

World History (1st Period- 1st Semester 2024-2025)

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Parents are more than welcome to join Remind. It is the best way to stay on top of what is going on each day in class, as well as what is due the next day in class.

Grading Scale:

Classwork/Homework	X 1 (counted once)
Notebook Checks	X 2 (counted twice)
Tests	X 3 (counted three times)

1st 9 Weeks → 37.5%

2nd 9 Weeks → 37.5%

NC Final Exam → 25%

Grade Modification:

A couple of years ago, Ms. Heatherly, one of our assistant principals, sent out an article in regards to how much a “0” affects a student’s grade. It described how, on a 10-point scale, which is what we have at Tuscola, a “0” is more like a “K” than a “F,” which would be basically 50-59.

This quote particularly resonated with me: “Think about a student who does consistent B (85) work. Their first two assignments are solid 85s, so the average is an 85. If this student doesn’t turn in the third assignment and receives a zero, their grade drops to an F (57). Because of that one zero, it will take that student 14 more 85s just to get their grade back to an 80. To be clear, a student could have 15 total 85s in the grade book and one missing assignment (traditional zero), and their grade would still be C because of the way that zero mathematically affects the grading system. Our students know this. They get in a hole because of some missing work or some zeros and they inherently know that they may never be able to get out of it no matter what they do. They can consistently turn in good work, but their grade hardly improves because of the math behind the K (the zero).”

With that knowledge in hand, I have adjusted the way that I calculate averages. If a student makes a 100 on an assignment, it is worth 5 point, a 93 on an assignment is worth 4.93 points, an 85 on an assignment is worth 3.85, a 70 is worth 2.70 points, a 60 is worth 1.60 points, a 40 is worth .40 points, & a 0 is worth 0 points. As student is still not getting credit for assignments not turned in, but the grades are now more in line with the quality/quantity of work that a student is producing.

However, I have not been able to figure out a way for it to be calculated correctly in our grading system. We are going to a different grading system this year, so I may be able to get it figured out. If not, I have to manually calculate grades for Progress Reports at the midway point of the grading period & for Report Cards at the end of each grading period, which means there will be a discrepancy between the actual grade & what is in Infinite Campus. If you ever have questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Late Work Policy:

All assignments are due at the specified time, unless you are absent when the assignment was made or when it was due. Assignments that are not turned in on time will still be graded, but the grade will be reduced by 50% (ex: if you make a 100 on the assignment, you will only receive a 50; if you make an 80, you will only receive a 40). Students get one free late work pass per 9 weeks, where they will receive full credit on the assignment.

Re-Test Policy:

All students have the opportunity to re-test if they are not happy with their original test grade. It is a two-step process: 1) Correct original test & submit. I will look over the corrections to make sure all answers are correct (& correct any that were missed the second time), so students will have all the correct answers to study. 2) Students may then take the Re-Test, which will consist of the same material, but will not be the same test. If the Re-Test grade is higher than the original test grade, the Re-Test grade will replace the original test grade in the gradebook.

Absence Policy:

The absence policy for Tuscola High School will be followed in this class. Students may miss 6 days in a class, excused or unexcused. If a student misses days 7, 8, or 9, they must make up those absences minute for minute at after school attendance make-up sessions, which will occur later in the semester. If a student reaches 10 absences, they must appeal to the office for course credit. If absences are not made up and/or a student doesn't appeal for course credit, credit will be denied for the course. Students will have 2 days per absence to make up any missed assignments. It is the student's responsibility to obtain work missed.

- **Tardies/Check Ins/Check Outs**→ Once a student exceeds a total of 6 tardies, student can expect a series of consequences: 7-10 tardies—lunch detention/11&12 tardies—30 minute work detail/ 13&14 tardies—60 minute work detail/15 tardies &up—1 day ISS each. A student must be in class for 45 minutes (half of the class period) in order to be counted present.

Behavior Policy:

THS behavior policies can be found within the student handbook. Good behavior in my classroom is expected. Classroom rules are as follows: 1) Respect Yourself; 2) Respect Others; 3) Be Prepared. In one statement, "Do the Right Thing." Any behavior which restricts learning or disrupts the classroom environment will not be tolerated and THS policy will be followed.

Supply List (bring to class everyday):

- 1) 3-ring binder (**for World History only**)
- 2) Pen/pencil (**no red ink- work turned in written in red ink will not be graded**)
- 3) Loose leaf paper

Parent/Guardian Signature:

I have read the syllabus & understand what will be expected of my child in World History.

Student Signature:

I have read the syllabus & understand what will be expected of me in World History.