

# 7<sup>th</sup> Grade World and Washington State History

Mrs. Hacker

Room 211



*Dear Students and Families,*

*Welcome to Garry Middle School. This year in my class you will learning about World and Washington State History. I want to get to know each of you this year and discover what makes you the unique individual you are. In turn, I hope you will enjoy learning about History. I believe that a person never stops learning throughout his or her life, and we are all life-long learners!*

*Together, we will develop a positive learning environment where you can explore new ideas, practice skills to develop expertise, and feel comfortable and safe in expressing yourself. My classroom is a community built on the principles of Respect and Responsibility.*

*After reading, please sign the last page of the packet and have your parents do the same – returning it to school as soon as it is signed. If your parents have any questions or concerns this year, they may contact us at school (509-354-5200) or by email.*

*Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about our classrooms. Remember...it is our learning community, and your positive participation is key to making 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Garry Middle the best it can be.*



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## *Rules/Guidelines/Expectations*

### **7<sup>th</sup> Grade World History:**

#### **Course Description:**

In the seventh grade, students will continue in their study of world history from sixth grade focusing on major societies, world religions, events, and movements that existed from 600 CE to 1450 CE. Through this study, students will develop enduring understandings of core concepts and ideas in civics, economics, geography, and history. Students will also develop skills in the areas of research, reading, and writing, including writing a guiding research question, selecting sources, evaluating information for relevancy and accuracy, drawing conclusions, evaluating primary and secondary sources, distinguishing among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment, and writing expository and argumentative texts.

Students will develop multiple skills while taking the 7th Grade Social Studies course. Students will learn each step of the research process focusing on using textual-based evidence. Students will independently conduct research projects--both short and sustained. In addition to the research process, students will also utilize technology in a variety of different ways to gather, organize, and present information learned. Students will also learn how to write multi-paragraph essays centered on cause and effect, compare and contrast, and argumentation. Reading skills will be taught to students to meet proficiency on Common Core standards using best practices along with AVID strategies.

### **How Will Grading Work?**

In social studies, you will be graded on a variety of assignments in your class. Each piece of work that is graded will be worth several points. Your grade will be based on the percent of points you receive out of the possible points.

Letter grades from percentages are:

<u>Percentages</u>	=	<u>Grade Range</u>
90% - 100%	=	A's
80% - 89%	=	B's
70% - 79%	=	C's
60% - 69%	=	D's
Below 60%	=	F

### **What is the Late Work Policy?**

The main purpose of the middle school program is to better assist our students in making the transition from elementary school to high school. Students who develop good work habits have a much better chance of making this transition successfully. It is my goal this year to help your seventh-grader develop habits that will foster school success. Therefore, the following assignment plan has been established for all students at the seventh-grade level.

- Completion of assignments (including homework) is the responsibility of the student. Due dates on assignments are clearly defined to students; therefore, *all work* should be completed and turned in *on time*.
- Although students are expected to turn in assignments on time, I am aware that circumstances sometimes make this impossible. Your child will be given two "Late Assignment" passes for Social Studies. Students may use these within 24 hours of the due date to receive full credit on a late assignment. New passes will be issued each quarter.
- As a general rule, once the student has used their passes for the quarter, *no late work* will be accepted for full credit. Instead, each day an assignment is turned in late, a percentage of points will be taken off the total score.
- Some daily work and extended writing assessments may be revised.

- Progress Reports are available, at your convenience, on-line. Grades are generally updated by the teacher weekly.
- I will send a physical paper Progress Reports home every two weeks for 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter with students on Friday's.
- Students with an excused absence will have an equal number of days to make up work and still receive full credit.

I know that you desire academic success for your child, now and in the future. It is my intention to help build strong habits of responsibility that will travel with your child through middle school, into high school, and throughout life. Your support of this policy is essential for its effectiveness.

### **How Much Homework Can I Expect?**

For my class, any assignments that are not completed in the allotted class time should be finished at home. This is considered daily work and will be recorded in the student planner.

### **7<sup>th</sup>-Grade “Sevens” – Basic Behavior Expectations**

These expectations are based on PBIS principles of Performance, Respect, Integrity, Diversity, and Excellence

1. Be a leader
2. Be organized
3. Be prepared
4. Be considerate, kind, and honest
5. Be your best
6. Be looking for the solution
7. Be respectful

### **Listening**

Listed below are different ways you can show that you are being a good listener. These behaviors show respect toward others and responsibility for yourself:

1. Your voice is off.
2. Your eyes are on the speaker.
3. Your hands are either on your desk or in your lap.
4. You are listening so you can restate what is being said.
5. Your shoulders and knees are turned towards the speaker.

### **Choose to be a “Raven Ready”!**

Our classroom has a behavior plan that encourages kindness, good decision-making, and problem solving. Our classroom provides natural consequences for poor choices and a plan to get back to learning. If you choose behaviors that are ready, respectful, and responsible, you are **Raven Ready**.

## **Consequences**

Bullying, defiance, and unsafe behaviors will not be tolerated. Consequences will depend on the seriousness of the offense. Consequences *could* include: redirection/loss of classroom privileges, “Reflection Time” at the reflection table to consider better choices, Lunch Detention, School Disciplinary Leveling System (see Student Handbook/Planner), In–School Suspension, and/or Out–of–School Suspension.

## **Work Time Expectations/Noise Level**

You are expected to do your best at all times. For some assignments, there will be no talking. These times will be identified. There are other times when a low buzzing of conversation is allowed and encouraged.

## **Out–of–Seat**

Keep it to a minimum. Pencils should be sharpened at the beginning of the period, break times, or independent work time. Please remain in your seat during instruction.

## **Organization**

You are expected to keep your notebook organized with papers placed in proper locations. Loose papers should be kept to a minimum in your binder and locker. Backpacks should be kept organized and kept safely underneath your table, so it is not a tripping hazard.

## **Bathroom**

Use the restroom during *your* time (breaks, passing times, or during independent work time) throughout the day. Students learn best when they are in the classroom. Excessive bathroom breaks take away from instruction time. Bathroom emergencies are the exception and students will be given permission to use the restroom in this rare occurrence.

## **Organization:**

Students are encouraged to fill in their planners for daily work and homework for all classes. Planners are always the first entry task or exit task in our classroom. If a student is absent, they are given the opportunity to copy the teacher planner during independent work time.

I will have random planner and binder checks once a week that will be recorded in the gradebook for participation points. Checking your students’ planner is a great tool to know what they are learning!

## **How To Get in Touch With Me?**

I can be reached by either email or phone (509) 354-5200. My planning period is 6th period. If you should miss me, expect your message to be returned within 24 hours.

**Mrs. Cheri Hacker**

**7<sup>th</sup>-Grade World History**

**E-mail [cherih@spokaneschools.org](mailto:cherih@spokaneschools.org) Phone: (509) 354-5200**



*Welcome Ravens to the 2021-2022 school year. I am very excited to return to the classroom for my 22nd year in education. I will be your Social Studies Teacher for 7<sup>th</sup> grade World and Washington State History. This will be my fourth year at Garry Middle School. I look forward to teaching engaging lessons that inspire students' love for learning while achieving individual learning goals and targets for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.*

*Outside of teaching, I enjoy hiking on Mt. Rainier with my family, writing short stories, drawing, painting, and singing. I am looking forward to an amazing year of learning!*

*I want to get to know each of you this year and discover what makes you a unique individual. In turn, I hope you will enjoy learning about History. Together, we will develop a positive learning environment where you can explore new ideas, practice skills to develop expertise, and feel comfortable and safe in expressing yourself.*



*My classroom is a community built on the principles of kindness, respect, and responsibility. I believe that a person never stops learning throughout his or her life, and we are all life-long learners!*



*I am very excited to be working with you this year!*

*Sincerely, Mrs. Hacker*

**Garry Middle School**  
**7<sup>th</sup>-Grade Responsibilities and Expectations**

I have read the student packet and understand my responsibilities as a member of the team.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print your name here** \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the student packet and understand my child's responsibilities as a member of the team.

**Parent/Guardian Signature(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print your name(s) here** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Would you like to receive notes and/or other forms of communication from school via email?**

Yes       No       Sometime: \_\_\_\_\_

**Email 1** – Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email 1 – Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

(If needed:)

**Email 2** – Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email 2 – Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE RETURN THIS PACKET TO Mrs. Hacker  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade World History, Garry Middle School.

Families ~ THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO!  
YOUR SUPPORT MAKES OUR TEAM STRONGER!

Now, for your homework! Since you have been your child's first teacher, we are asking you to fill out the survey on the back of this sheet to help us better understand and work with your child.

**Student's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent(s)/Guardian(s) first and last name:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Home mailing address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone Number with Area Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ext.** \_\_\_\_\_

7<sup>th</sup>-Grade is going to be an amazing year!

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What are your child's first impressions of 7 <sup>th</sup> -Grade?	
Several of my child's strengths are...	
I am so proud of my child because...	Several of my child's hobbies and interests are...
Together our family enjoys...	Special interests we have as parents are...
Concerns I have about my child and/or seventh grade are...	

Thank you for your contributions – Mrs. Hacker