

# Mod Civ Fall 2009

Mr. Mandel

This is the first semester of a year long college prep survey of Western and non Western history. Students will be required to keep up with the readings, the work, and class discussions. The class moves quickly, and absences will negatively impact the student's understanding. Students are responsible for everything missed. If you get behind, it will be very hard to catch up. Be here.

Your active, daily participation is essential for success. You must complete all the work and the readings, study for tests, and contribute to class activities. **If you do all this, you will not fail.**

The class is aligned with the California State Standards. The first semester will cover Chapters 1-10 which correspond to standards 10.1 through 10.4 inclusive.

## Grading

60% homework/notebook/writing assignments

40% tests/quizzes

## Materials

In addition to the text, there will be supplemental readings including source documents, historical essays, and other relevant material. You will be responsible for everything we cover in class, not just what is in the textbook.

## Notebooks

You will be required to keep a 70 page, college ruled, spiral bound notebook distinct for Mod Civ for classroom work including but not limited to notes, outlines, maps, and time lines. It is essential that it be kept neat, organized, complete and up to date. The notebook will be checked for completion on a regular basis at specified dates. You may use your spiral bound notebook on tests but not on quizzes. See Notebook sheet for more detailed information.

## Homework

There will be no nightly homework. Homework will be assigned on a weekly basis and will be due on a specified date. **Work turned in late will receive half credit.** Homework will most often be chapter summaries and chapter/section reviews, but will occasionally be supplementary reading with reading guides. See Homework Assignment sheet for more detailed information.

## Essay

There will be one assigned essay on a topic to be determined during the semester. This will follow the five paragraph convention that VHS has been using with much success the past few years.

## Project

There will be a semester project, worth 10% of the grade, that will be due December 1st. Late projects will not be accepted. The project topic will be the impact of technological change on the modern world. See the Project sheet for more information.

## Tests and Quizzes

There will be periodic quizzes throughout the semester. They will sometimes be announced, but most often will not be. They will be short in length, and will serve to ensure that students are keeping up with the readings, notes, etc.

There will be 4-5 tests throughout the semester, one after each unit. They will not test your ability to memorize and be able to regurgitate every fact and detail. Instead, they will require that you **know and understand** the material and will evaluate how well you have mastered the most important ideas and concepts we cover.

## **Expectations**

Class begins the moment you enter the classroom and ends when you are dismissed by the teacher. You will come to class every day, prepared, on time, and conduct yourselves appropriately at all times. School discipline procedures, including daily OR and the step program will be utilized. Academic integrity will be maintained at all times. You will be respectful to yourself, your peers, school property, and your instructor.

## **Electronics, Food, Restrooms, and other distractions**

Cell phones, mp3 players, gameboys, and the like have absolutely no place in an academic institution. If they are visible, even if you are not engaged with it at the time, they will be turned into the office or you will be referred to the opportunity room, at the teacher's discretion. Should they be a recurring problem, further disciplinary procedures will follow.

All food and drink should be consumed at the appropriate times and places, which would be during brunch and lunch outside the classroom. No food or drink, with the sole exception of water, should be consumed or visible at any time during class. Should food become a problem, then disciplinary procedures will follow.

Students will be issued four bathroom passes at the beginning of the semester. They may use them at any time but when they are used up, students will be unable to use the restroom. They are responsible for their passes, may not share with others, and no new ones will be issued. Each unused pass turned back in at the end of the semester will be worth 0.25% extra credit.

Anything that interferes with the teacher, the students, or the learning environment of the classroom will be subject to disciplinary action.

Thank You,

Rob Mandel

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I have read the syllabus for Mr. Mandel's Mod Civ class for Fall 2009.

- I understand that there will be supplementary reading, some of which will be challenging in nature.
- I understand the homework policy.
- I understand the policy regarding notebooks and tests.
- I understand the expectations regarding behavior, especially the policy regarding electronics, food, and the restroom.
- I understand the grading policy.
- I understand that there will be a writing assignment and project this semester.
- I understand that this is a college preparatory class, and that content and curriculum are aligned with state and district standards, in addition to being in accord with UC/CSU as well as WASC guidelines for college entrance consideration.
- I understand there is a class website that has important information for the class.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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### Contact Information

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Names (1) \_\_\_\_\_, (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell (1) \_\_\_\_\_, (2) \_\_\_\_\_

Work (1) \_\_\_\_\_, (2) \_\_\_\_\_

email (1) \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

email (2) \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_