September 4, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child is enrolled in one of my World History classes. The attached documents will answer some questions you may have concerning your child’s work for this course.

It is my intent to provide an exciting educational environment that attempts to make history important and relative to your child’s life. My classroom environment is focused around mutual respect, which allows your child to feel comfortable expressing his/her opinion without backlash. Although classroom management is vital, there is room for fun and enjoyment. This class will be challenging but I will do everything I can to help your child succeed.

Please sign and return the bottom of this document acknowledging that you read and understood the policies and expectations for your child. If you wish to contact me or have any questions, please email me at c.capone@hackensackschools.org or by phone at (201) 646-7900. I look forward to working with you and your child this academic year.

Sincerely,

Christopher Capone

Social Studies Department

Hackensack High School

**(PLEASE RETURN WITH STUDENT)**

Student\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT CONTRACT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read and understand the policies and expectations of Mr. Capone as outlined in the first day handout. Mr. Capone has discussed and explained all these policies to me. By signing this contract, I am acknowledging my understanding of these policies and agree to meet the expectations of Mr. Capone class.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Teacher’s Signature

**World History**

**Syllabus**

**2014-2015**

Course Description:

 This course will enable students to view the world as a series of emerging interdependent systems through the methodologies of the social science disciplines. These systems include geographical, ecological, cultural, social, and political events and influences. Students will be able to create, interpret, utilize, and synthesize information from various representations of the earth in order to analyze, explain and answer a variety of regional, national and global geographical questions. They will be able to trace the evolution of the world from the ancient world, through the Middle Ages and the transformation into the modern age in each of the major world areas. Students will also be able to demonstrate an understanding of the problems in the major regions of the world today and what historical events led to these problems.

Purpose of Course:

* To provide students with a local, national and global perspective and core knowledge in history, civics, economics and geography.
* To help students in developing competencies in written and oral communication, critical reading and thinking, and how to formulate their own personal perspectives on issues.
* To foster a student’s desire for knowledge so that they may become a lifelong learner.

The following information will be studied:

**FIRST SEMESTER**

A. The Emergence of the First Global Age (1350-1770):

Global Interactions and Colonialism

B. Renaissance, Reformation, Scientific Revolution, and Enlightenment (1350-1700)

C. Age of Revolutions (1750-1914):

Political and Industrial Revolutions, Imperialism, Reform, and Global Impact

**SECOND SEMESTER**

A. A Half-Century of Crisis and Achievement (1900-1945):

 The Era of the Great Wars

B. The 20th Century Since 1945 (1945-Today):

 Challenges for the Modern World

C. Contemporary Issues

**WORLD HISTORY**

**Course Expectations**

**Classroom Rules and Responsibilities**

1. **Mutual Respect** – respect for other students learning (quiet during assessments, questions and comments, raise your hand to comment or answer, no harassment, humor with boundaries, etc.).

2. **Responsibility** for your own learning.

3. **Always Be Prepared** for class – (bring your book, notebook, writing utensils and other necessary materials to class, be ready to work).

4. **Listen** carefully and **Follow** instructions as they are given.

5. **Be Punctual** – if your body is not completely in the door when the bell rings, you are late.

**Discipline Procedures**

1st step – Warning

2nd step – deduction of points from class grade

3rd step – detention with me and/or a parental call home

4th step – administrative action

**Severe Disruptions** – student will be removed from class and sent immediately to the administration.

**\***Maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning is of primary importance and measures will be taken in order to achieve that objective.**\***

**Do not be late to class!** Students who are late will have detention with me. If unexcused tardiness becomes frequent, further action will be taken. It would be to your benefit to read the attendance policy in the handbook if you are not already familiar with it.

***\*Grading\****

***Grading will be based on the following scoring system:***

***Homework: 10%***

***Class Participation/ Class Work: 25%***

***Current Events/ FRQs (Free Response Quizzes): 25%***

***Assessments/Papers/Essays/Projects: 40%***

Tests and quizzes will always be announced and I will give adequate time for review and preparation. Both quizzes and tests that are missed due to excused absences need to be made up within one week of the date assigned or a zero will be given.

**Homework Philosophy:**

Homework is an essential part of the learning process. Having the skills to read, analyze and interpret information in writing are vital to ones success in school and life. Homework is provided for students to practice these skills on a consistent basis. In addition, homework is given with the purpose of students acquiring some background knowledge that they can bring to class and use in discussions in groups or as a whole class. In order to provide a student centered classroom environment, students need to be given information to process in advance that they can bring to critically review, debate and critique in the class setting. With those concepts in mind, students are given homework assignments that involve reading and note-taking and/or answer critical thinking questions that acquire higher order thinking. You will be given homework on a frequent basis. Homework is to be handed in on time. **Each day your homework is late, you will be penalized the equivalent of 20%.**

**\***There will be extra credit opportunities throughout the year that will help boost your grade.**\***

**Additional Information, Extra Help, etc…**

There will be a significant amount of reading and writing in this class. This class will be challenging but you can succeed if you choose to. I am here to assist you in **your** learning. I am always willing to work with you inside and outside of class. **I can be found in room 262 during 10th period**. If you have any questions or need extra help, please ask and I will be more than happy to help you. **I will respect you. I expect the same from you.** If you put forth the effort in this class, you will do well! I look forward to working with you this school year.