

**World History/Geography I B**  
**Tutor: Cameron Smith**

**2011-2012**

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**Course Description**

World History/Geography I covers the time period from the fall of the Roman Empire up until the Reformation. I believe that the most important world event of the medieval time period is the formation and rise of Islam. We spend time looking at the Old Testament and how Islam takes its roots from distorting the life of Abraham, Isaac, and Ishmael. We also cover Medieval Europe, the Holy Roman Empire, and the Crusades. The clash of Christianity and Islam is a huge aspect of this time period so it is important to understand the theological clashes as well.

I think that the best way to learn something is to teach it. I also think we need to be moving the students toward being more comfortable speaking in public. Because of this, I employ the use of presentations throughout the year. Some of these are individual presentations and some of them are group presentations.

**Grading**

30% of your grade this year will come from Participation. Every day you will get a grade from 0-10 based on how well you participate. Participation means many things:

- Reading your assignments before class
- Actively participating in any discussions
- Not disrupting discussion
- Being on time

The other 70% of your grade is composed of your general projects. There are 3 types of general projects in Medieval World

- **Reading Quizzes** – When I assign reading, I always give a reading quiz to ensure that you are motivated to read. These quizzes are not revisable.

**Papers** – There are a few essays you will write in World History/Geography

- These are 100 points and they are revisable.
- **Projects** – There are time lines, research projects, and presentations that have various point values. This category contains the most general project points and they are revisable.

## **Works Studied**

There is a World History/Geography notebook that we take lots of material from. However, most of the reading in that notebook is short and not very thorough. I frequently add Xeroxed materials from primary source documents to read. Sometime I provide this but there may be a time or two when I will email a document or point the students to an educational website.

## **Office Hours:**

I welcome the opportunity to meet with students or parents. Parents are more than welcome to contact me to find out how things are going in class, etc. Students should make a point of seeing me as soon as they realize they are struggling with a particular concept. It is much better to deal with things sooner rather than later! Please email or call to set up an appointment as I am only up at MCA part-time. Thanks!

**Assignment for the first day of class:** Do a little research on your own and try to discover when the medieval time period begins and when it ends. Bring a short paragraph communicating why these dates are chosen.