

## Contemporary World Issues SDAIE (0702) Course Information Sheet

Instructor: Sophia Caramagno  
Textbook: History of Our World  
UC/CSU: Yes/Yes

### What Students Can Expect From This Course

#### Course Description:

The subject matter of Contemporary World Issues will focus on the 20th century world. In this course, we will work to build Social Studies Skills, including: studying, reading, listening, writing, researching, discussing, interpreting, collaborating with others, problem solving, and presenting as well as using maps, charts and graphs. Mastery of these skills will prepare students for success at MVHS, college, and in the workforce. We will follow the State Curriculum Standards for 10th grade World Studies for our subject matter including: the Post War Era, nation building across the globe and the new global economy. We will cover the regions including China, Africa, Europe, Latin America, Middle East in 20<sup>th</sup> century and Social Activism.

#### Assessment and Grading:

Per BP/AR 5121, teachers of the same course are expected to align their grading and assessment practices in the following areas: (a) the weight of assignments for the various categories of assessment, (b) homework policies, late/make up policies, opportunities for revision, extra credit and grading scales, (c) degrees of proficiency. In addition, the policy specifies that “group work is to be considered an essential part of the learning experience, and that grades earned through group participation are to reflect an individual student’s achievement on a designated academic standard and to be awarded to individuals rather than to groups of students. Extra credit is to be given only when it supports student achievement of academic standards for the course and when it is equitable for all students.”

**Grading practices are determined by course teams. All teachers of this course will determine grades as defined below:**

1. The final grade will be composed of the following:

- Preparation- Students will come to class prepared and on time: 5%
- Collaboration- Students will demonstrate good citizenship and participate in class: 5%

*Revision is Encouraged for the following:*

- Critical Thinking: 25%
- Academic Writing: 15%
- Close Reading: 15%
- Content Proficiency: 35%

3. Homework policy: Homework in this class will consist of reading responses, current events, working on projects and preparing for assessments.

4. **Late Work:** . On-time assignments result in more learning and higher grades because students have the opportunity to practice skills and can use or expand on

2. Grading scale:

Skill Level Name	Letter Mark	SIS Final Grade Percent Scale
Advanced +	A+	96.66-100
Advanced	A	93.33-96.65
Advanced -	A-	90-93.32
Proficient +	B+	86.66-89.99
Proficient	B	83.33-86.65
Proficient -	B-	80-83.32
Basic +	C+	76.66-79.99
Basic	C	73.33-76.65
Basic -	C-	70-73.32
Below Basic +	D+	66.66-69.99
Below Basic	D	63.33-66.65
Below Basic -	D-	60-63.32
Far Below Basic	F	50-59.99

what is learned for homework in class. Students are permitted to turn in late work but it should be avoided so that students learn the material in a timely manner.

**Absences:** It is the student's responsibility to get all missed work and to talk to their teacher to find out what they need to make up. Please check the class website or email the teacher.

**Revisions and Reassessments:** Because making and correcting mistakes is part of any learning process, students are encouraged to take advantage of revision opportunities. Students may revise most academic writing, critical thinking assignments and assessments in an attempt to achieve higher proficiency. Revisions must be completed for 3rd quarter by March 15th and for 4th quarter by May 31st. Content proficiency reassessments should be completed within one month of the original assessment. No revision is allowed for the final exam.

5. Group work: While students will sometimes work in groups, each student will be assigned their own task and be scored only on their own work.

6. Extra credit: No extra credit will be offered in this course. If students wish to improve their grade, they should redo assignments or retake tests for a better score.

7. How proficiency is determined/how student work is assessed: Student work will be assessed using rubrics designed for each type of assignment. Rubrics will be given ahead of time.

8. Grade book update policy: The grade book is updated every two weeks. Essays and projects may take longer to appear in the grade book.

### **What Is Expected of the Students**

#### **Daily Assignments:**

Students are expected to write down their daily assignments and homework from the board every day. Students can also find this information on the class web page for each teacher. Classwork and homework assignments will include: note taking, reading, answering questions, researching, preparing part of a group assignment, reviewing homework, writing essays and reports, and analyzing historical information for connections and comparisons. All assignments should be accurate, complete and neatly done to achieve credit.

Students will also be keeping a formal History notebook recording all they have learned and done this semester. This notebook will be used for critical thinking assignments and to help prepare students for quizzes and tests. It is important that students keep this notebook neat and up to date for the whole semester. The notebook will be used to prepare for the final exam which will cover the whole semester. There will be a separate folder for biography reading books and analysis papers. In addition, students should bring their computer laptop each day.

#### **Classroom Rules:**

- School Behavior Policies Apply in the Classroom.
- No food is allowed in the classroom. Water is ok.
- Cell phones should only be used with teacher permission. Students must ask for permission every time. Electronics used without permission will be confiscated. Cell phones should only be used for translation or teacher approved sites.

#### **Cheating Policy:**

The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. Examples of cheating include: anyone who copies another's work or turns in someone else's ideas as his or her own, collaboration with another student or students could be considered cheating if students are expected to complete an assignment independently, copying homework, allowing someone else to copy your work, plagiarism, copying or allowing others to copy from another's exam, improperly obtaining and/or using tests, questions, or answer keys, using unauthorized notes/materials or electronic equipment (calculators, cell phones, etc.), with greater access to the Internet and electronic sources, students need to be very clear about their responsibilities in using these tools with integrity. Check with your teachers if you are unsure or unclear about his/her expectations regarding the use of the Internet.

### **Help and Contact Information**

Students who are absent should look at the lesson they missed on the class webpage and then download and do the work BEFORE they return to class, or risk being very behind. Students should email the teacher if they have questions.

Students can get help in a number of ways. They can make an appointment to see their teacher or go to the Tutorial Center. They can also send an email. The school librarian is also available during regular school hours.

Homework can be found: <https://sites.google.com/a/mvla.net/scaramagno/home/cwi-sdaie-page>

Email: Sophia.Caramagno@mvla.net

Phone/text: 925.787.2591

#### **goals for student and class:**

1. Increase your love of history and current events.
2. Improve your writing, reading and critical thinking skills.
3. Make connections between your life, the events that happened in the past and those that are happening today.
4. Respect the diversity of thoughts and individuals in our classroom, our campus and our community.
5. Set and meet your personal goals.

Student Goals for CWI (at least 2):

I have read this sheet and understand the general outline of the course presented here.

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Student name (print)

