

## GRADE 7 SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OUTLINE

Mrs. Cecile Mantecón ~ [mantecon@stmarygilroy.org](mailto:mantecon@stmarygilroy.org)

Office Hours: Tuesdays 3~3:30 P.M.

### COURSE CONTENT THEME

World History and Geography: Medieval and Early Modern Times

### INSTRUCTIONAL FOCUS

- A To study the social, cultural, and technological changes that occurred in Europe, Africa, and Asia in the years A.D. (C.E.) 500 to 1789.
- B To review the ancient world and the ways in which archaeologists and historians uncover the past to study the history and geography of great civilizations that was developing concurrently throughout the world during medieval and early modern times.
- C To examine the growing economic interaction among civilizations as well as the exchanges of ideas, beliefs, technologies, and commodities.
- D To learn about the resulting growth of Enlightenment philosophy and the new examination of the concepts of reason and authority, the natural rights of human beings and the divine right of kings, experimentalism in science, and the dogma of belief.
- E To assess the political forces let loose by the Enlightenment, particularly the rise of democratic ideas, and they learn about the continuing influence of these ideas in the world today.

### STUDENT LEARNING WILL BE ASSESSED USING THE FOLLOWING:

- ♦ Unit projects (Ka'aba Model & the Five Pillars of Islam, Medieval Banquet, Research Paper)
- ♦ 'Tuesday News Day' reports (weekly)
- ♦ Geography quizzes
- ♦ Section quizzes
- ♦ Chapter & Unit tests
- ♦ Notes
- ♦ Relevant contributions to daily discussion

**TEXTBOOK:** *World History: Medieval and Modern Times* (McDougall Littell)

**OTHER RESOURCES:** TCI (Teacher's Curriculum Institute) *History Alive!*, Rand McNally Atlas, [www.classzone.com](http://www.classzone.com), [www.ctnba.org](http://www.ctnba.org), Junior Scholastic Magazine, online news sources

### CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

- ♦ Attendance: Daily 10:40-11:25 (9:45-10:20 on 12:30 days)
- ♦ Conduct & Participation: class discussion, homework assignments, being prepared for class (textbooks, supplies, homework), respectful attitude toward other viewpoints
- ♦ Note-taking and organization: students will learn the 2- and 3-column note format that is part of the Step-Up-to-Writing program (based on the Cornell Method); note-taking will be practiced and mastered in social studies

## **HOMEWORK:**

- ♦ Homework will be posted on the board daily and is typically due the next school day after it is assigned unless otherwise specified.
- ♦ If work is not turned in the next day, 10% of the grade will be deducted; work will not be accepted past the unit test or the progress report/report card grading period.
- ♦ School homework policy is strictly enforced.
- ♦ As part of home study, students are expected to keep abreast of current events especially those that could potentially have a lasting effect on this nation's history. (See 'Tuesday News Days')

## **'TUESDAY NEWS DAYS'**

This weekly current events homework requires the student to seek out news stories from the previous week that could potentially have a lasting effect on this nation's history. For example, a small town robbery may not in itself have this effect, but a news story about an increase in robberies due to the economic down turn might be. A report on Sunday night's game between the A's and the Giants may not be a candidate for a 'Tuesday News Day' story, but Barry Bonds' record-breaking hit definitely is one that has historical clout.

Students will write a 7- to 10- sentence broadcast news story as an evening news anchor. The story will have a tag line that will catch the viewer's or listener's interest.

It is to be typewritten using the MLA format with proper citation appearing at the bottom of the piece. (See Mrs. Mantecon if you are not familiar with this format, look through your Write Source book, or visit [www.easybib.com](http://www.easybib.com).)

On Tuesday in class, you may be selected to read your piece out loud. Late news reports will be treated like any other homework.

Warning: Do not attempt to complete this assignment on the Monday before it is due!

## **MEDIEVAL BANQUET**

To enrich our learning of the medieval times, our class, with the aid of the St. Andrew's Guild, will celebrate a Banquet in honor of Her Majesty, The Queen of England in mid-April. More information will follow.

## **FAMSF FIELD TRIP**

Our class will travel via GUSD bus to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco: The de Young and the Legion of Honor. Mrs. Cathers, our art teacher, will join us as we explore the art and culture of Mesoamerica and Africa. We will take a self-guided tour through the Legion of Honor and the de Young with help from parent chaperones. Trip yet to be scheduled.