COURSE SYLLABUS

2014-2015 School Year

Instructor: Jill Phillips

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday, 11am-11:30am

LIVE SESSIONS: Enrichment session every Friday at 9am

PHONE NUMBER: (610) 230-3230

KMAIL: Search "Jill Phillips"

WEBSITE: http://mrsphillipshistory.weebly.com

I.   **COURSE DESCRIPTION**
       World History A (abbreviated as WHA) is an exciting course that will take the student from Prehistory through the Middle Ages. The student will start their journey with the hunter/gathers of the Ancient Near-East and Europe and move through such topics as Ancient Egypt, Classical Greece, Classical Rome, Medieval Africa, and Medieval Asia and Europe.

II.   **RELIGION**
       The topic of religion is unavoidable in WHA. Religion along with warfare and trade were the engines of change in the times we will be visiting. We will be discussing six of the world's biggest religions. They are: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. We also discuss several polytheistic cultures like The Sumerians, Greeks, and Romans.

       The most important thing to remember is that **we do not teach theology, we teach history.** All of the religions mentioned pay a role in the development of World Culture. We do not teach the dogma of said religions beyond a basic surface level so that the students' understand each group's belief system. You child will never be asked to
       A. Disclose their religion
       B. Believe anything he/she feels uncomfortable with
       C. Defend their faith

III.   **ORGANIZATION**
       This course has both on-line components as well as offline components. Students on the asynchronous team are expected to complete one lesson every day on their Online School, on their own. Lessons consist of some interactive online activities, through the Online School, as well as **reading from the textbook** and **answering questions in the student pages**. Each lesson generally takes about an hour to complete.

IV. COURSE OBJECTIVES (FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS)

a. Through experience, observation, and reflection, students will identify elements of culture as well as similarities and differences among cultural groups across time and place.

b. Through a formal study of history, students will continue to expand their understanding of the past and are increasingly able to apply the research methods associated with historical inquiry.

c. Students will develop a better understanding of spatial perspectives, and examine changes in the relationship between peoples, places, and environments.

d. Through study of the dynamic relationships between individual rights and responsibilities, the needs of social groups, and concepts of a just society, students will become more effective problem-solvers and decision-makers when addressing the persistent issues and social problems encountered in public life.

e. Students will begin to think analytically about the consequences of change and how we can manage science and technology to increase benefits to all.

f. Students will begin to initiate analyses of the consequences of interactions among states, nations, and world regions as they respond to global events and changes.

g. Students will expand their knowledge of democratic ideals and practices, along with their ability to analyze and evaluate the relationships between these ideals and practices.

V. TEXT AND REQUIRED SUPPLIES

K-12 has provided each student with a computer, printer, scanner, and microphone, which will be utilized throughout the course. If you are missing any piece of technology, you should contact your teacher or your family coach immediately.   In addition you have been provided with the following mandatory texts for this class:

A. ***The Human Odyssey, Volume 1 Prehistory-The Middle Ages,*** edited by Klee, Cribb, and Holdren (K12 Inc., 2005)

B. Intermediate World History A, Student Guide, Parts 1 and 2

C. Intermediate World History A, Learning Coach Guide, Parts 1 and 2

VI. ATTENDANCE

This course follows the general attendance policy of Agora Cyber Charter School.

- Students on the asynchronous path will be counted as "present" for logging into the Online School and completing lessons.

- Students on the synchronous path, but on the asynchronous team, must check with in teachers daily during the live office-hours session in order to be counted as "present."

- All attendance excuses must be submitted in writing via kmail to the attendance office. For student illness, please submit a medical excuse. For absences due to technical issues a tech ticket must be submitted. You can obtain a tech ticket by calling the k-12 help desk.

VII. CLASSROOM RULES OF CONDUCT

Students are expected to:

a. Work effectively with peers

b. Develop a problem solving mentality

c. Laugh with anyone, but laugh at no one

d. Be responsible for your own learning

e. Participate during any live lessons

f.   Hand in assignments on time
g.   Not disturb or distract other students during any live class time
h.   Have no internet browsers open during class time except when directly prompted by the teacher.

VIII.   GRADING SCALE
This course follows the general Agora Cyber Charter Grading Scale:
A: 90-100%
B: 80-89%
C: 70-79%
D: 60-69%
F: 59% and Lower

IX.   GRADING PLAN
Important: All graded assignments will be located in Sapphire.

Course work will be graded in the following categories:
1.   Unit Tests
2.   Quizzes
3.   Projects
4.   Writing Assignments

Unit Tests: Unit tests will be taken through Sapphire. The unit assessments on the OLS can be used for a study tool but do not count toward your grade. You may take a test once. If you need to retake a test, you will have to come to a small group session or a one-on-one session with the teacher.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be taken through Sapphire. The lesson assessments on the OLS can be used for a study tool but do not count toward your grade. You may take a quiz once. If you need to retake a quiz, you will have to come to a small group session or a one-on-one session with the teacher.

Projects: Specific project instructions will be available on my website. Projects will be turned in via the drop box in Sapphire.

Writing Assignments: Specific instructions for writing assignments will be available on my website. Writing assignments will be turned in via the drop box in Sapphire.