

Student Name: _____



"You got a "C" in History?? How hard could it be?"

Mr. Mitchell's Social Studies Class

7D Team 2013-2014

[Alan Shawn Feinstein Middle School](#)

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to the 7th grade! Please understand that the success of a student is a three-way partnership between the student, parent, and teacher. It is critical that all are involved and take ownership of each student's success. Below are some topics that both parents and students need to read and sign off on. Please read carefully.

- 1. Curriculum:** We will start off the year with the [Early Humans Unit](#). (You can see the rest of the units online under curriculum). Some lessons might be abbreviated or elaborated upon depending upon class understanding and time. The goal of our curriculum is for students to understand the past in order to better understand the present.
- 2. Portfolios:** Each student will be required to keep a notebook containing assignments that will remain in the classroom. This will be used as evidence of student growth.
- 3. Current Events Blog:** All students will be required to post entries and debate within a classroom blog. Online current events resources will be posted with a focus prompt to argue.
- 4. Textbooks:** The class will use two textbooks this year: [Prentice Hall's World Explorer The Ancient World & Medieval Times to Today](#). The texts are available online and linked throughout corresponding to the online curriculum (see me for the password). I have a class set as well and will issue one to any student who has difficulty accessing the Internet at home.
- 5. Email/Contact Me:** trmitchell31@yahoo.com The best way to contact me is through email. My Yahoo! Account is much more dependable than my school account. Call the school at 822-9426 to reach me by phone and leave a message (I do not have a phone in the classroom). Given I check email everyday and on my cell phone, I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Student Name: _____

6. Student and Parent Email:

Student Email: All students need to have a web-based email account (One that they can check and use at both school and at home). Parents should help your child set one up so that they know the password and can monitor for safe use. Students will use this to communicate with me and email assignments. Each student MUST send me an email so that I can save the address in my contact folder.

Parent Email: Parents are encouraged to send me an email as well, given this is the easiest form of communication between us.

9. [Class](#) and [Department Website](#): While some assignments cannot be posted online as they are implemented in class, substitutions will be posted in case a student cannot attend school that day. All student handouts and texts can be accessed on the website. See me for passwords to protected documents and pages.

10. [Agenda](#): The class schedule will be posted here at the beginning of each week. This is subject to change given student understanding. I update this on the weekend, but at times changes are made in class and are not updated immediately online.

Parents: I realize how frustrating it can be when you don't have a clue as to what your child is supposed to do. Please stay on top of what is expected of your child and feel free to contact me with any questions.

11. [Trimester Assignment List](#): All assignments covered and graded for the trimester will be listed here. They will also be under the Grades link, but this will tell you what grading strands each assignment falls under and provide you with an easy list of things we've covered to review for make-up work.

12. [Grades](#): All grades are posted online. These are updated regularly. Each student is assigned a number. Please check on your child's progress frequently. (Contact me for the username and password)

Please sign below indicating you have read and understand the class syllabus above. Please update the contact information as well.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Signature: _____

I look forward to a successful year,

Mr. Mitchell

www.asfms.net