

September 1, 2020

Dear Rhoades Families,

Welcome to 6th Grade World History. I look forward to exploring ancient world history with your students this year.

My approach to history is inquiry-based. As the teacher, I provide the framework and support for students to ask and answer questions. Students will analyze and evaluate primary and secondary sources, interpret historical events from different perspectives, and develop and defend evidence-based answers.

The focus of the first unit is geography and time. Students will learn about cartography and chronology, scale and perspective through authentic activities with maps and timelines. After the first unit, we will explore world history in a comparative and chronological approach organized in “Big Eras.” We will use the World History for Us All curriculum, which was developed by a team of teachers and scholars under the leadership of the National Center for History in the Schools at UCLA. The span of our study is from 10,000 BCE to 30 BCE. The big themes in the course are: people and their interaction with the environment, people and their interaction with ideas, and people and their interaction with each other.

As practitioners of history and social science, students are expected to actively participate in class. Students will be assessed based on formative and summative performance-based activities, quick writes, quizzes, and projects. I will post due dates for projects several weeks in advance, as well as dates for homework and quizzes.

I look forward to exploring, investigating, and experiencing world history this year with the 6th graders. Thank you for the opportunity to work with your students.

Yours,

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