



## History/Political Philosophy Syllabus 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Class 2022-2023

### Catalog Description:

This course will increase the student's knowledge and understanding of the Western Heritage, American Heritage, and the U.S. Constitution. Western Heritage will consider the history of Western Civilization from the Hebrews to the Glorious Revolution. American Heritage will consider the history of America from the colonial era to the present. The U.S. Constitution considers the principles of the American Founding as well as key features of American government based on those principles. Christian thinking serves as the foundation for all areas of the Curriculum. It builds on past learning and begins the process of thinking deeply and carefully about Christianity. This is done through the avenue of worldview analysis. The Biblical/Christian worldview provides a foundation of ideas on the nature of the universe, human persons, our relationship with God, human communities and the moral life. Christian thinking will guide the exploration of the great ideas as they have flowed through Western human history. This class lays the foundation for further study in history and political philosophy.

### Short Description:

This course studies the flow of ideas through Western thinking.

### Goals:

1. Students will learn basic tools of biblical thinking and the biblical Christian worldview.
2. Students will explore the basic elements of the Biblical/Christian worldview. These will include:
  - a. The nature of God
  - b. The origin of man and the universe
  - c. The nature of man
  - d. The cause of the human condition
  - e. The role of learning
  - f. The nature of moral thought
  - g. The nature of man's various relationships
3. Students will explore the flow of these ideas through the flow of Western history.
4. Students will explore how these ideas influenced and developed in American history.
5. Students will explore the how American government has been shaped by these same ideas.
6. Students will regularly engage in a Socratic style of instruction. This will assist in the development of a carefully thought through Christian faith and the ability to articulate that faith.
7. Students will regularly write reflective and argumentative essays dealing with the ideas explored within this course. These essays will serve as a tool to help students think through and clearly, logically, and persuasively express their thinking.
8. Students will be provided the opportunity to develop a confidence in their ability to be thinkers, while still maintaining a humility and hunger to continually search out and recognize God's truths.

### Course Outline:

1. First Quarter --- What Does It Mean to Think Christianly About History?
  - a. What is Truth?
  - b. What is History?
  - c. What is American History?
  - d. Is Genesis History?
2. Second Quarter--- Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke
  - a. Jerusalem and Athens: The two essential elements of the Western heritage
  - b. The Hebrews
  - c. The Golden Age of Greece
  - d. The Political and Philosophical Legacy of Greece
  - e. The Rise and Fall of the Roman Republic

- f. Early Christianity
  - g. The Middle Ages
  - h. The Renaissance
  - i. Reformation and Counter-Reformation
  - j. The Scientific Revolution
  - k. From Elizabeth I to the Glorious Revolution
3. Third Quarter--- The Great American Story: A Land of Hope
- a. Introduction
  - b. Beginnings
  - c. The Revolution of Self-Rule
  - d. The New Nation
  - e. The Experiment Begins, Part One
  - f. The Experiment Begins, Part Two
  - g. The Culture of Democracy and Its Shadow, Part One
  - h. The Culture of Democracy and Its Shadow, Part Two
  - i. The House Divides, Part One
  - j. The House Divides, Part two
  - k. Reconstruction and Transformation, Part One
  - l. Reconstruction and Transformation, Part Two
  - m. Becoming a World Power
  - n. The Progressive Era, Part One
  - o. The Progressive Era, Part Two
4. Fourth Quarter--- The Great American Story: A Land of Hope (cont.) Introduction to the Constitution
- a. The Great War and Its Aftermath, Part One
  - b. The Great War and Its Aftermath, Part Two
  - c. The New Deal
  - d. The Finest Hour
  - e. A Time of Turbulence, Part One
  - f. A Time of Turbulence, Part Two
  - g. Rise and Fall, Part One
  - h. Rise and Fall, Part Two
  - i. The Path of Renewal, Part One
  - j. The Path of Renewal, Part Two
  - k. The Declaration of Independence—Universals and Particulars
  - l. The Declaration of Independence---The Laws of Nature and of Nature's God
  - m. The Declaration of Independence---All Men Created Equal
  - n. The Consent of the Governed
  - o. Representation of the People
  - p. Sovereignty and Power
  - q. Reason and Passion
  - r. The Separation of Powers
  - s. The Necessity of Virtue
  - t. Ballots Rather Than Bullets
  - u. The Problem with Big Government
  - v. The Problem with Progressivism

Assignments:

- 1. First Quarter 8/15/22-10/13/22
  - a. 8/15-8/19
    - 1.) Discussion on the nature of the class
    - 2.) Discussion on the nature of history

- b. 8/22-8/26
  - 1.) What is truth? discussion
  - 2.) Watch video “The Truth Project”—Lesson 1: Veritology, What is Truth?
  - 3.) Discussion
  - 4.) Quiz 1.1
- c. 8/29-9/2
  - 1.) Watch video “The Truth Project”—Lesson 2: Philosophy and Ethics, Says Who?
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Quiz 1.2
- d. 9/6-9/9
  - 1.) Watch video “The Truth Project”—Lesson 6: History, Whose Story?
  - 2.) Discussion
- e. 9/12-9/16
  - 1.) Watch video “The Truth Project”—Lesson 10: The American Experiment, Stepping Stones
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Quiz 1.3
- f. 9/19-9/23
  - 1.) Watch video “Is Genesis History?”
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Quiz 1.4
- g. 9/26-9/30
  - 1.) Watch videos “Beyond Is Genesis History?”
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Quiz 1.5
- h. 10/3-10/7
  - 1.) Watch videos “Beyond Is Genesis History?”
  - 2.) Discussion
- i. 10/10-10/13
  - 1.) Discussion on 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter
  - 2.) Introduction to 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter
- 2. Second Quarter 10/18/22-12/16/23
  - a. 10/18-10/21
    - 1.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—Jerusalem, Athens, and the Study of History
    - 2.) Discussion
  - b. 10/24-10/28
    - 1.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—The Hebrews
    - 2.) Discussion
    - 3.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—The Golden Age of Greece
    - 4.) Quiz 2.1
  - c. 10/31-11/4
    - 1.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—The Political and Philosophical Legacy of Greece
    - 2.) Discussion
    - 3.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—The Rise and Fall of the Roman Republic
    - 4.) Discussion

- 5.) Quiz 2.2
- d. 11/7-11/10
  - 1.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—Early Christianity
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—The Middle Ages
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Quiz 2.3
- e. 11/14-11/18
  - 1.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—The Renaissance
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—Reformation and Counter-Reformation
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Quiz 2.4
- f. 11/21-11/25---Thanksgiving Vacation
- g. 11/28-12/2
  - 1.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—The Scientific Revolution
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video “Western Heritage: From the Book of Genesis to John Locke”—From Elizabeth I to the Glorious Revolution
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Quiz 2.5
- h. 12/5-12/
  - 1.) Review the semester
  - 2.) Hand out the Final Exam
- i. 12/12-12/16
  - 1.) Discuss the Final Exam
  - 2.) 1<sup>st</sup> Semester Final Exam
- 3. Third Quarter 1/9/23-3/10/23
  - a. 1/9-1/13
    - 1.) Watch video “The Great American Story: A Land of Hope”—Introduction
    - 2.) Discussion
    - 3.) Watch video “The Great American Story: A Land of Hope”—Beginnings
    - 4.) Discussion
    - 5.) Quiz 3.1
  - b. 1/17-1/20
    - 1.) Watch video “The Great American Story: A Land of Hope”—The Revolution of Self-Rule
    - 2.) Discussion
    - 3.) Watch video “The Great American Story: A Land of Hope”—The New Nation
    - 4.) Discussion
  - c. 1/23-1/27
    - 1.) Watch video “The Great American Story: A Land of Hope”—The Experiment Begins, Part One
    - 2.) Discussion

- 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Experiment Begins, Part Two
- 4.) Discussion
- 5.) Quiz 3.2
- d. 1/30-2/3
  - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"-- The Culture of Democracy and Its Shadow, Part One
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Culture of Democracy and Its Shadow. Part Two
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Quiz 3.3
- e. 2/6-2/10
  - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The House Divides, Part One
  - 2.) Discussion
- f. 2/13-2/17
  - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The House Divides, Part Two
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—Reconstruction and Transformation, Part One
  - 4.) Quiz 3.4
- g. 2/21-2/24
  - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"-- Reconstruction and Transformation, Part Two
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Quiz 3.5
- h. 2/27-3/3
  - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—Becoming a World Power
  - 2.) Discussion
- i. 3/6-3/10
  - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Progressive Era, Part One
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Progressive Era, Part Two
  - 4.) Discussion
- j. 3/13-3/17 Spring Break
4. Fourth Quarter 3/20/23-5/25/23
  - a. 3/20-3/24
    - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Great War and Its Aftermath, Part One
    - 2.) Discussion
    - 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Great War and Its Aftermath, Part Two
    - 4.) Quiz 4.1
  - b. 3/27-3/31
    - 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The New Deal
    - 2.) Discussion

- 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Finest Hour
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Quiz 4.2
- c. 4/3-4/6
- 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—A Time of Turbulence. Part One
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—A Time of Turbulence, Part Two
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Quiz 4.3
- d. 4/10-4/14
- 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—Rise and Fall, Part One
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—Rise and Fall, Part Two
  - 4.) Discussion
- e. 4/17-4/21
- 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Path of Renewal, Part One
  - 2.) Quiz 4.4
- f. 4/24-4/28
- 1.) Watch video "The Great American Story: A Land of Hope"—The Path of Renewal, Part Two
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Quiz 4.5
- g. 5/1-5/5
- 1.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Declaration of Independence: Universals and Particulars
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Declaration of Independence: The Laws of Nature and of Nature's God
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Declaration of Independence: All Men Are Created Equal
  - 6.) Discussion
  - 7.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Consent of the Governed
  - 8.) Discussion
- h. 5/8-5/12
- 1.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---Representation of the People
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---Sovereignty and Power
  - 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---Reason and Passion
  - 6.) Discussion
  - 7.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Separation of Powers
  - 8.) Discussion
- i. 5/15-5/19
- 1.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Necessity of Virtue
  - 2.) Discussion
  - 3.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---Ballots Rather Than Bullets

- 4.) Discussion
  - 5.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Problem with Big Government
  - 6.) Discussion
  - 7.) Watch video "Introduction to the Constitution"---The Problem with Progressivism
  - 8.) Discussion
- j. 5/22-5/25
- 1.) Review for final
  - 2.) 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester Final Exam

Methods of Instruction:

1. Extensive use of the Socratic discussion
2. Student presentations based on outside reading
3. Lecture
4. Audio and video materials

Methods of Evaluation:

Since classroom participation is a primary element of this class, it constitutes a significant portion of your total grade. The grade is determined by the teacher based on daily student observation. The elements included in these observations include: classroom discipline, daily preparedness, classroom discussion, involvement in discussion, thinking skills demonstrated in discussions and completion of daily reading assignments. The reading assignments are critical to this class. They constitute the "lecture" part of class. Discussion is driven and enriched by out of class reading and thought.

## 1st Quarter

Quiz 1.1	20 points	8/24
Participation 1.1	20 points	8/24
Quiz 1.2	20 points	8/31
Participation 1.2	20 points	8/31
Quiz 1.3	20 points	9/14
Participation 1.3	20 points	9/14
Quiz 1.4	20 points	9/21
Participation 1.4	20 points	9/21
Quiz 1.5	20 points	9/28
Participation 1.5	20 points	9/28
Quarter Total	200 points	

## 2nd Quarter

Quiz 2.1	20 points	10/26
Participation 2.1	20 points	10/26
Quiz 2.2	20 points	11/2
Participation 2.2	20 points	11/2
Quiz 2.3	20 points	11/9
Participation 2.3	20 points	11/9
Quiz 2.4	20 points	11/16
Participation 2.4	20 points	11/16
Quiz 2.5	20 points	11/30
Participation 2.5	20 points	11/30
Quarter Total	200 points	
1 <sup>st</sup> Semester Final Exam	100 points	12/14

1<sup>st</sup> Semester

$$1^{\text{st}} \text{ Qtr} + 2^{\text{nd}} \text{ Qtr} + 1^{\text{st}} \text{ Semester Final Exam} = 1^{\text{st}} \text{ Semester Final Grade}$$

$$40\% + 40\% + 20\% = \text{Final Grade}$$

## 3rd Quarter

Quiz 3.1	20 points	1/11
Participation 3.1	20 points	1/11
Quiz 3.2	20 points	1/25
Participation 3.2	20 points	1/25
Quiz 3.3	20 points	2/1
Participation 3.3	20 points	2/1
Quiz 3.4	20 points	2/15
Participation 3.4	20 points	2/15
Quiz 3.5	20 points	2/22
Participation 3.5	20 points	2/22
Quarter Total	200 points	
4th Quarter		
Quiz 4.1	20 points	3/22
Participation 4.1	20 points	3/22
Quiz 4.2	20 points	3/29
Participation 4.2	20 points	3/29
Quiz 4.3	20 points	4/5
Participation 4.3	20 points	4/5
Quiz 4.4	20 points	4/19
Participation 4.4	20 points	4/19
Quiz 4.5	20 points	4/26
Participation 4.5	20 points	4/26
Quarter Total	200 points	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem Final Exam	100 points	5/24

2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

3rd Qtr + 4th Qtr + 2nd Semester Final Exam = 2nd Semester Final Grade

40% + 40% + 20% = Final Grade

The Semester Final Grade is the only grade that appears on transcripts and is included in the calculation of a student's Grade Point Average (GPA). The quarter grade represents progress toward that Final Grade.

Examples of Assignments:

1. Discussion will be drawn from related video and reading assignments.
2. Quizzes to assist in constant accountability and practice.

Textbooks Required:

Wilfred M. McClay

Land of Hope: An Invitation to the Great American Story

ISBN: 978-1-64177-139-9

Encounter Books

2020

Behavior Policy:

1. We expect all students to express Warrior's core values of Godliness, Obedience, Leadership, and Scholarship in and out of class.
2. We expect each student to respect the person and property of fellow students.
3. Since class discussion and debate is common, the following principles should be followed:
  - a. Genuine disagreement is an achievement because it enables people to learn. We assume that a disagreement is valuable until proven otherwise.
  - b. Deepening our understanding of truth or wisdom is more important in this class than winning an argument.



- c. Respect is important in this class. The merits of a position may be debated, but persons may not be attacked.
  - d. If a student feels attacked, they should say so respectfully, and the teacher and class will assess the situation together.
4. In accordance with I Peter 3:15, students must express themselves with gentleness and respect to those in authority and to their peers.