IB HISTORY of the AMERICAS – YEARS ONE AND TWO

## 

Course Description

IB History of the Americas consists of a chronological survey from the colonial through the modern era. Social, economic, diplomatic and political history will be developed in relation to the major periods of U. S. History. The course includes in-class lectures and discussions from the assigned readings. The class relies primarily on lecture notes, daily assigned readings, discussions, quizzes and multiple-choice and essay tests. Much attention is paid to the essay process and review methods for IB exams.

An emphasis is placed on issues that relate to U.S. - Latin American relations. For example: the Monroe Doctrine; Mexican-American War; Spanish-American War; and interventions in Latin America under T. Roosevelt, Taft, and Wilson; and the Good Neighbor policy and hemispheric security under F.D.R.

Twentieth Century World History is the culminating course in the IB/HL sequence. It builds on the foundation of knowledge, skills, and understanding students have gained in their four years in the program. Its central purpose is to engage students in applying the methods of historical inquiry to a study of the forces that have shaped 20th century history. While broader elements will be dealt with as time allows, the primary focus will be on the study of these three IB topics:

* *Topic One*: Causes, practices, and effects of war
* *Topic Three*: The rise and rule of single-party states
* *Topic Five*: The Cold War

Aims

The aims of the history program at the higher level are:

- to develop a perspective of history as being a flow of interrelated events

- to develop a broad understanding of the cultural diversity of the Western Hemisphere

- to help students look at events and issues from different perspectives

- to promote the acquisition and understanding of historical knowledge in breadth and in depth, and across different cultures

- to see current issues within their historical context.

Objectives

Having followed the program at the higher level, candidates should be able to:

* evaluate, interpret, and use primary and secondary source materials critically as historical evidence
* explain the causes and effects of historical continuity and change
* present clear, concise, relevant and well-substantiated arguments
* explain the causes, practices, and effects of war
* understand the major political, economic, diplomatic and social movements of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in the Americas
* understand the nature of conflict in the contemporary world
* understand the rise and rule of single-party states in the Western hemisphere and Europe in the twentieth century

to develop an ability to communicate historical knowledge and understanding in a clear, systematic and coherent manner (written and spoken).

**Topics** (Year 1)

I. New World Colonization

A. Europe in the Sixteenth Century

###### B. Import of the exploration of the Americas

C. Comparison of the Spanish, French, and British colonization

1. Independence Movements
2. The American Revolution
3. Latin American Independence Movements
4. Canadian Independence

III. Evolution of Governments

A. Articles of Confederation

B. Drafting of the U.S. Constitution

C. Bill of Rights

D. Canadian Politics

E. Latin American Politics

IV. Nationalism and Sectionalism

A. War of 1812

B. Mexican Revolution and South American Revolutions

C. Slavery in the Americas

D. Manifest Destiny and Mexican-American War

1. Industrial Revolution
2. Union Act of 1840

V. Civil War and Reconstruction

1. Failure of Compromise
2. Causes and Effects
3. Successes and Failures of Reconstruction

VI. Gilded Age

1. Rise of Big Business
2. Immigrant Experience
3. Wild West and Agrarian Discontent

D. The British North American Act - 1867

VII. Foreign Policy in Latin America

1. Spanish-American War
2. U.S.-Latin American Relations

C. Cuban Independence

D. Panama Canal and Caribbean

VIII. Progressive Movement

1. Social Reform Movements
2. Causes and Effects of World War I
3. Mexican Conflicts
4. Russian Revolution and the Red Scare

IX. The 1920s and 30's

A. Roaring Twenties

1. Economic Collapse
2. Great Depression and New Deal
3. Good Neighbor Policy
4. Emergence of Communism, Fascism, and Militarism

X. World War II

A. Rise of Totalitarianism and Single-Party States

B. Causes

C. European Theater

D. Pacific Theater

1. Effects of World War II
2. Cold War

A. Causes

1. Latin American Tensions
2. Korean War
3. Cuba and the U.S. Rivalry
4. Vietnam War
5. Revolutionary changes in Latin America

G. Canada and the NATO

## XIII. Domestic Issues

1. Civil Rights Movement
2. Women’s Rights Movement
3. Watergate
4. Iran-Contra
5. Quebec Separatist Movement
6. NAFTA
7. Environmental Concerns

H. Liberation Theology

**Topics** (Year Two)

**Unit 1:** **Nationalism and Imperialism: Concepts and Development**

Heritage of the 19th century - age of "isms"

Nationalism and Imperialism

**Unit 2:** **Causes, Practices, and Effects of World War One**

[Topic 1]

Fundamental/Intensifying/Immediate Causes

Comparison of historiography on causation of war

Key personalities

Key battles

Role of propaganda

Wilson's Fourteen Points

Treaties of 1919 - Versailles, St. Germane, etc.

**Unit 3:** **Russian Revolution and the Development of the Soviet State**

[Topics 1 & 3]

Conditions under the Tsars

Revolutions

Lenin, Trotsky, Bukharin, Kamenev, Zinoviev, Stalin

Civil War and Bolshevik Terror

War Communism and Brest-Livtosk

New Economic Policy

Struggle for power post-Lenin

Stalin's cult of personality

Collectivization/Five year plans

Stalin's purges

**Unit 4: Growth of Fascism**

[Topic 3]

Mussolini

Rise of Hitler and the Nazis in Germany

Spanish Civil War and Franco

**Unit 5: Causes, Practices, and Effects of World War II**

[Topic 1]

Failure of the League of Nations

Hitler's Foreign Policy

Causes of World War II

Course of the war - (a) Europe (b) Pacific

Conferences and their effects

Establishment of the United Nations

**Unit 6: East-West Relations after 1945**

[Topic 5]

Origins of the Cold War in Europe

Yalta, Potsdam, German question, Truman Doctrine,

Marshall Plan, Berlin blockade, etc.

Creation of NATO and Warsaw Pact

Expansion of Cold War - Korean War, Cuban Missile Crises,

arms race, etc.

**Unit 7: Conflict in Indo-China [1945-1975]**

[Topics 1,2, &5]

French de-colonization

Geneva Agreement

The government of Diem

U.S. Involvement

Viet Nam War

Cambodian sideshow

**Unit 8: Chinese Civil War and Revolution**

[Topics 1,3, &5]

Sun Yat-Sens's Nationalist Revolution

Civil War and the Long March

Communist Revolution

Sino-Soviet Relations

100 Flowers

Great Leap Forward

Great Proletarian Revolution

Impact of Mao and his successors

**Unit 9: Conflict in the Middle East**

[Topics 1, 2, &5]

British foreign policy - Balfour, White Papers, Partition

Arab-Israeli Wars - 1948, Suez Crises, Six-Day War, Yom Kippur

Palestine question

Arab Nationalism

Superpower influences

Assessment

Students will take standard multiple-choice and essay tests with an emphasis on writing essays using primary and secondary documents. Extended essays (reports) that demonstrate research will be required. Participation in class and oral presentations will also be part of the assessment. Students will be assessed based on breadth and depth of knowledge, quality of analysis and effectiveness of communication.

The internal assessment work will be an in-depth 3000 word paper based upon a study of any historical subject. The work will constitute 25% of the total HL assessment. The work will be judged on historical analysis and the technical requirements set forth in the IB criteria.

The external assessment is worth 75% of the HL score. The examination will be taken at the end of year2 and will consist of:

* Paper 1 – a one hour document based paper set on prescribed subjects in the 20th century – worth 20%
* Paper2 – a one and a half hour exercise answering 2 essays out of 30 possible topics of 20th century history – worth 20%
* Paper 3 – a two and a half hour exercise answering 3 questions from 25 in the Americas Regional History specifically – worth 35% **Proposed Texts and Supplements**

YEAR ONE

Bailey and Kennedy. The American Pageant D.C. Heath

Burns, Bradford. Latin America: A concise Interpretative History,

Prentice-Hall, 1990

American History Review Text, Amsco Publications

The American Spirit Vol. I & II; D.C. Heath

##### Barron’s Guide to U.S. History

Zinn, Howard, A People's History of the United States, Harper

and Row, 1980

Bennett, Paul, et.al. Canada, A North American Nation. Toronto:

McGraw-Hill, 1988.

Quarles, Benjamin. The Negro in the Making of America. MacMillan, 1964

Burns, Bradford. Latin America: Conflict and Resolution -A

Historical Reader, Prentice-Hall, 1990.

Davidson, James West and Mark H. Lytle. After the Fact: The

Art of Historical Detection. Knoft, 1982.

Degler, Carl N. Out of Our Past: The Forces That Sha-ped Modern

America. Harper and Row Torchbooks.

Franklin, John Hope. From Slavery to Freedom: A History of

African-Americans. McGraw-Hill

Year Two

*A History of Western Society*, 6th Edition, McKay, Hill, Buckler

*The Guns of August*, Barbara Tuchman

*On the Origins of War and Preservation of Peace*, Donald Kagan

*Diplomacy*, Henry Kissinger

*A History of Warfare*, John Keegan

*Hitler: A Study in Tyranny*, Alan Bullock

*The Concise History of the Russian Revolution*, Richard Pipes

Others to be added later.