IB 20th Century History (HL)
Steve Nims
snims@pps.net
www.snimsib.wordpress.com

Assessment/evaluation/grading policy:
Grades are determined on results from exams and papers students work on during the course of the year as well as participation in classroom discussions, activities, and shorter assignments.

A 90-100
B 80-89
C 70-79
D 60-69

World history topic 10: Authoritarian states (20th century) September-December

This topic focuses on exploring the conditions that facilitated the rise of authoritarian states in the 20th century, as well as the methods used by parties and leaders to take and maintain power. The topic explores the emergence, consolidation and maintenance of power, including the impact of the leaders’ policies, both domestic and foreign, upon the maintenance of power.

Emergence of authoritarian states
• Conditions in which authoritarian states emerged: economic factors; social division; impact of war; weakness of political system
• Methods used to establish authoritarian states: persuasion and coercion; the role of leaders; ideology; the use of force; propaganda

Consolidation and maintenance of power
• Use of legal methods; use of force; charismatic leadership; dissemination of propaganda
• Nature, extent and treatment of opposition
• The impact of the success and/or failure of foreign policy on the maintenance of power

Aims and results of policies
• Aims and impact of domestic economic, political, cultural and social policies
• The impact of policies on women and minorities
• Authoritarian control and the extent to which it was achieved

The Americas: Argentina—Perón; Cuba—Castro  Asia and Oceania: China—Mao
Europe: Germany—Hitler; USSR—Stalin  Africa Tanzania- Nyerere
Internal assessment details—SL and HL: Historical investigation

Duration: 20 hours (Late November-December)

Papers will be due January 9/10th

The historical investigation is made up of three sections:

1. Identification and evaluation of sources (max. 500 words)
2. Investigation (max. 1300 words)
3. Reflection (max. 400)

Students have a free choice of topic for their historical investigation—the topic need not be related to the syllabus, and students should be encouraged to use their own initiative when deciding on a topic. However, the topic must be historical, and therefore cannot be on an event that has happened in the last 10 years.

Students should choose their own topic, with their teacher’s guidance and approval. Teachers must approve the topic and question for investigation before work is started. It is crucial that there are sufficient sources to support the investigation, and that the investigation can be assessed by the criteria for internal assessment. Teachers must also make students aware of any relevant ethical considerations when undertaking their investigation, for example, the need to show sensitivity or to respect confidentiality.

Prescribed subject 5: Conflict and Intervention (Rwanda and Kosovo)

January/February (40 hrs)

This prescribed subject focuses on conflict and intervention in the late 20th century. Two case studies are prescribed, from two different regions of the world, and both of these case studies must be studied. The first case study focuses on the genocide in Rwanda in 1994, beginning with the outbreak of civil war in Rwanda in 1990 and ending with the establishment of the International Criminal Court in 1998. The second case study focuses on events surrounding the war in Kosovo from 1998–1999, beginning with the escalating ethnic tensions in Kosovo from 1989 onwards, through to the elections of 2002. For each case study, the Causes of the Conflict, the Course and Interventions, and Impacts (social, international, economic, and political) will be studied.
World history topic 12: The Cold War: Superpower tensions and rivalries (20th century) March/early May

The Cold War dominated global affairs from the end of the Second World War to the early 1990s. This topic focuses on how superpower rivalries did not remain static but changed according to styles of leadership, strength of ideological beliefs, economic factors and crises involving client states. The topic aims to promote an international perspective on the Cold War by requiring the study of Cold War leaders, countries and crises from more than one region of the world.