

# Northwest Studies - Issaquah High School

**Education is not the leaning of facts, but training of the mind to think. – Albert Einstein**

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

In this course we will review the geological, geographical, environmental, economic, social, and political developments of the Pacific Northwest region, focusing primarily on Washington state. This class will consider the impact of political formation, economic development, gender, race, and ethnicity on the region's history from pre-European contact to the present day. As we examine the history of the Northwest, we will continually make comparisons to current events and issues.

## **HABITS OF MIND/THINKING SKILLS**

The thinking skills lessons are built around are: **Contextualization, Comparison, Causation, and Change and Continuity Over Time**. These habits of mind will help students, not just for this throughout life as they are forced to make important decisions for themselves and others. Primary and secondary sources (such as texts, maps, and visuals) will be used to develop the student's ability to discover point of view, bias, and diversity of thought within documents. Practice with primary source analysis will form skills required to make high-level evaluations and arguments.

## **SUPPLIES NEEDED**

All students are required to bring the following supplies to class each day:

- ✓ Single-Subject spiral bound notebook
- ✓ All handouts and supplemental material given by instructor
- ✓ Pens (Multi-colored if possible) and a pencil
- ✓ Highlighter

## **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

- ❖ Attend class each day and bring all required materials.
- ❖ Keep up with required readings in order to actively participate in class discussions.
- ❖ Be a positive and considerate learner.
- ❖ Keep notebook up to date and organized.
- ❖ The use of mobile devices will be done in accordance with classroom expectations.

## **GRADING**

Student grades are based upon the percentage of points earned in each SEMESTER based upon the following scale:

A	100 – 93%	B+	89.9 – 87%	C+	79.9 – 77%	D+	69.9 – 67%
A-	92.9 - 90%	B	86.9 – 83%	C	76.9 – 73%	D	66.9 – 60%
		B-	82.9 – 80%	C-	72.9 – 70%	F	59.9 – 0%

# H.E.R.E. @ Issaquah we are Honest Engaged Respectful Empathetic

*\*\*Grades will NOT be rounded, and no Extra Credit will be given.\*\**

## **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance will be taken each class period. Students who arrive to class after the bell rings will be marked late/tardy. Students who arrive to class less than 10 minutes late will be marked late. Student who are more than 10 minutes late will be marked tardy. Students are expected to remain in class for the entirety of the period. If a student leaves class, without a pass, and is gone for more than 10 minutes they will be marked tardy. Students who are repeatedly late or tardy will be assigned the consequences and interventions outlined in the student handbook.

## **ABSENCES & LATE WORK**

Life gets in the way sometimes, but it is the responsibility of the STUDENT to handle any issues to absences.

Because the dates of quizzes/assessments are known ahead of time, students are expected to take quizzes/assessments on the days they are scheduled. If there are known conflicts (vacations, appointments, etc.) talk to Mr. Spencer ahead of time. Students have **one week** (7 days) to make up missed quizzes due to absences.

If an assignment needs to be turned in late, students have **2 days** to do so without penalty, after that there is no guarantee of full credit. **EXCEPTION:** large group projects in which the date has been previously given. All work must be turned in on time.

## **PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY**

Plagiarism or cheating is not tolerated in any class. Plagiarism includes:

- 1) Claiming someone else's work as your own
- 2) Copying someone's work and altering it to make it yours.
- 3) Using someone else's work on a quiz or other assessment.

Any assignment that is deemed to have engaged in any type of plagiarism or academic dishonesty **will receive a zero for the assignment, to which the assignment may not be made up.** This applies to all work turned in.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

In looking at the quote by Einstein, learning to think for ourselves, create original ideas, and focus our attentions on things that interest the individual student, is the goal of education. Technology has given easy access to answers, but the temptation to rely wholly on technology to distract learning must be resisted. Be respectful to yourself and the class by only using technology at the appropriate times during class.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

I want to help you succeed in this class and teach skills that will be beneficial far beyond the classroom. Please contact me if there are any questions or concerns. The best way to get into contact with me is email, [spencerr@issaquah.wednet.edu](mailto:spencerr@issaquah.wednet.edu). My website is: [www.spencerihs.weebly.com](http://www.spencerihs.weebly.com).