**MODERN TOPICS IN HISTORY**
Mr. McKenna – Room 181, 182, 183
Phone: (630) 876 – 6465  
Email: mmckenna@d94.org  
Planning periods: 1, 4, 5 & 6

**Description:**
Modern Topics in History is a semester long course that focuses on the question, “How does the past impact the global community?” This class primarily focuses on Europe (with some exceptions) from the 1700’s up until today. There are three big units:

**General Overview:**

**Course Theme:** What principles are worth fighting for?

**Unit 1:** Revolution

**Essential Question:** What principles are worth fighting for?

Areas of study:
- The Enlightenment
- The French Revolution
- Mexican War for Independence

**Unit 2:** Nation-Building

**Essential Question:** What makes a nation powerful?

Area of study:
- The Industrial Revolution
- Imperialism
- Nationalism

**Unit 3:** Conflict

**Essential Question:** When is conflict necessary?

Areas of study:
- World War I
- World War II
- The Cold War

**Semester Final Exam**

**Grading Policy (weighted)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>89.5 + = A</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>79.5 + = B</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>69.5 + = C</td>
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<tr>
<td>59.5 + = D</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 59.5 = F</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Give it your best!
Classroom Expectations:
1. Be on time
2. Come prepared to class
3. Phones should be put away
4. Treat each other with respect

Materials Required:
1. Binder designated for class
2. Chromebook that is charged
3. Writing utensils (Pens and/or Pencils)
4. Highlighters

Attendance / Tardiness
Attending classes daily, and being on time, shows responsibility and works against students failing their classes. See your handbook for more information on specific tardy / attendance rules.

Late Work
If you are absent, you can make up the work for the DAY YOU MISSED up until 5 days, and then by school policy, it is not accepted.
Any assignment turned in ONE DAY LATE will receive a 60% (D) credit (if correct). Anything after is a zero.

Plagiarism / Cheating
Students are expected to do their own work and not share their work with other students.
If you plagiarize, you automatically get a zero (along with the person who let you copy), and a phone call home.

Food / Drinks in Class / Bathroom
Food / Drinks are okay as long as they are NOT: 1) Messy, 2) Smelly, 3) Distracting ... and you don't spill on your Chromebooks with them.

If you have to go to the bathroom, please use the bathroom pass near the door.

If going to the bathroom, it is ONLY to the bathroom. You must sign in and out and be back within 6 minutes.

I look forward to a fun semester with you!