

Friday Harbor Middle School Course Outline 2016-2017

Course: 7th grade Social Studies

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Core Concepts and Skills:

- 7th grade Social studies curriculum is built around Washington state history and major world histories from the year 600 to 1450. The reasoning behind such a diverse range of topics is simple, students will build on previous knowledge as well as attach new knowledge to something “closer to home”.
- We will be primarily focusing on topics like geography, economics, civics, and history to help see how the past, present, and future all build off each other and change our world.
- Students will work heavily in areas regarding reading, writing, presenting, and research.

Major Projects/Activities/Homework

- Major projects at the 7th grade level include a Washington State “ABC book”, research project, and potentially a renaissance fair. Smaller projects will include group presentations, audio/visual work, in-class discussions and debates, and more. Much of this work is designed to help students build skills for going forward, and showing their new skills in a fashion that is creative and intellectually stimulating.
- All students are expected to have a composition notebook/spiral notebook, etc. This notebook is not optional, and must be specifically for this class. This notebook will be used for “writing into the class”, a daily warm-up activity, as well as regular note-taking, etc. students will turn in the notebook once a week for a grade.
- Students will turn in and receive much of their homework digitally via google classroom. If internet access at home will be problematic for a student, please come talk to me so we can create a special accommodation.

Required Resources & Reading

- Washington: in the Pacific Northwest published by Gibbs Smith
- World History: A journey Across Time By Jackson Spielvogel
- Maps/atlasses provided in class
- Texts will be supplemented with other historical materials and online articles. These supplementing pieces will all be posted to google classroom.

Grading

Grading is outlined in the Student Handbook. Grades will be based on several categories including homework, classwork, projects, and tests.

- Late work: work turned in 1-2 days late can receive 75% credit at most. Work turned in 3-5 days late can earn half credit (50%) at most. After one week late work will not be accepted. Students receive two late passes each semester.
- Students who turn in a major project on time and want to attempt to raise their grade will have ample opportunity to do so.