**Course Description:** This year will be a year of learning, thinking, and doing. In our two periods together we will be on a journey through the Worlds History while incorporating Language Arts and Literature. During our exploration we will become experts on the history of the fall of Rome, feudal Japan, the rise of Islam, Medieval Europe, the Renaissance, and Reformation. In many of our assignments Language Arts and Social Studies will be integrated in a way that facilitates further exploration and understanding of both content areas. We will complete a variety of assignments including projects and group work. This year we will be introducing a new ELA curriculum that will be mostly online, StudySync. Our readings will include historical fiction related to our time period of study, core novels, literature circle novels, short stories, informational and literary text and poetry.

**Required Materials:**

Students MUST be prepared to learn every day. You may bring your own materials/supplies to use, however students who do not come to school with the necessary materials will have them provided. The materials available to each student will be used in class ONLY. It is recommended that students have their own materials at home as well.

**Grading Policy:** Assignments will be graded based on accuracy, completeness, and effort put into the assignment. Students’ knowledge and understanding should be reflected in their work. Assignments will be used as on-going assessment of student knowledge. Students will receive a separate grade for both English and Social Studies. Grades will be updated weekly and posted on schoolloop.

 Grading Categories:

Homework 15%

Assignments (classwork, projects, essays) 50%

 Assessments (Tests & quizzes) 35%

**Homework:** Homework is assigned to accompany and reinforce what we are learning in class. It is important that you complete the homework to be successful in class. Homework will be turned in at the beginning of class on the day that it is due.

**Absences:** Being absent is **your responsibility!** You will be held accountable for checking the absent work folders to obtain the activities and assignments from the day(s) you were absent. If you know in advance that you are going to be absent, I will do my best to get the material you need before your absence. All absent work must be turned in within two days after you return to school. (these do not count as late assignments)

**Late Work:** Late work will be accepted within one week of the due date. When late work is turned in, a late work slip must be filled out and attached to the assignment. The highest grade that can be earned on a late assignment is 70% If the assignment is not turned in within the 2 weeks, a supplemental assignment can be done to earn points.

**Cell Phones:** Cell phones should be off and kept in a safe place during class. If I see that you have your phone out, I will first ask you to put it away. If I see it out again it will be placed on my desk and given back after class. If a phone is out a third time, it will be given to the office and a detention will be assigned.

**Discipline:** If your behavior is causing a disruption to my teaching or the learning of others, these are the following steps that will take place:

1. 1st offense -Verbal Warning
2. 2nd offense- Name on board
3. 3rd offense- check mark next to name (detention given and parents called)
4. 4th offense- Sent to the office.

\*If a student becomes disrespectful or rude during any of these steps I have the ability to send them directly out of class.

**Contact Info:** The best way to contact me is through email. I check it several times throughout the day and will respond within a 48 hour window. I am also available via phone.

Email: amaciel@lvjusd.k12.ca.us

Phone: 606-4720 ext. 6340

I am excited about this school year and the learning experiences we will share. I look forward to getting to know each of you and building a community in Room 40. If we all work hard together, this will be a fun and successful year for everyone! ☺

After reading this syllabus please go over it with your parents or an adult at home, and fill out the following information. Signing this syllabus is an agreement that you are aware of the expectations in this classroom, and will do your best to have a successful year.

**Student Name: Student Signature:**

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 **Parent/Guardian Name: Parent/Guardian Signature:**

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