Humanities Course Syllabus 2022-2023

Instructor: Barbara L. White  Email: bwhite3@houstonisd.org  Room: 1121

Office Hours: Monday: 1:44 - 2:29 p.m. / Wed and Fri: 1:10 - 2:30 p.m.
Tutorials: Monday: 4:15 – 4:45 p.m. and Thursday: 4:15-4:45 p.m.

Course Description: Humanities is a rigorous course of study in which high school students respond to aesthetic elements in texts and other art forms through outlets such as discussions, journals, oral interpretations, and dramatizations.

In addition, students use written composition to show an in-depth understanding of creative achievements in the arts and literature and how these various art forms are a reflection of history. All students are expected to participate in classroom discussions and presentations that lead to an understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of critical, creative achievements throughout history.

Resources:

- textbook, The Humanities: Culture, Continuity and Change, Volume 1 3rd edition
- Instructor Resources 4th edition, Pearson Publishing
- Various texts, visuals and audio media
Class Expectations:

- Respect the rights, opinions and needs of all individuals
- Be prepared for class
- Be on time
- Participate in class
- Adhere to the campus dress code as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct

Grading Policy: Grades will be on a weighted average as follows:

- Classwork/Homework 50%
- Tests/Projects 30%
- Participation 20%

Late Work:

You will be given an opportunity to submit late work following an absence. Grade penalties and the amount of time allowed to complete the assignment are as follows:

- 3 school days to turn in the assignment no points deducted (full credit eligible)
- After three (3) days, a ten-point penalty will be assessed.

Supplies:

- Fully charged laptop
- Notebook paper required every class meeting
- One (1) pencil required every class meeting
- One ink pen; blue or black required every class meeting

Units Overview - Semester 1

Part 1 The Ancient World and The Classical Past

Prehistory to 200 CE

Students will read widely to gain knowledge about the emergence of cultures:

- The Rise of Culture from forest to farm
- The Ancient Near East power and social order
- The Stability of Ancient Egypt
- The Aegean World and the Rise of Greece: Trade, War, and Victory
- Golden Age Athens and the Hellenic World: The School of Hellas
- Rome: Urban Life and Imperial Majesty
- Emerging Empires in the East: Urban Life and Imperial Majesty in China and India
Part 2 The Medieval World

200 CE-1400

Students will read widely to gain knowledge about the shaping of culture:

- The Flowering of Christianity: Faith and the Power of Belief in the Early First Millennium
- The Rise and Spread of Islam: A New Religion
- Fiefdom and Monastery, Pilgrimage and Crusade: The Early Medieval World in Europe

Units Overview - Semester 2

- Centers of Culture: Court and City in the Larger World
- The Gothic Style: Faith and Knowledge in an Age of Inquiry
- Siena and Florence in the Fourteenth Century: Toward a New Humanism

Part 3 The Renaissance Period

1400-1600

Students will read widely to gain knowledge about the artistic advances of the period:

- Florence and the Early Renaissance: Humanism in Italy
- The Renaissance in the North: Between Wealth and Want
- The Reformation: A New Church and the Arts
- The Early Counter-Reformation and Mannerism: Restraint and Invention