



9th Grade Humanities Core English & History

2011 - 2012

Mr. Gonillo
Room C225
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Welcome to the Core! We are looking forward to an exciting and challenging year. Hard work and a positive attitude will go a long way toward making this a successful year for all of us. We are here to guide and help you. Let's have a great year!

Course Description

The 9th Grade Humanities Core is designed to make meaningful connections between Global History and Literature. Students will study novels, drama, short stories, poetry, and non-fiction literature at various points throughout the year. At the same time, we will study the important historical events and themes of modern history. The goal will be to use the literature to further our understanding of historical topics and to use our understanding of the history to provide greater meaning to the literature.

Course Content: The course will be divided into nine units of study.

Unit 1 – World Community

Village of 1000
Seedfolks

Unit 2 – Emergence of the Modern World

Renaissance and Reformation
Romeo and Juliet

Unit 3 – Emergence of the Modern World II

Exploration
The Odyssey

Unit 4 – Political Change

Absolutism, Enlightenment, Revolutions
SOLD - Of Mice and Men

Unit 5 - New Industrial Order

Industrial Revolution
Short Stories

Around the Globe: Modern Day Slavery

Unit 6 – A New Age of Conquest

Nationalism, Imperialism
SOLD

Unit 7 – Conflict and Upheaval

The Great War and Russian Revolution
Animal Farm

Unit 8 – Conflict and Upheaval, II

Interwar and World War II
Night

Unit 9 – The World Today

Cold War to present
Persepolis - Of Mice and Men

Course content adheres to the Vermont Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities.

Course Policies and Student Responsibilities

We hold very high expectations for both student achievement and behavior. The following course policies are designed to ensure that we create and maintain a positive and nurturing academic environment and community atmosphere.

Classroom Rules – Students are expected to follow the course rules at all times. Infractions will result in the specified consequences. The class is based on the **CORE** principles:

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Opportunity – we ask students to seize the opportunity to learn for themselves and others

Respect – respect yourself, your classmates, your teachers, your school, your community

Excellence – the bar is set high, let's strive for excellence in all we do

EHS Common Classroom Expectations (see Student Handbook) apply in all classrooms.

Evaluation – Each assignment (tests, projects, quizzes, participation, and homework) will be designated a number of points based on difficulty and time needed for completion. You will be told ahead of time the value of the assignment in points. The earned points will be counted and converted to a numerical grade at the end of the quarter.

There will be a 1st semester and a second semester exam, each of which will count for 20% of the semester grade, with each quarter accounting for 40% of the semester grade.

Homework – Students should expect to have homework nearly everyday. Homework may include reading and note-taking, working on a project or paper, responding to a forum discussion, or preparing for a test. Homework completion is critically important. ***As a general rule of thumb, if you do your homework consistently, you will do well in class. If you don't do your homework, class will be a struggle.***

Learning Styles – Students are expected to take personal responsibility for their own learning. We are here to help guide and support you, but ultimate responsibility falls on you, the student.

Plagiarism – Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is “stealing somebody’s work or idea: copying what somebody else has written or taking somebody else’s idea and trying to pass it off as original.” (Encarta) This means if you take a quote or idea from a book, article, website, or any other source, you must cite your source and give them credit. When in doubt, cite your source. If you are having trouble meeting a deadline, don’t take the “easy way out” and copy someone else! Instead, take responsibility, talk to us, and we will sort things out. The penalty for plagiarism is a zero (0) on the assignment, a student-teacher conference, and contact with parents.

Late Work – Late work will be accepted for partial credit. If you know ahead of time that you will have difficulty meeting a specific deadline, speak with us ASAP and appropriate arrangements can be made for extensions. Take responsibility for your work and this will not be a problem.

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Reading – We will be using a history textbook, novels, and various supplemental readings throughout the year. *Novels and Books are subject to change.*

SOLD by Patricia McCormick

Seedfolks by Paul Fleischman

Romeo and Juliet by Shakespeare

The Odyssey by Homer

To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee

History Text: Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction (McDougal Littell)

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

Animal Farm by George Orwell

Night by Elie Wiesel

Persepolis by Marjane Satrapi

Students may also read from the following lists of works:

Epic - The Odyssey

Short Stories - Characters in Conflict

Novel - Of Mice and Men

Night

When the Legend Dies

The Learning Tree

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

The Yearling

Treasure Island

Call of the Wild

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Arthurian Legend:

The Sword in the Stone / King Arthur and His Noble Knights

The Once and Future King

Drama - Romeo and Juliet

West Side Story

The Miracle Worker

Three American Comedies

Much Ado About Nothing

Poetry - TBA

Nonfiction - Eric

Brian's Song

Possible Independent reading unit and book reviews

Additional Supplies – Students need to come prepared each day with the following supplies:

- History Textbook (students will be informed when to bring the textbook to class)

- 1-2" 3-Ring Binder

- College-ruled Paper

- Student Planner

- Black or Blue pens

- Pencils

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SCHOOL POLICY ON ELECTRONIC DEVICES - Electronic devices are prevalent in today's society.

However, it is important that these devices are used for educational purposes and do not take away from learning taking place in the classroom. As such, the following guidelines apply in all CCSU schools:

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- The uses of camera functions are strictly prohibited in all restrooms and/or locker rooms.
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Designated areas for Essex High School students: **hallways (during class passing times only), lobbies, and cafeteria(s).**

Tips:

It is important for each student to keep up with all assigned reading, complete all homework assignments, and to ask questions!

Always put forth your best effort and you will do fine. So, you can't draw like Rembrandt sitting next to you...I grade on what **you** are capable of, on **your** creative strengths, effort, and desire to do a good job.

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oral presentations, class participation, and a mid-term and a final exam.

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- Seek extra help.
- Ask questions.
- Don't be afraid to challenge in a respectful manner.
- Need help? Extra help and make up times:

My prep period is **Block b34**. I have a **Study Hall in C – 228 A12** first semester.

Phone number: 857-7000 x1563 Please set a time with me to avoid conflicts.

Vermont Standards Addressed in Global History:

H&SS1 Students will initiate inquiry.

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5.18 Structure of the Language: Students demonstrate an understanding of the structures of the English language (sentences, paragraphs, and text structure).

5.8 Types of Literature: Students read a variety of types of literature, fiction, and nonfiction (poetry, drama, essays, folklore and mythology, fantasy and science fiction, and public documents such as newspapers and periodicals).



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Student Name _____

Book# _____

Student / Parental Acknowledgement

I have read the Course Expectations for the 9th Grade Core - Humanities with my son/daughter. I understand that there will be communication between the teachers and myself through quarterly progress reports and report cards as well as two Parent Conferences at the school. The teachers will contact me whenever necessary and I may contact them whenever necessary by phone at 857-7000 or jgonillo@ccsuvt.org or medwards@ccsuvt.org.

Student Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Phone Number _____

Email: _____

Film/Book Disclaimer

Over the course of the year there may be books, short stories, and films that address mature subject matter (Films may have an R rating). We feel the lessons in these pieces are extremely valuable and will be discussed in class. If you do not wish your student to participate in these learning opportunities, we will assign a separate project for them to complete during the class time.

If there are any questions or concerns in regards this or any other issues in our class, we encourage you to contact us.

Please sign below to give permission for your child.

Student's Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

