 90% |
| B | 89 - 80% |
| C | 79 - 70% |
| D | 69 - 65% |
| F | BELOW 65% |

*Retake Policy:*

If you score *less* *than 80%* on an assessment, you may retake that assessment. You must schedule a time with Ms. Nelson *before or after school* to take this test.

*Homework Policy:*

Homework is due the next time you see Ms. Nelson. During the Do Now, Ms. Nelson will come by and stamp your notebook. We will go over all homework in class. If an assignment is going to be collected, Ms. Nelson will tell you in advance!

*Supplies Policy:*

YOU are responsible for being prepared for class each day, which includes having any appropriate materials, having sharpened pencils, etc. If you forgot your supplies for the day, you need to make sure that you have something to write with and something to write on before you come into class. Ms. Nelson is NOT responsible for giving you supplies every day.

*Late Work Policy:*

You will receive ONE late work pass each quarter. If you choose to use your late work pass, you will have ONE additional day to complete the assignment. If you choose not to use your late work pass during the quarter, you may turn it in at the end of the quarter for extra credit on your lowest-grade assessment. ALL OTHER LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. You know the due date: make sure that you have completed work that you are PROUD of.

*Detention Policy:*

If, for whatever reason, you make decisions in class that lead to a detention, you will have to serve your detention BEFORE or AFTER SCHOOL on the designated day of the week. Ms. Nelson will hold detentions on MONDAY’s after school and on THURSDAY’s before school. If you cannot make one of these two scheduled detention times, please contact Ms. Nelson directly to schedule a separate time. There will be NO LUNCH DETENTIONS this year.

*Notes:*

YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE WRITING ASSIGNMENTS FOR THIS CLASS. Be prepared to write five paragraph essays for Ms. Nelson’s history class—it is good practice and reinforces English skills while demonstrating that you have mastered the content for World History. You will have to write about historical topics in the future: in fact, one of last years’ English Language Arts writing benchmarks was about the ancient figure of Hannibal, who famously crossed the Alps with his elephants in an attempt to defeat the Roman Empire! Plus, they are fun to write (and for Ms. Nelson to read!)