THE ANCIENT WORLD TO THE MODERN WORLD  
COURSE OUTLINE AND LEARNING CONTRACT

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Year 7 curriculum provides a study of the nature of history and historical sources, both archaeological and written. Students investigate ancient history from the time of the earliest human communities to the end of the ancient period (approx. 60 000 BCE - 650 CE). It was a period defined by the development of cultural practices and organised societies, including Australia, Egypt and China. They also study a range of depth studies from the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern period (650 CE - 1750 CE). During this period, major civilisations around the world came into contact with each other. Social, economic, religious and political beliefs were often challenged and significantly changed, underpinning the shaping of the modern world.

(adapted from The Australian Curriculum for NSW document)
We also aim to foster the literacy skills of students by teaching a ‘Fact or Fiction’ unit concurrently with mandated coursework, wherein students choose a historical fiction novel to read and report on.

KEY INQUIRY QUESTIONS:

1. How do we know about the ancient past?
2. Why and where did the earliest societies develop?
3. What emerged as the defining characteristics of ancient societies?
4. What have been the legacies of ancient societies?
5. How did societies change from the end of the ancient period to the beginning of the modern age?
6. What key beliefs and values emerged and how did they influence societies?
7. What were the causes and effects of contacts between societies in this period?
8. What significant people, groups and ideas from this period have influenced the world today?

COURSE TOPICS AND SEQUENCE:

1. Term 1: Investigating History
2. Term 1-2: Ancient Egypt
3. Term 2-3: China
4. Term 3: Vikings
5. Term 3-4: Medieval Japan
6. Term 4: Expanding contacts

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE:

TERM 1: Investigating History 20%  In-class knowledge and source based test, with research component (UNESCO-World Heritage sites-with focus on protection of cultural sites)
TERM 2: Fact or Fiction 20%  In-class test about historical fiction novel (student choice of novel)
TERM 3: Ancient Egypt and Ancient China 30%  In-class knowledge and source based test, with research component (student choice of archaeological site from Egypt or China)
TERM 4: Vikings 30%  In-class knowledge and source based test with research component (everyday life)

N.B. If the dates indicated about need to be altered due to school business you will be notified via Moodle and email in advance.
CLASS TEACHER/S: EDMODO CODE (if applicable)

COURSE COORDINATOR: Mrs Angela Inman angela.inman@det.nsw.edu.au

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS

NOTE – Your responsibilities:

• See your teacher on your first day, if you are absent on the day an assessment is held (even if you do not have class that day).
• You must always catch up on work you missed when absent.
• You are required to keep all marked assessment tasks until the end of the school year.
• You must check carefully that you meet the requirements in the task notification. Eg. if you are allowed to bring research notes into the exam. Notes that do not meet requirements will be confiscated before the task starts.
• You will need to submit all research notes when you complete the assessment task.
• Technology failure is not an acceptable reason for an assessment task being late.
• Students are to sign the slip below in acknowledgement of this course outline and student responsibilities

COURSE OUTLINE AND LEARNING CONTRACT

Students are to sign this slip to acknowledge their receipt and understanding of the course outline and their responsibilities and expectations as students.

__________________________  ___________________________  ______________
Student name                                                  Student signature   Date