



Dear AICE Global Perspective parent,

In an effort to better communicate with my students and their parents I am asking you to read and respond to the two letters attached. I will e-mail updates every two weeks to parents and students. If you do not wish to receive these updates respond on the form that will be returned to me by the student.

The video permission form is required by the district and is to inform you of the films I will **possibly** use this semester. The films all have review questions on line for you and the student to see. This section will illustrate the material the student is responsible to know after watching these films. There will be a class discussion on each of the films. If you would like to preview the films that would be fine and you can e-mail a change in permission if you wish. I have books the student can read if they wish to read instead of seeing it on the screen. Some students opt for that and it is fine with me. I will write a pass to the library and they do not have to be in the class room or be noticed that they are doing another assignment. I have listed all the films I plan to show in this class, time permitting. The administration is aware of my showing these films and I have submitted educational support materials to tie them to the state and county standards. I have used some of these films for more than ten years and they will be of great value in teaching Global Perspectives. I enjoy watching them with my students and I have seen many over fifty times. I feel this visual component adds to the power of learning. I hope this gives you some insight into how these films are utilized. Thank you for your interest and I hope this answers your questions about them.

Hotel Rwanda - Genocide in Rwanda in 1994 [2004, PG 13, 120 min]

Blue Gold- World Water Wars – Corporate control of water resource in the world

Extreme Ice – Disappearing ice caps and glaciers

Is Wal-Mart Good for American? – Corporate Retailers driving the market

Food, Inc. – Corporate profits/Healthy food – what we eat, how it is produced, who we are as a nation

Beyond Our Differences – Bill Moyers Journal - Spiritual similarities that unite us

Ghosts of Rwanda – Frontline - The real truth told by those who were there in 1994

Genocide - Holocaust film narrated by Elizabeth Taylor and Orson Wells [1981, on-line free, PG, 82 min]

A Time for Justice, America's Civil Rights Movement –Academy award winner for best documentary short subject by The Teaching Tolerance Project

Radio Bikini — Nuclear testing in the Pacific in the 1950s [1988, NR]

The Spill – Frontline - The Gulf oil spill and its affects

I will also ask you to look at my website if you wish to know what we are doing this semester. The site is shshistory.com or you can Google it with my name. All assignments for the entire semester are located on the AICE Global Perspectives tab. A calendar for the entire semester is also under the calendar tab. Additional review materials, citation help, my biography, my contact information, video questions, supplemental reading assignments, important passwords, all unit instructions, links to text books, and citation machine. So if a student is absent or you are making plans to be out of town you will know what we are doing in class.

I have taught high school history, geography, economics, and government. I have also taught AP American History and AP American Government. I taught American History, Political Science, Western Civilizations, and International Relations at State College of Florida. I have taught student teachers at West Virginia University and Humanities for the graduate school at Marshall University. Read my web site under *meet the teacher* to find more about where and what I have taught.

Each student should have picked up a textbook by now so they may have a textbook at home. This is their responsibility and cannot be done by me. The students are responsible for reading the assigned readings in the text on their own time. It is a condensed and readable text.

The classroom has thirty computers in it, which I wrote a grant to provide my students with computer access to Word 2007 and the Internet. There are rules they must follow to be able to use them but they do not have to use them every day if they do not wish to word process their work. The students may e-mail their assignments to me from home to the Angel Network and I have a yahoo account for them to use even if they do not have an e-mail account.

The syllabus should answer the major questions you might have about the course. Each student has a copy of the syllabus and it is on the web site. The course is designed to introduce the AICE student to writing, researching, and thinking. The course is centered on a portfolio, projects, and essay writing. The course missions is:

Global Perspectives is a Pre-AICE course to develop personal perspectives of the issues facing the world today. It develops research and writing skills for young people to be able to express themselves. It revolves on topics that are pertinent to young people. It strengthens group and individual skills necessary for a global workforce and community. A portfolio is utilized to present completed research and thought development. There is no right or wrong answer to the essential questions we explore. There are no exams, the student will utilize research techniques, produce useful products, write two sided argumentative essays, and interact with their government and the global community. The skills of discussion, debate, and essay writing are key to success in the course. The student will develop skills necessary for AS and A level Cambridge courses. If the student utilizes class time well there should be very limited homework. Each student will have a text book at home.

The student needs no special materials for the class. The midterm and final exams are portfolios and must be turned in with all materials from the semester so a three ring notebook would be good but students can bind them with yarn or string and a special notebook is not required but might aid in retaining all papers throughout the semester.

There after school seminars to review material and assist in writing skills. They are scheduled throughout the year. They are one hour long and are highly recommended. These seminars will give students that extra edge to be successful on an AICE course.

I look forward to a great semester with your son/daughter. I hope this information is helpful. Please remember to sign the video permission form and fill out the e-mail information sheet. If you need to talk to me use the information on the website or the syllabus.

Sincerely,
Dr. Sandra B. Carihfield