

COURSE: IB HOTA

INSTRUCTOR: Mr. Mahn

OVERVIEW: International Baccalaureate (IB) History of the Americas (HOTA) is a college-level survey course. The first half of the course is taken in 11th grade as AP US History. This 12th grade course is the second half of IB HOTA, and concentrates on 20th-Century American and World History topics.

This course incorporates four different subject areas (as directed by the IBO):

1. **Peacemaking & Peacekeeping--International Relations, 1918-1936 (Prescribed Subject #1).** This correlates to the IB History Final Exam Part #1. It is 20% of the IB grade and consists of four short answer / structured response questions.
2. **Causes, Practices, & Effects of Wars (Topic 1), Single-Party States (Topic 3), The Cold War (Topic 5).** This material is for the IB History Final Exam Part #2. It is 25% of the IB grade and is made up of two extended response questions.
3. **The Americas (Regional option required for HL).** This correlates to the IB History Final Exam Part #3. It is worth 35% of the IB grade and consists of three extended response questions.
4. **Internal Assessment: Historical investigation.** It is worth 20% of the IB grade and must be between 1500 and 2000 words.

Specifics of each area:

- **Peacemaking & Peacekeeping, 1918-1936:** Goals of the “Big Four” following WWI; the Paris Peace Treaties, 1919-20; geopolitical and economic impact of these treaties on Europe; the mandate system; US isolationism; the League of Nations; the Ruhr Crisis (1923) and Locarno Spring (1925); the Great Depression; threats to international peace.
- **Causes, Practices, & Effects of Wars:** WWI (1914-8); the Spanish Civil War (1936-9); WWII (1939-45); Nicaraguan Revolution (1976-9); Falklands War (1982).
- **Single-Party States:** Origin, Establishment, and Rule of Single-Party States; Focus on Germany (Hitler), USSR (Stalin), Cuba (Castro), and Argentina (Peron).
- **The Cold War:** Origins of the East-West rivalry; Nature of the Cold War; Cold War developments; End of the Cold War.
- **The Americas:** Focus on 1895-1995: US foreign policy in Latin America; WWI; The Great Depression; Latin American politics; WWII; US foreign

policy after WWII; Political & Economic developments in Latin America after WWII; Hemispheric relations after WWII.

- **Internal Assessment:** The historical investigation is a problem-solving activity that enables candidates to demonstrate the application of their skills and knowledge to an area which interests them and which need not be syllabus related. The investigation is not a major piece of research, but solid research and a range of sources are essential. The IA is NOT written as an essay, but in the following style:
 - An outline plan of the historical investigation.
 - A summary of evidence.
 - An evaluation of the sources.
 - An analysis.
 - A conclusion.

TEXTBOOKS:

Cannon, Martin and others. 20th Century World History Course Companion. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009.

Goff, Richard and others. The Twentieth Century and Beyond, 7th ed. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2008.

Williamson, David. War and Peace-International Relations, 1919-39, 2nd ed. London: Hodder Murray, 2003.

Additional texts will be used during the course, as needed.

GRADING: Assignments are given a value that will lend itself to the cumulative total for the marking period. In the end, approximately 40% of the grade will be generated from homework assignments, classroom work, and writing assignments; 50% generated from tests & quizzes; 10% generated from classroom participation & preparedness. Homework assignments are due at the start of class, on the assigned due date; late homework will be accepted for ½ credit no greater than 1-day late. If a student is absent the day of a test or quiz, it is his/her responsibility to make it up the first day back from absence, at 7:45 AM (you will not be allowed to take the test during class, as you will be missing instruction).

DAILY REQUIREMENTS: Students should come prepared with their binder / notebook, any handouts that are being used, and a writing utensil (pen is preferred). Textbooks will only be needed in class on rare occasions (teacher will give notice).

CONTACT INFORMATION: Email is preferred: jmahn@buffaloschools.org. Messages can be left via the main office as well. I am available to students daily before first period in Room 263, or by appointment during planning periods.