

FOLSOM CORDOVA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Course Outline Military History/Philosophy

Date: January 2005

Subject: Military/Philosophy History

Proposed Grade Level(s): 11-12

Course Length: Year

Grading: A-F

Number of Credits: 10

Prerequisites: 2.0 GPA

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In this class, students will take a deeper look at some details of history that are not part of what is covered in regular history classes. We will look at a number of different battles, ideas, and military leaders to see what we can learn from history and political philosophy. The second semester will be a lecture/discussion on ideas that students have heard of but might not have been able to gain a firm understanding of. We will endeavor to show students a different way of thinking and looking at ideas in order to open their minds to many of the various ideas that others have created in the field of philosophy. We will also discuss which ideas they agree with, and which ideas they may disagree with and why.

GENERAL GOALS / PURPOSES:

This class will explore military history from 1066 to the present. Students will also learn about western philosophy and thought. This class will allow students the opportunity to examine a more complex and interesting part of history as an elective.

STUDENT READING COMPONENT:

Students will read from several different texts: Military 100, History of Western Political Thought, The Passion of the Western Mind, 100 Decisive Battles, and Besieged 100 through History.

STUDENT WRITING COMPONENT:

Student writing assignments include three projects, movie reviews, and essays. All papers are to be 2 – 5 pages in length.

STUDENT ORAL COMPONENT:

Student oral activities include participation in class discussions and in-class oral final presentations of approximately 5 minutes in length.

Semester One:

The class will study the battles that were the most important in history. We will look at the strategies used, statistics from the battle, and how these battles affected the outcome of the war they were part of.

Hastings (1066), Crecy (1346), Orleans (1428), Vienna (1529), Lepanto (1571), Spanish Armada (1588), Antwerp (1584), Nasby (1645), Culloden (1746), Plassey (1757), Quebec (1759), Yorktown (1781), Trafalgar (1805), Leipzig (1813), Alamo (1836), Waterloo (1815), Gettysburg (1863), Vicksburg (1863), Petersburg (1864), Atlanta (1864), Peking (1900), Port Arthur (1904), Marne (1914), Verdun (1916), Poland (1939), Dunkirk (1940), Britain (1940), Moscow (1941), Leningrad (1941), Stalingrad (1942), Pearl Harbor (1941), Normandy (1944), Israel Independence (1948), Dien Bien Phu (1953), Tet offensive (1968), Beirut (1982), Sarajevo (1919), Desert Storm (1991)

Along with the battles, we will look at the leaders of the battles and wars, and see how they led the men into battle, the mistakes that were made, and the victories or defeats of those battles. We will also see if it was these leaders that brought the outcome of victory or defeat in these battles or wars.

Leaders: Napoleon, Frederick the Great, William the Conqueror, Peter the Great, Oliver Cromwell, Duke of Wellington, Vauban, Admiral Nelson, Omar Bradley, Schwarzkopf, Garibaldi, Richard I, Robert E. Lee, Admiral Nimitz, Blucher, Montgomery, Rommel, Tito, Patton, Ney, Tilly

Semester Two:

The class will study who the important people were that were involved with the philosophical development of Western Civilization. As a class, we will discuss the importance and relevance of their ideas, the validity of their ideas, and if they impacted society today. We will look at Christianity as a philosophical approach and see how it helped to develop Europe into the center of power in the world.

Topics: Greeks, Social Contract, Rise of Modern State, Liberalism, Hegel and Marx, Democracy to Fascism, Christianity, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Marx, Hegel, Spencer, Freud, Locke, Hobbes, Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, Kant, Rousseau, Comte, Descartes

THIS COURSE WILL HELP PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE CAHSEE AND / OR THE FCUSD EXAM:

Writing, Reading, and Social Science

LAB FEE, IF REQUIRED:

None

SUBJECT AREA CONTENT STANDARDS TO BE ADDRESSED:

Semester One: We will study battles from 1066 Battle of Hasting up to the modern battles of Vietnam and Desert Storm. We will look at military blunders, maneuvers, leaders, failures and victories. We will study both the victor and the loser of the battles and what we can learn from each of these battles.

Semester Two: We will look at philosophical ideas and people from the age of Socrates to modern political thought of the 20th century. We will look at Christianity as a philosophy, different political ideas from democracy, absolutism, blank slate theories, evolution, Freud, and others through out western political development.

- 10.1 Moral and ethical principles in ancient Greek and Roman philosophy, and development of western political thought along with Christianity
- 10.5 Causes of the first World War
- 10.6 Effects of the first World War
- 10.8 Causes and consequences of World War II
- 11.1 The Philosophy of the United States revolutionary leaders and government
- 12.1 Fundamental principles of the constitution and American political system
- 12.4 Analyze the separation of powers and branches of government

DISTRICT ESLRs TO BE ADDRESSED:

- **Self-Directed Learners:** Students will demonstrate critical thinking through discussions and individual work. This will allow them to build ideas on their own by taking in others' opinions and forming their own opinions using several different sources.
- **Effective Communicators:** Students will become effective communicators as they develop critical thinking skills in reading, inquiry, social issues, writing, and oral presentations.
- **Quality Producer / Performers:** Students will initiate projects, set quality standards, and adapt to changing conditions.
- **Constructive Thinkers:** Students will critically analyze important historical, technological, and current events, and their resulting societal changes.
- **Collaborative Workers:** This course will help students develop an appreciation for the depth and diversity of the values and experiences required to be a collaborative citizen in our state.
- **Responsible Citizens:** This course will help prepare students to identify issues that require social action, show a commitment to accept social responsibilities associated with citizenship, and to be a participatory and responsible citizen in our democratic society.