

# Ancient History & Geography Expectations

Mr. Leidecker

Hours 1,2,3,4, & 6

## The Basics—things we do so that class runs smoothly with an emphasis on learning

- Come to class properly equipped to participate every day. Bring an appropriate writing utensil, and any work that will be checked or turned in that day. (walking into class empty-handed usually means you forgot something important)
- Arrive on time for class. This means your body is fully in the classroom before the bell rings. When the bell rings, be in your seat and listening because Mr. Leidecker wants to start class.
- Be thoughtful and respectful of everyone else. This includes when and how you speak to others, and how you treat others' personal property.
- We have a cafeteria designated for eating meals, but it is not this classroom. You may chew gum if it doesn't become distracting, and you may bring a clear water bottle to class.
- Each student gets 5 in-class bathroom breaks per quarter. When you run out of passes for the quarter, that's it. Choose an appropriate time to ask to leave the room. Take the appropriate pass. Sign out and in.
- All rules stated in the UCS Junior High Handbook are to be followed (dress code, electronic devices, etc.).

## Smart Phones and other Spiffy Devices

This year we will be using some online resources that are likely to become adopted by the district for future use. Since we don't yet have a class set of computers dedicated to this class, we will be using paper copies and student devices to access the new textbook and other resources.

Online devices can be extremely helpful, but they can also be extremely distracting. Responsible use of an online device is important and expected.

Students are expected to abide by the UCS district guidelines for the appropriate use of technology in the classroom. No electronic devices (UCS property or personal property) may be used during class time without the permission of the teacher.

In this class, there is always a clearly stated purpose when devices are used. Whenever a device is used for anything other than the purpose given by Mr. Leidecker, or for something that permission has not been given (ex: listening to music while taking notes), the school cell phone policy will be applied and the device will be sent to the office.

## Consequences for disruptive behavior:

Typically, disruptive behavior will be addressed in the following sequence:

First step: teacher will request that the student stop whatever is causing the problem.

Second step: teacher will assign a lunch detention to the disrupting student. *\*\*What's a lunch detention??*

**AND** a call home will be made to discuss the student's behavior

Third step: teacher will fill out a referral and send student to the school office.

(Highly disruptive behavior will be handled in a more direct manner—straight to office)

## **Grading—how to describe what you have learned and practiced**

Since this class introduces students to a lot of new concepts and ideas, it is not expected that students will always grasp every concept and skill on the first try. This class is about learning new things and improving on useful skills.

State standards address important skills students should master in the study of social studies. Daily assignments may be used as practice in preparation for a later assessment.

Each quarter's final grade will be based upon the level of mastery that a student can demonstrate on the standards covered during that marking period. "Mastery" includes content knowledge, understanding concepts, and demonstrating skills.

The standard UCS grade scale will be used in this class.

Semester grade: Quarter 1=45% Quarter 2=45% Final=10%

***How can I state this another way? We will practice social studies skills and/or work on (read, discuss, practice) understanding historical concepts every day, and a student's grade reflects how well the student can demonstrate ability and understanding.***

### **Academic Integrity:**

Students are expected to make all work their original. Plagiarism will not be tolerated in this class and will result in NO CREDIT for the assignment. Plagiarism includes copying from any book, the Internet, a fellow student, or any other source.

### **Late Work Policy:**

Timely completion of assignments is a key part of a successful class. When all students have their work completed on time, the class can check for understanding and effectively discuss any concepts that need further explanation. Students who forget or fail to complete their work on time will often miss important concepts and fall a little behind the class each time. Frequent occurrences can have drastic effects on a student's learning and will result in a lower overall grade in the class. Missing work should be completed and turned in, even if late. Assignments are used to reinforce lessons and inform the teacher of student comprehension. The ZAP program will be used for students who fail to complete and turn in assignments in a timely manner.

### **Absent Work:**

When a student is absent it is his/her responsibility to get the missed work and notes. An absent student will have time to turn in absent work equal to the number of days absent. It is helpful to alert the teacher in advance of planned absences, so that the student may receive the assignments he/she would miss.

### **Extra Credit/Reassessment**

In a standards-based grading system, extra credit doesn't work. Since multiple opportunities will be given to show mastery, reassessment is the path to a "better grade".

Reassessment can be scheduled for students willing to put the time in to relearn material. This process will be explained in more detail at a later date, as the details will be tailored to the specific skill or topic.

**Parent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Student: Return this signed sheet to class and show to Mr. Leidecker no later than 9/11/19