Course Syllabus – World Humanities – Honors

Instructor: Mrs. Deborah Vajner, Room 225
deborahvajner@ccs.k12.nc.us

The Humanities course introduces students to the concept of humanities. We will compare several different eras of history; how art, literature, music, philosophy, architecture, politics, and religion differ from one era to the next; and the influences those ideas and beliefs have had on history. We will begin with a comparison of ancient Greece and Rome, move through the Middle Ages, to the Renaissance, then to the Baroque, Rococo, and Romance eras and end here, in the United States, in the modern age.

Students will gain understanding of major historical eras of the Western world in terms of politics, literature, music, and art. They will also learn to interpret the arts as well as compare pieces from various eras.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>SUBJECT AREA AND BREAKDOWN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>What are the Humanities?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How to interpret art, music, literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Beliefs of early civilizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Art and society of ancient Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Philosophers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Dance and music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The importance of Rome, The Etruscan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Republic - Influence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Literature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• End of Roman Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The fundamentals of 6 major world religions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Buddhism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Christianity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Hinduism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Judaism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Taoism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compare each of the religions in terms of:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Beliefs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Idols or key figures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Concept of creation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Concept of after life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Prayer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Page</td>
<td>Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>---------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 4    | What the Middle Ages were  
When the Middle Ages took place  
Dominant art forms:  
- Gothic  
- Romanesque  
- Byzantine  
Architecture of the Middle Ages  
Medieval History  
Key People and legends  
- King Arthur  
- Charlemagne  
- Thomas Aquinas  
- Francis of Assisi  
Literature and music of the Middle Ages  
Scholasticism  
Changes in Art |
| 5    | What the Renaissance was  
Changes in:  
- Art  
- Politics  
- Literature  
- Music  
Influence of key people of the Renaissance  
- Botticelli  
- Da Vinci  
- Durer  
- Michelangelo  
- Raphael  
- Titian  
- Medici Family  
- Martin Luther  
- Pope Leo X  
- Julius II |
| 6    | The Reformation  
The Counter Reformation  
Key elements of Baroque  
- Sculptures  
- Architecture  
- Art  
- Literature  
- Music |
| 7 | Age of Enlightenment  
Rococo Art  
Classical Music  
  - Mozart  
18th Century Literature  
  - Jonathan Swift  
  - Voltaire  
  - Locke  
American Revolution  
French Revolution |
|---|---|
| 8 | 19th and 20th Century Art, Literature, Music  
Role technology plays in creation and interpretation  
Current artists  
modern architecture around the world |

The course is not textbook dependent, but The Humanities (Volumes I and II will be used) by Witt, Brown, Dunbar and Witt. Digital copies of the text will be uploaded to Google Classroom.

Additional resources: articles, websites, and video’s will be utilized throughout the course.

**Grades and percentages:**

- A = 90 – 100
- B = 80 – 89
- C = 70 – 79
- D = 60 – 69
- F = 59 and below

Tests/Projects = 45%
Homework/Classwork = 35%
Quizzes = 20%

**Assignments:**

Each unit will include (but not limited to)

1. Lectures
2. Cultural Interpretations through primary and secondary sources
3. Research projects and presentations – group and individual
4. Quizzes
5. Class discussion utilizing seminar format
About the course:

This is an inquiry based course. Students will generate knowledge through readings, synchronous chats, asynchronous discussions with students and teacher, interactions with online tutorials and online or hands-on simulations.

The semester project developed by each student will be used to demonstrate knowledge and understandings of material in the course as it applies to the current global world in which we live. The teacher will act as facilitator, guide and event planner.

The student must actively construct and acquire knowledge by being intrinsically motivated to succeed. To succeed, students must participate and complete all readings and activities. This course requires the student’s active participation.

Both formal and informal assessment methods will be used in the course. Informal assessment will include an evaluation of the quality and timeliness of participation in class activities. Formal assessment may include multiple-choice quizzes, tests, discussion board participation utilizing google classroom and written assignments. A final exam will be given at the end of the course.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- Review assigned materials by the assigned due dates
- Actively participate in all discussions
- Complete and submit all coursework via google classroom
- Turn in quality work, which must meet content requirements such as being grammatically correct, free of spelling errors. Poor writing may result in deductions from assignment grade.
- Late work will not be accepted
- According to school and Global policies regarding plagiarism, cheating and other academic dishonesty will be dealt with.
- Ethical behavior is required of all students.
- Be competent in using word-processing, spreadsheets, and presentation skills while in this course.