CONTEMPORARY WORLD SYLLABUS 2016-17

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Course Code: 504- (Group 01, 02, 03, 04)

Course Description

The Contemporary World course is designed to provide students with an understanding of world events. Students are exposed to a multitude of global issues to assist in their exploration and comprehension of the contemporary world. The focus on these issues is a multi-dimensional approach that integrates political, economic, historical, geographical and sociological perspectives.

The course is structured to focus on five major themes:

1. **Power** of the Nation State
2. **Areas of Tension and Conflict**
3. **Distribution of Wealth**
4. **Environment and Sustainable Development**
5. **Population and Migration**

There are two competencies students are to be evaluated on in relation to the themes:

1. Interprets a contemporary world problem/issue
2. Takes a position on a contemporary world issue.

By the end of the year the student needs to be able to identify, define, consider the global nature of the problem and critically assess it. From that point the student then will examine various perspectives, develop a position based on facts and consider opportunities for social action.

COURSE TIMELINE

Term 1: Power of the Nation State/ Areas of Tension and Conflict
Term 2: Areas of Tension and Conflict and Environment (Sustainable Development)
Term 3: Distribution of Wealth and Population and Migration
EVALUATION CRITERIA

Class Participation 20%:

- Seminar Groups (Research and writing groups for essay and class simulations)
- In class simulations (Mini-Security Council)
- Includes writing assignments attached to the various in-class activities.

MLA Essay Writing 40%:

- There is one formal argumentative essay written in class each term.
- All assignments contain an essay component.

Term Project 40%:

Term 1- Country Fair- Students will develop their own nation states and present to the class.

Term 2- World Issue Assignment- Students will independently research and analyze a current world issue of their choosing. A number of options are provided to demonstrate their knowledge in their culminating project. Assignments include a formal outline submission and typed analysis of non-essay projects.

Term 3- Starting a Small Business- Students will develop and present a business plan for a small business.

Policy on Late Assignments:

Work that has not been printed out and physically submitted to the teacher will be deemed late. Students may send an email with completed work but in order to avoid late marks must submit a printed copy to the teacher the following day or will then revert to the consequences listed below in the table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Frame of Late Submissions</th>
<th>Consequence for Late Submissions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One day late</td>
<td>● 75% highest attainment level</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Ineligible for incentive marks for specific assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two days late</td>
<td>● 65% highest attainment level</td>
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<td>● Ineligible for incentive marks for specific assignment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Over three days late/under two weeks</td>
<td>● 55% highest attainment level</td>
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<td>● Ineligible for incentive marks for specific assignment.</td>
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<td>● Ineligible for term bonus marks.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Over 2 weeks late | ● Incomplete on mark must consult with the teacher or receive an automatic zero.  
|                  | ● Ineligible for incentive marks for specific assignment.  
|                  | ● Ineligible for term bonus marks.  |

**Term Weightings:**

*Term 1*: 20%
*Term 2*: 20%
*Term 3*: 60%