

# World History

Mr. Joseph Blankenship

## Teacher Information



jjblankenship@madisoncity.k12.al.us  
Preferred method for timely responses



[Liberty Front Office: \(256\) 430-0001](tel:(256)430-0001)

## Required In-Class Materials

In order to be fully prepared for class, students are expected to bring all materials to class daily. To maximize learning time, students will not have access to their lockers after the bell has rung.

- Pencils (at least 2)
- Coloring supplies
- Loose-leaf paper
- Scissors (suggested, but not required)
- 1 subject notebook
- Glue or Glue Stick (glue stick preferred)

## Course information & helpful tips

8th Grade World History will examine the time periods of early history covering Prehistoric times to the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Topics will include the Stone Ages, River Valley Civilizations, the emergence and spread of major world religions, the influence of Greek and Roman civilization, the Americas, Ancient Africa, and the Middle Ages.

Testing: Tests for World History will be on Tuesday or Thursday. Students will be notified in advance of tests and a study guide for tests will be posted online a minimum the day before a test. Make-Up Tests will be held before or after school or online by appointment.

Homework will include: Finishing work from class, absent/make-up work, studying for tests and completing projects.

Students are expected to write their homework down daily.

Distribution List Emails: Mr. Blankenship will e-mail class updates at least once a week to let parents and students know assignment, lesson and test/quiz updates.

### Gradebook codes in iNow:

INOW is the required grading platform that will stay up to date for parents / students.

All grades/averages will be accurately reflected in INOW not Schoology

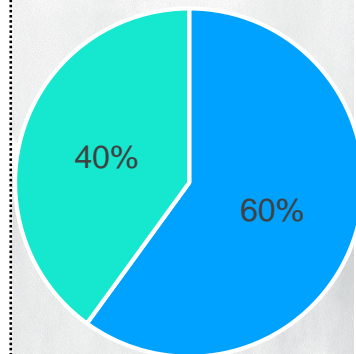
**ABS-** your child was absent when the assignment was given and does not need to make up the assignment. This code does not count negatively towards your child's average.

**INC-** This will be entered when a student was absent and needs to make up the assignment. This is averaged as a zero. The grade will be changed when the work is made up.

**EXC-** Your child is considered exempt from the assignment. This code does not count negatively toward your child's average.

**NTN-** This means your child did not turn in the assignment. This is averaged as a zero in the gradebook. Late work will be accepted for a changed grade.

## Grades



■ Assessment ■ Classwork

Grades are updated in iNow regularly. Please check iNow as it is the most efficient communication regarding student progress. When checking grades, please use a desktop/laptop, as iNow codes do not calculate correctly on mobile devices and tablets.

# Rules and Expectations

All students are expected to contribute to a positive classroom environment through respect, honesty, participation, and hard work. Every student is entitled to an equal opportunity to learn.

## Rules

All students are expected to follow our classroom rules.

1. Respect yourself, your peers, your teacher, and your surroundings.
2. Raise your hand silently to speak unless told otherwise.
3. Follow directions the first time they are given.
4. Be on time and prepared for class. This includes using the bathroom prior to class. Students leaving class is left to teacher discretion. Three tardies/unprepared days= 1 break detention.

## Consequences

When a student struggles to meet expectations/rules, the following steps will be taken to help the student correct:

1. Warning
  2. Last Chance & Student Conference
  3. Parent Contact
  4. Detention and Parent Contact
  5. Office Referral
- \*Teachers and school staff reserve the right to skip steps if immediate action is required.

## Procedures

**Entering:** Upon entering, students should get all the necessary materials, sit in their assigned seat, and quietly begin the bell work. Bell work may be graded.

**Exiting:** Students are expected to clean up their space, gather their items, and exit the room in a respectful manner. Students should not line up at the door. If something is forgotten, they will have to wait until the next break, as to not interrupt the next class.

# Class Policies



## Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined as taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own. Per the student handbook, any actions or assistance in academic dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism will result in a zero and will be subject to disciplinary action.



## Late work

Late work is accepted for 10% off the score per each school day late, not to exceed 3 days (30%). Late work can be turned into the late work tray. Students need to talk to Mr. Blankenship about late work and determine a new due date if necessary.



## Absences

Students have the responsibility to make up any missed work, including scheduling dates for quizzes and tests. Students can schedule make-up tests before or after school with Mr. Blankenship. Make-Up tests will not be given during school hours unless a student has prior approval. If a student is absent on a day something is due in class, they are expected to have it the day they return to school. A zero is given for tests and assignments for unexcused absences. Once the absence is excused, the student may make up the work and receive the grade. Note: Absent/Make-Up work will be given to the student upon returning to school and a due date will be given in accordance to the student handbook.



## Technology

Liberty is a Bring Your Own Device School. When we use technology in class, students can use their own devices, or one can be provided for them. Students are not to have devices out unless permission is given. If students do not follow this procedure the following steps will be taken:

1. Warning
2. Detention
3. Temporary revocation of in-class privileges, and student will complete an alternate assignment that provides the same information without the need for technology.

**Sign and Return** Parents and Guardians: Please check in the distribution google form that you have read and understand the syllabus. This can be found on Mr. Blankenship's website.



# Virtual Learning Expectations

## Live teaching Days:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays

## Office Hours

- Daily for the last 25 minutes of class
- Please contact through e-mail when possible. If needed Video conferences can be scheduled during office hours as well.

## Technology requirements:

- A computer with internet
- Basic computer with audio/video
- High Speed Internet or WiFi Hotspot

## IMPORTANT:

- I am the *course facilitator*. I guide you and help you through course material and answer questions about *course subject matter*. I am **not** Tech Support.
- Tech support can be found through **[elarninghelp@madisoncity.k12.al.us](mailto:elarninghelp@madisoncity.k12.al.us)**.

## Virtual Learning Expectations:

- Your learning matters! While we know this is a new environment for all of us, helping you learn and grow as students and citizens during this period of digital learning is as important as ever.
- Check Schoology and your school email daily.
- Complete lessons, including any daily attendance assignments.
- Attendance will be taken each day.
- Teachers are holding “live” lessons during their normally scheduled classes at least twice a week. Students should attend these lessons.
- If you are invited to a teacher initiated small group, participation is expected.
- Teachers have established office hours when students can check in and receive support. Students are responsible for contacting teachers if they need additional assistance to successfully complete digital lessons.
- Students will follow the behavior expectations and norms outlined in the Student Handbook and established in the classroom.