

DOBBS FERRY MIDDLE SCHOOL
Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522

COURSE OUTLINE

SUBJECT: Individuals and Societies

GRADE: 6

Anticipated student outcomes:

1. Use critical thinking skills such as analyzing, hypothesizing, and problem solving while reading and/or writing
2. Utilize research skills and information gathering when examining a topic in depth
3. Understand how current events around the world impact our lives

Course description:

What does it mean to be a global citizen? How can learning about the past influence our beliefs and actions in both the present and future? During this course, students will develop an understanding of how various ancient civilizations began and flourished, the role innovations played in this growth and how humans impact their environment. These civilizations will be explored through our MYP Key Concepts of ***Change, Systems and Time, Place and Space***. These understandings will help students create their own answers to the overarching course questions as well as apply their knowledge of the ancient world to challenges in the current and future world. Through studying the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), students will be empowered with a call to action to design and create solutions to challenges they see in the world around them, both locally and globally.

Materials required or used:

One Blue Folder (to be kept in the classroom)
One Marble Notebook
Headphones or earbuds to plug into school-issued Chromebook
Colored Pencils

Criteria for grading:

We use a Total Points system for grading. At the end of the quarter, the total number of points earned is divided by the total number of points possible in the quarter. These points are earned by performance in the following areas: class engagement, class work, homework, quizzes, projects and unit tests.

Additionally, student work is assessed using MYP Assessment Criteria:

- A. Knowing and Understanding**
- B. Investigating**

C. Communicating
D. Thinking Critically

Graded work is posted on the Parent Portal. The grade book is updated every two weeks. When assignments are submitted, the code “**AR**” indicates that the assignment has been received. If an assignment is not submitted, the code “**MA**” indicates the assignment is missing. If a student is excused from an assignment, the code “**EX**” will be entered, along with a comment indicating why the student was excused from the assignment. The current average is shown in the “Marking Period Average” column. Please check the Parent Portal periodically, to ensure that your child is up to date with their work.

Opportunities for Enrichment: Families may use the following websites to learn more about topics we study throughout the year:

National Geographic For Kids: General information about various civilizations we study throughout the year

Met Museum For Kids: Interactive map of the museum that highlights various artifacts from different civilizations and time periods.

BBC History For Kids- Hosted by the BBC; contains short, non-fiction texts about the different civilizations studied

Global Goals Website: United Nations website that provides a general overview of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Fact Monster: Online encyclopedia, almanac, and dictionary. Find information about any topic (not only Individuals and Societies!) **This website has pop-up ads.

Outline developed by: Individuals and Societies Department

Date: Spring 2025