

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Boston Collegiate Charter School 2011-2012**  
**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Global Studies B**

Teacher: Miss Alabiso

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Tutoring/Office Hours: Tues. and Thurs. 3-4

Teacher: Ms. Doak

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Tutoring/Office Hours: Wed. and Thurs. 3-4

❖ **Course Overview:**

Global Studies Part B is the second year of a two-year course of study. The two year Global Studies curriculum examines world events from the beginning of time through modern day. In GS Part A, students explore the continents of Africa, Asia and Latin America. In GS Part B, students explore the Middle East, Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, and Western Europe.

For each continent or region studied, students read about, discuss, and research the area's geography and early civilizations, the causes and effects, both short-term and long-term, of imperialism and colonialism, the growth of nationalism and independence movements, and the current issues affecting the area today. A particular theme throughout the two years is investigating the root causes of conflicts, including identity and perspective, interests and values, and the difficult but necessary process of negotiating in the interest of peace. In GS Part B the emphasis is placed on the relationship between history and our current views of law, government, politics, and culture. This course will 1) educate students about key concepts in world studies and 2) develop students' abilities to make informed and reasoned decisions as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in a global world.

❖ **Behavior Expectations:**

Our classroom is an environment that will foster learning for all students. Each day you are expected to come to class with the necessary materials and be ready to learn as soon as you enter. The **Golden Rule** of this classroom is respect. Respect each other, yourself, and the teacher at all times. Since one person's behavior affects everyone else, disruptions of any kind will not be tolerated. During class discussions **EVERYONE** is entitled and encouraged to share their school-appropriate opinion - for this, acceptance and mutual respect is essential.

❖ **Materials Needed:**

All students should have the following in order to be prepared for this class.

1. 3-Ring Binder: you are expected to keep a binder for this course that is divided into two sections; notes and handouts. Your note section should be filled with loose-leaf paper. Each day your work should be dated and placed in the appropriate section. Having an organized binder will prove invaluable when you have to study for exams.
2. Index Cards
3. Pen and Pencil
4. Hi-liter

❖ **Books:**

The primary text for this course is World Cultures: A Global Mosaic. Additionally, students will be reading *Night* by Eli Wiesel. All books and supplemental materials will be copied and provided by the teacher as needed.

❖ **Major Units:**

Our essential questions for this course are: How do differing cultures and ideologies both unify and divide people? How does where you live affect how and what you think? Each unit will be designed to reflect these themes and help students understand that they are constantly changing. The following is a list of units and the approximate times during which they will be covered.

**Students should plan for weekly quizzes, as well as a major assessment at the end of each unit.**

- Unit 1- Monotheistic Faiths
- Unit 2- Israeli-Palestinian Conflict
- Unit 3- Medieval Europe
- Unit 4- Renaissance
- Unit 5- The Age of Change
- Unit 6- Industrial Revolution – Interwar Years
- Unit 7- WWII
- Unit 8- Aftermath of WWII
- Unit 9- Modern Day Middle East and US Relations

❖ **Assessment:** Grades for each quarter will be calculated in the following way.

Major Assessments- 35%

This category includes tests, essays, document-based questions, and long term projects.

There will be a minimum of one major assessment per unit.

Minor Assessments-30%

This category includes quizzes, pop quizzes, in-class projects, and presentations.

Classwork- 20%

This work includes Do-Nows, Current Events, in class activities that are collected from individual students, as well as class participation.

Homework- 15%

This includes work that is assigned on a nightly basis and will be graded on a ten point scale. To earn full credit students work must be accurate, complete, answered in complete sentences, and in line with all directions and class expectations.

Your **final course grade** will be calculated as follows:

Quarter 1- 21.25%

Quarter 2- 21.25%

**Midterm (Thursday January 27th)- 5%**

Quarter 3- 21.25%

Quarter 4- 21.25%

**Final (Monday June 20<sup>th</sup>)- 10 %**

❖ **Classroom Policies and Procedures:**

Late Work: Late homework and classwork will not be accepted in this course from students with unexcused absences and students who choose not to complete an assignment. For students with excused absences, you will have one day to make up missed homework and classwork. If you miss an assessment during an excused absence, you are expected to make it up the day you return to school.

- For major and minor assignments: 25% off after 1 day, 50% off after 2 and no credit after three days.

Plagiarism: Cheating of any kind will not be tolerated in this class. This includes, but is not limited to

- copying/allowing someone to copy your homework,
- looking at another student's test or quiz
- passing in a paper that you have copied from another source.

A complete description of plagiarism and the accompanying offenses can be found in the Student Handbook.

Participation: Participation is essential to a great classroom environment and students will be expected to participate in class everyday. I will often call on students randomly to make sure the whole class is paying attention. If you do not know an answer, it is ok- that's part of learning. I will give you hints or ask another student to help out. If you cannot answer a question when asked, I will always come back to you to repeat the correct answer.

❖ **Closing:**

I love history and hope that I can inspire that passion in each one of you. I am always available for help, either during my office hours or by email - so do not be shy! Stay on top of your work and if you feel like you are getting lost, ask for help right away and do not wait until the end of the unit when backtracking can seem overwhelming. I am looking forward to a great year together and cannot wait to start our adventure in Global Studies B!