The Classroom Guideline

World History

Mr. Stribe

Welcome to World History! Today marks the beginning of your journey through some of the most important events and eras of the past. We will explore numerous topics, encompassing different regions and cultures from around the globe. While the United States has played an important role in its relatively short existence, it only accounts for a small piece of more modern history. In this class, we will focus on what the rest of the world has to offer!

Before we can embark on our journey throughout time, we must discuss the guiding principles that will get us there. Like in most classrooms, these principles come to us in the form of classroom rules and expectations. By following the guidelines listed, we insure that everyone involved in the classroom will achieve the best experience possible.

In 1762, Jean-Jacques Rousseau wrote *Du Contrat Social ou Principes du droit politique*, today more commonly known as *The Social Contract*. Rousseau’s original purpose of the work was to theorize the best political relationship between the government and those being governed. Today, a social contract is more simply defined as:

***“an agreement that unites individuals into a political society by a process of mutual consent, agreeing to abide by common rules and accept corresponding duties to protect themselves and one another from violence and other kinds of harm.”***

While Rousseau wasn’t writing with the classroom in mind, the ideas he talked about still apply. This document provides the standards required for all to follow in order to create a positive learning environment.

Expectations of the Student:

1. Be in your seat ready to begin when the bell rings. Stay seated throughout class time, only getting up when it is absolutely necessary. Either wait until individual work time to move, or ask prior to getting up. Unnecessary movement around the classroom can be a distraction to both the teacher and other students.
2. Bring all required books and materials to every class. Without the proper materials, it can be difficult to participate or complete assigned tasks.
3. Plan to stay in the classroom the entire period. With a few exceptions, students will not leave once class begins. Please use the restroom between classes; only in emergency or illness situations will students be excused to the restroom.
4. Listen to and follow directions the first time. Raise your hand and wait to be called on if you wish to say something. This will insure that everyone understands the task at hand, and has an equal chance to be heard.
5. Turn assignments in on time. Keep homework for other classes put away, unless there is free time at the end of class. Do your own work; I want to see what you're able to do, not what others can do for you.
6. Unless special privileges are given, food and drink will not be allowed. Cell phones need to be off or on silent, and put away. Please take all hats off when entering the classroom. All these items can become an unnecessary distraction, so it is best if we avoid them.
7. Respect each other’s personal space; keep your hands and feet to yourself. Use school appropriate language only. This will insure that we have a safe and positive learning environment.

These rules are posted in the classroom as a constant reminder of what is expected. I do this believing that if you can see them, hopefully problems will not come up. With that said, if problems do arise, here is the list of consequences:

-When you’re late to class you are considered tardy. The first tardy is a verbal warning, after that it is a loss of two points per tardy.

-Late homework losses 25% each day it is late. After four days it becomes a zero but must still be turned in.

-Cheating will not be tolerated and it is an automatic zero. Parents will be notified as well.

-Any food, drink, phone, or other unauthorized distraction out when class begins will warrant a verbal warning for the first offense. After that, it becomes mine for the rest of the period.

-Any offensive language or other inappropriate behavior will receive a warning on the first offense. Second offense requires meeting with me outside of class (20 minutes). The third offense will result in another conference with me (to determine the proper punishment), as well as parent notification.

-**These punishments are general guidelines and are subject to change pending the situation. Other punishments not listed may be instituted, but not without discussion prior to implementation.**

Expectations of the Teacher:

1. I will grade and return assignments in a timely manner. (within a week usually).
2. I will not assign “busy work.” I will only assign things that are of value or have meaning.
3. I will tell you (or help you discover) the purpose for assigned tasks.
4. I will take your thoughts and suggestions into consideration when deciding classroom matters (when appropriate). Your input will be heard.
5. I will be fair.

**If you feel that I am not holding up to my expectations, please feel free to come forward and remind me. However, this needs to be done respectfully, and not during regular class time.**

Expectations of All:

1. Respect the thoughts and ideas of others.
2. Come to class prepared.
3. Always try your best.
4. Have a positive attitude.
5. Have fun and learn.

Again, welcome to World History, I am looking forward to our time in together in the class!

**I have read these guidelines and understand what is expected within the classroom.**

Student Signature: Date:

Teacher Signature: Date:

Parent Signature: Date: