**20TH CENTURY HISTORY AT A GLANCE** - The study of the history of the 20th century opens up students to events, movements, ideologies, states & conflicts of particular significance and immediacy in their lives. By examining choices and decision-making in the 20th century, students will be better able to understand and evaluate current events and challenges with a deeper awareness of alternatives. The study of history trains students to recognize bias, weigh evidence, and evaluate arguments, thus preparing them to make informed, independent judgments.

**UNIT ONE: A NEW WORLD ORDER?**

**The Paris Peace Conference, 1919**

**Broad Focus Questions (Learning Outcomes)**

* How did the nature of warfare (WWI) and the politics of the time inform the participants aims at the Paris Peace Conference?
* How is the Treaty of Versailles a tool of repression?
* To what extent is a ‘New World Order’ established at Paris in 1919 (League of Nations, Mandate System)?

**Assessment Summary**

Assignment #1: Evidence Q: Treaty of Versailles

Quiz: WWI, Paris Peace Conference & League of Nations

**UNIT TWO: TOTALITARIANISM**

**The Russian Revolutions & the Rise of Fascism**

**Broad Focus Questions (Learning Outcomes)**

* To what extent does Marx’s vision of revolution apply to Tsarist Russia?
* To what extent was the Russian Revolution a conspiracy of a few or rather a crisis of authority?
* Was Stalin a builder or a destroyer of Russia/USSR
* What social, economic, political conditions existed in Europe (post-WWI) that led to extremism both on the left and the right?
* What are the key ideas associated with fascism in Italy? Germany? Spain?
* To what extent was the League of Nations a failure?
* What is Appeasement and why did Britain and France embrace the idea in relation to Hitler’s foreign policy goals?

**Assessment Summary**

Assignment #2: Russian Revolutions (1917) Timeline

Assignment #3: Stalin ‘One Pager:’ Builder or Destroyer?

Quiz: Russian Revolution

Assessment #4: Evidence Q: Rise of Nazism

Assessment #5: Hitler and WWII Outbrreak (One Pager)

Quiz: Rise of Fascism

**UNIT THREE: WORLD WAR(S)**

**War in Europe & War in the Pacific**

**Broad Focus Questions (Learning Outcomes)**

* How did technology shape the character of warfare?
* How does ideology affect the politics of war?
* To what degree are economies important in war?
* What were the ley turning points of WWII?
* How ethical is it to kill civilians to protect soldiers?
* To what extent were crimes against humanity and war crimes a common feature of conflict in WWII?

**Assessment Summary**

Assignment #6: WWII Battles Inquiry/’What If’ Hypothesis

Quizzes: WWII (Europe) & WWII (Pacific)

 **Broad Focus Questions (Learning Outcomes)**

**UNIT FOUR: MID EAST**

**Arab-Israeli Conflict**

* How did Britain’s actions in Palestine lay the groundwork for the on-going conflict between Jews and Arabs in the Middle East?
* To what extent do the challenges of the historiography of the Arab-Israeli conflict inform our understanding of the Mid East?
* To what extent were the Camp David Accords successful in achieving peace in the Middle East?

**Assessment Summary**

Assignment #7: Historical Map of the Middle East

Assignment #8: Evidence Q: Camp David Accords

Quiz: Arab-Israeli Conflict

**Broad Focus Questions (Learning Outcomes)**

**UNIT FIVE: BIPOLAR WORLD**

**Cold War, 1945-63**

* How does postwar World become a ‘bipolar world?’
* To what extent was the US policy of containment successful? In Europe? In Asia? In the Americas?
* To what extent had the ‘De-Stalinization’ of the USSR and its sphere of influence really occurred?
* What role did the United Nations play in bridging the chasm between superpowers of the Cold War?

**Assessment Summary**

Assignment #9: Propaganda Poster

Assignment #10: Cuban Missile Crisis Simulation (\*)

Quiz: Cold War, 1945-65

**UNIT SIX: DECOLONIZATION**

**Nationalism, Liberation, Revolution & Independence**

**Broad Focus Questions (Learning Outcomes)**

* To what extent was colonialism responsible for the social, economic and political problems in the developing world?
* How did the US policy of containment overshadow the Vietnamese desire for national self-determination (Liberation? Decolonization?)?
* How did the revolution in China differ under the leadership of Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping?
* To what extent has violence been a central tenet of independence movements in the developing world?

**Assessment Summary**

Assignment #11: Decolonization Chart Organizer

Assignment #12: Vietnam – Liberation or Containment?

Assignment #13: ‘Socialism with Chinese Characteristics’

Quiz: Decolonization in Asia & Africa

**Broad Focus Questions (Learning Outcomes)**

**UNIT SEVEN: END OF HISTORY**

**Détente, Fall of Communism, Rise of Terrorism**

* What role did détente play in shifting the discourse between East and West? Or did it, really?
* To what extent was M. Gorbachev a key figure in the collapse of the Soviet system in E. Europe & USSR?
* How does Islamic fundamentalism arise out of the end of the Cold War in the Middle and Near East?

**Assessment Summary**

Assignment #14: Fall of Communism (One Pager)

**END OF COURSE**

**Course Categories**

Participation 10%

**Book Review 10%**

Assignments & Essays (One Pagers) 35%

Quizzes 25%

Final Exam 20%