IB History of the 20th Century  
(IGCSE History year 2)  
Mr. David Veenstra  
Hillcrest High School: Room D222 Phone extension: #66114  
2019-2020 School Year  
david.veenstra@canyonsdistrict.org

Course Description
History of the 20th Century is a focused intense class about world history. The focus of our class will be how different cultures gained their independence and developed democracies around the world. We will place a special emphasis on civil rights and the relationship between the individual and their government. Heck yes this will be fun. I love this stuff and I hope you will too. :)  

About You
I love you. I love all of my students. You do not have to earn my love, you already have it. You are a smart and interesting person. You have a lot to add to my classroom and I look forward to getting to know you better this year. You will make mistakes this year and that is OK. You are not perfect and that is OK too. You are valuable. You are smart. You are loved.  

About Me
I absolutely love teaching and I love history. My focus tends to be on philosophical ideas and trends. I get excited when my students conquer a difficult topic. My promise to you is that I will be fair and open minded. If you want to explore a different topic then we can look at that. If you are bothered by something or if you are confused talk to me and we will fix it.  

Materials
- Students also need to bring a pen or pencil and spiral notebook to class each day.  
- Notes must be handwritten in a spiral notebook and not torn out. Typed notes will not be acceptable. Hundreds of studies have all shown that students retain the information better if they write it by hand so we go where the science is. No typed notes.  
- Students are also required to have and use the IB textbooks I will give you.  

Participation and Behavior
You have to come to class and be on time. Behavior standards will follow Hillcrest guidelines but will center around the philosophy “Don’t be a jerk.” This means that you treat everyone respectfully and honestly. Don’t be distracting or harmful. We all want to succeed and be friends so just be kind to each other. I will use Hillcrest discipline standards if you make me but I prefer to treat y’all like adults.

Canvas and Late Work
Almost all assignments will be on Canvas. Please consult it regularly for assignments. Mr Veenstra rarely if ever collects paper. The due date and time will be on the assignment entry in Canvas. Late work is acceptable but you really really really don’t want to be late because we move fast and do a lot of work and you will be buried fast.  

Skyward and Attendance
I promise to post your grades on Skyward in a timely manner (usually a few days.) The grades on Canvas will not be correct because some things won’t be there and the ratios aren’t correct and Canvas doesn’t sync reliably, so make sure to consult Skyward. So it goes.  

Conference time and APP
I am available to meet with students during APP any day. I am also available before school on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday. I am available after school every day until Mock Trial begins. After that I will be available any day afterschool but Tuesday. Shoot me an email or stop by.
Grading Policy

Grades will be distributed as shown in the graph. Student performance will not be graded on a curve but the grades themselves are distributed so as to achieve a few goals. F is difficult to get. Basically if you come to class and participate even a little you will pass. A is difficult to get because excellence should be difficult. C is relatively easy and the largest span of grades is here to reflect that a C should be the average. Again, it is possible for all students to get an A or an F or any other grade. Your individual performance is on you.

School Expectations

- **Be Respectful** – Treat others with respect. Respect the teacher during instruction. Respect the school as a place of learning. Respect the school dress code.
- **Be Responsible** – Be responsible for earning a quality education. Be responsible for your actions. Be responsible for helping to make this school a better place.
- **Be Safe** – Be safe at school and follow school rules. Be kind to those who are struggling

Extra Credit

Extra Credit opportunities are exceedingly rare, small and only given to the entire class. I will never give extra credit if you ask for it. Do not rely on extra credit, just do your work and you will be fine.

IB Test and IB Department

All students are required to take the IB exam in May regardless of diploma status. If you have questions about the IB program in general, I am happy to answer them to the best of my ability but really Mr. Olsen and Ms. Veenstra in the IB office know more than I do.

Got problems?

Stop by or email me and we can work it out. I want you to succeed and I want you to take the big ol brain of yours and do something awesome with it. We can work out whatever needs to be worked out.
PLEASE SIGN AND TURN INTO MR. VEENSTRA
I have read and understand the disclosure statement for IB History of the 20th Century.

Student Name (Please Print Full Name)_______________________________________

Class period_________ Student Signature___________________________________

Famous person alive today that you would most like to have dinner with and why?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian
Signature______________________________________________________________

Parent Email __________________________________________________________
Course Description
US History is the study of what it means to be American. We will examine people’s lives through American history going from the end of the Civil War to modern days. We will explore both the good and bad things that have happened through our history in an effort to make ourselves better people and then to make our country a better place. Anything in American history is fair game so buckle up :)

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I love you. I love all of my students. You do not have to earn my love, you already have it. You are a smart and interesting person. You have a lot to add to my classroom and I look forward to getting to know you better this year. You will make mistakes this year and that is OK. You are not perfect and that is OK too. You are valuable. You are smart. You are loved.

About Me
I absolutely love teaching and I love history. My focus tends to be on philosophical ideas and social trends. I get excited when my students conquer a difficult topic. My promise to you is that I will be fair and open minded. If you want to explore a different topic then we can do that. If you are bothered by something or if you are confused talk to me and we will fix it.

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Canvas, Late Work, and Retakes on tests
Almost all assignments will be on Canvas. Please consult it regularly for assignments. Mr Veenstra rarely if ever collects paper. The due date and time will be on the assignment entry in Canvas. Late work is acceptable but you really really really don’t want to be late because we move fast and do a lot of work and you will be buried fast. Tests can be retaken one week after the test was given and the study guide must be completed in order to retake the test.

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(70% assessments 30% assignments)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% - 94%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93% - 90%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89% - 87%</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>86% - 84%</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83% - 80%</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79% - 77%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77% - 74%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>73% - 70%</td>
<td>C-</td>
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<tr>
<td>69% - 67%</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>66% - 64%</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>63% - 60%</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% - 0%</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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Parent/Guardian
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