9th Grade Global Syllabus

Teachers’ Contact Information

Maryurin Torres
maryurin@facinghistoryschool.org

Christian Ramos
Christian@facinghistoryschool.org

Chris Robles
Chrisr@facinghistoryschool.org

Course Overview

This course will focus on analyzing history from different perspectives. The goal of this class is to use the philosophy and principles of Facing History and Ourselves as a lens for understanding the world. The course work will be grounded in the question: How is power used in society by individuals and groups of people? First semester, we will use early forms of civilization to help raise questions of human behavior. Then, in the second semester, we will engage in a case study of the Holocaust to help deepen our understanding of human behavior. Throughout we will engage in rigorous reading, writing, thinking, and discussion skills.

Required Class Materials (You are expected to purchase and bring these materials to class no later than Thursday, September 14th.)

- One 1-subject notebook
- One 2-pocket folder
- Black or blue pens (no pencil or colored pens)

Classroom Rules

Students are expected to be positive members of the learning community. This means coming prepared to be fully engaged on a daily basis, staying focused, asking questions, and following the community values. In addition, this implies that students will be in full uniform before entering the classroom no hats, hoodies, jeans, sweatpants etc. The classroom rules are:

1. Arrive early or on time
2. Be prepared with required materials
3. Stay awake and engaged
4. Wait your turn to speak
5. Be supportive
If you break a classroom rule, here are the follow-up actions.

1. **Redirect**
   What this sounds like: “Mike, I love your enthusiasm but remember to raise your hand to participate instead of calling out, so we give everyone a chance to think of an answer.”

2. **Warning (Verbal or STOP Card)**
   What this sounds like: “Imani, when you call out, it disrupts other people from coming to their own answer or conclusions. This is your warning about calling out.”

3. **Action Requested from Student (by Christian, Maryurin, or Chris)**
   What this sounds like: “Jerry, your classmate was called on but couldn’t answer because you called out the answer. Can you please apologize either now or sometime before class dismisses? Thanks!”

4. **One-on-One (with Maryurin, Christian, or Chris)**
   What this sounds like: “Stephanie, come talk with me in the hallway.” Then we have a conversation about calling out in the hallway.

5. **Call home and/or sent to Courtney/Admin office**
   What this sounds like: “Chris, today is just not your day. I need you to take your stuff and this pass and head to the admin office. I’ll pop in after class to talk with you.”

We aim to create a safe learning environment, where everyone works to the best of their ability to not harm, hurt, or offend others. We know it is not feasible to create a space where harmful, hurtful, offensive words and language are not used because we are all human and make mistakes. However, we work to remedy and communicate language that is used in ways that may be hurtful. If you think words have been used to harm, hurt, or offend someone, **please do not let it go**. Do something:

   a. talk to Maryurin, Christian, or Chris, so they can address it
   b. respectfully address it in the moment → do not combat harmful, hurtful, or offensive language with MORE harmful, hurtful, and offensive language.

**Attendance in class is mandatory.** If you miss class, it is your responsibility to complete the work you missed and catch up. The work will be available to collect in the classroom as well as to download directly from Google Classroom. If you need extra support, there will be student tutors and office hours for you to check-in with the teacher (before school, during lunch, or after school).
If you are **late to class** and are with an adult, ensure the adult writes you a pass. If you are just late for no good reason, please come in, sign the late log and get to work. Don’t waste more learning time trying to find a pass. Multiple latenesses will result in a call home.

**Cell phone Policy**

Cell phones are allowed in the school building but must be locked in your lockers. If you have your cell phone out during class, **you will be asked to put it away (warning).** What will happen with your cell phone depends on how you respond.

The teacher will either keep it until:

a. the end of the class period then give it back to you before you leave

b. the end of the day then give it back to you when you come get it after 8th period

c. turn the cell phone into the admin office/dean office

**Bathroom/Water Fountain Policy**

No students can use the bathroom/get a drink of water during the first 10 minutes of class or last 10 minutes of class. Only one person is allowed to be out of the classroom at a time. You must ask the teacher for permission without interrupting the class, sign out, and take the pass. Refer to the classroom door for procedure if you forget.

**FHS Grading Policy**

In order to better support students and create better consistency, we have adopted a common grading policy. The school-wide breakdown and minimum number of graded assignments to be entered into PupilPath by the end of each semester are the following:

- **Learning Activities:** Classwork, Participation, Homework (C Layers)
  3-5 activities each week = roughly 60 to 80 per semester

- **Formative Assessments:** Quizzes, Short Writing (B Layers)
  2-4 rubric guided assignments per unit = roughly 8 per semester

- ***Summative Assessments:** Exams, Extended Writing, Projects (A Layers)
  1-2 per unit = roughly 6 per semester

*Summative assessment grades always have the opportunity to be revised **IF** a student wants a higher grade. See teacher for more information.
Homework Policy

Students will be assigned homework every night. These assignments will always be checked and are used to prepare you for the next class. If you have questions about an assignment you have options! Check the directions on Google Classroom, ask a classmate, stay for tutoring, and/or email the teacher.

Plagiarism (Copying) and Cheating

- Copying and pasting someone else’s words from the Internet to your assignment or paper is plagiarism if you do not cite the author and where you got the information from.
- Copying someone’s ideas by putting the ideas in your own words is also plagiarism if you do not cite the author and where you got the information from.
- Copying another student’s work is plagiarism.

Cheating on an assignment, quiz, test, etc. is, well, cheating.

All of these acts are forbidden. Students will be required to meet with the teacher and admin team (Dana, Kristina, and/or Calee), and will take a zero for the assignment. Your parent and guardian will be notified as well. Students will have the opportunity to redeem themselves by completing an alternate assignment option to be chosen by the teacher.

Year Long Essential Question (EQ):

How does identity influence the decisions made by individuals and groups of people?