

# Michigan History: Mr. Hermann

**TEXT:** *Forging the Peninsulas*- Hillsdale 2001- Cost= \$29.95

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is a one semester, ½ credit course that is not required for graduation from Pinckney High School. The ½ credit will count as elective credit for graduation. The course covers the history and geography of Michigan over a large span of time. It covers the geology of Michigan from several billion years ago to the current geological appearance. It will include the cultural and political history of the Native American period, the French period, the English period, and the American period. It will review the development of Michigan through the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. It will conclude with an overview of the various cultural, political, and economics regions of modern day Michigan.

**COURSE GOALS:** Students in this class will gain a meaningful understanding of significant events, ideas, and people from the past. Students will also understand how historical knowledge may drive decisions in life today. By comprehending the past, analyzing and interpreting different historical events, and judging decisions from the past students will develop skills that will help make them better understand history and how it drives the world they live in today.

Students will be able to:

- communicate their understanding about the physical and human geography of our world
- develop basic map, graph, and writing skills.
- interpret vocabulary relating to World History
- identify, and define, major regions, physical features, cultures, economic systems, political systems, history, and natural resources of the world.
- analyze the interrelatedness of current issues and their importance in the world we live in.

**YOUR FINAL GRADE:**

- 40% - first marking period grade
- 40% - second marking period grade
- 20% - final examination grade

**NOTE!** You must have a passing grade in two of these three categories in order to receive your 1/2 credit in this class.

**GRADING POLICY:** The following areas are graded to determine your marking period grades:

vocabulary quizzes	text reading
projects and presentations	group work assignments
chapter/unit quizzes and tests	

Your marking period grades will be based on a total point accumulation system for each marking period. Because of the activity orientation of this course, a subjective grade for class participation and classroom behavior may be given by me and used in the determination of your quarterly grades.

Participation may be graded any day or combination of days. The safest assumption you can make is that you are being graded on participation everyday. If, and when participation grades are posted and you are totally surprised that your grade is low, that's an indication of a bigger problem - you're lack of awareness of what your behavior is like. By the time you get to High School, you should know the difference between what is appropriate and acceptable and what is not. Knowing is, however, only the first step. Doing is the second. Many things, including appropriate behaviors are easy to "know" but more difficult to "do". In this classroom it is important to "do" the right thing.

<b>GRADING SCALE:</b>	93-100	A	73-76	C
	90-92	A-	70-72	C-
	87-89	B+	67-69	D+
	83-86	B	63-66	D
	80-82	B-	60-62	D-
	77-79	C+	00-59	E

**STUDENT GRADE FEEDBACK:** Study guides and worksheets will be checked and returned to students. Please keep all assignments in your notebook. Tests will be returned for review, but retained by the teacher.

**MAKE UP WORK:** Per students handbook procedures, any assignments or tests issued prior to the absence must be completed upon the day of return to school unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Students taking an out of school suspension as opposed to an in school suspension must hand in completed work the day of returning to class – pick up your work prior to your suspension.

**EXTRA HELP:** Arrangements can be made for help sessions before or after school, or at a mutually agreeable time.

**EXTRA CREDIT:** This will be available from time to time. Extra credit is not given because student's want to increase their grade due to missed assignments.

**CLASSROOM RIGHTS:** I have two rights in my room, *I have the right to teach and you have the right to learn.* I will hold students accountable for abusing either of these rights. I use a straightforward system to keep my classroom running efficiently and to protect the classroom rights. Unless the student disruption warrants something more drastic, I will give a simple warning to the student that he/she are abusing my right to teach or others right to learn. If he/she persists in violating anyone's rights, I will have the student come up with a plan to help you behave more responsibly. This is called, "Classroom Contract". An additional contract may be necessary if I deem it to help a student continue to examine choices. If these opportunities for change are not successful, then I will assume that the student needs more assistance in helping you make better choices, and a referral or parent conference (or both) may result. Students who are blatantly disrespectful, insubordinate or endangering to others will bypass the option system altogether and will be referred to the office. Keep this in mind, it is true in my classroom and in the real world: *Students are the ones responsible for their choices; and all choices have consequences.*

**LAPTOP PROTOCOL:**

1. Computer lids are to be closed and put away as you enter the class and remain this way until otherwise directed. Failure to do so will result in laptop privileges being revoked for the class period/no credit on the day's assignment.
2. Assignments must be printed prior to entering the class. Failure to do so will result in no credit.
3. Computers will be monitored with Lan School. If it is found you are failing to use your computer in a productive manner or you are on inappropriate web sites during class, you will be required to shut it down for the remainder of the hour and you will risk receiving a zero on the current assignment.
4. If you computer is failing to show up on Lan School, you will be required to close your lid.
5. Earbuds will only be used when permitted.

**COMMUNICATION:** Parents will be able to access their student's grades via Teacher Ease. The grades will be periodically updated (generally within 1 week of the due date to allow time for grading and late work).

The web URL for Teacher Ease is: <http://www.teacherease.com/>

My phone number is: 810-225-5773 I also have a web site in which I place this syllabus and other information for this class. The web address is: [historyofmichigan.weebly.com](http://historyofmichigan.weebly.com)

**WHAT YOU NEED FOR CLASS:**

1. A 3-ring binder
2. Your textbook

I have read and understand this syllabus \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_