PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE:
Welcome to Social Studies (World History) course. The purpose of this course is to develop skills for studying the events of the past and comparing the past with existing situations. Throughout this course, students will increase their ability to observe and analyze past civilizations in order to understand the ways of life of these people. In addition, students will extend their skills for researching information utilizing reference materials and a variety of media sources.

COURSE CONTENT AND TEXT:
The content of this course will be concerned with various historical periods of world civilization. We will concentrate on the following periods:

- **Ancient Civilizations** (Prehistory, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Hebrews, the Americas, China and India)
- **Classical Civilizations** (Ancient Greece and Rome)

We will be using for at home reading, Holt McDougal’s *World History: Ancient Civilizations*, supplemented with Oxford’s *The World in Ancient Times* series, and in class the interactive TCI program, *History Alive!* Students will also be maintaining an interactive notebook. Throughout the course we will view a variety of curriculum based documentaries from the History and Discovery Channels being rated as such that they do not require parent permission signatures. Should you have any concerns, or your child may be sensitive to historical re-enactments please contact me.

MATERIALS NEEDED:
2 spiral notebooks: 8 ½” x 11”, college ruled, 90 or more sheets (highly recommend: mead with nylon covering over the spiral) *one will be kept at home until 2nd semester*

*Supplies to keep in the classroom:*
12 glue sticks
2 pencils
1 highlighter
Facial tissues, or paper towels, or disinfecting wipes

*Supplies to keep at home:*
Colored pencils
Package of 3 x 5 index cards

**To help defray costs of copies of printed guides and art supplies that students will use throughout the course please consider a donation of $10. Your donation would be greatly appreciated as we experience increasing costs and the challenge of fewer resources. These optional donations are completely voluntary and will not negatively impact students’ access to materials or their grade in any way. If you are able to make a donation, please make the check payable to Pine View School; no cash will be accepted.
The textbook must be covered at ALL TIMES throughout the year.

Each unit will be presented through the following sequence of instruction:

1. **Text Readings and Study Questions:** Within each unit of study, students will read their text to build a background of information, gathering any questions they may have to bring with them to class discussions. There will be a series of study questions and assignments to be completed in class or as homework. Answers must be in complete sentence format to receive full credit.

2. **Class Discussions and Note Taking:** Students will have read background information in their text to help prepare them for a more in-depth study and class discussion. Students will take notes and periodic working quizzes or knowledge checks to review and help form study guides for tests. Please, check my website for due dates and homework information. Students must save all notes and handouts. There will be a comprehensive **final exam** at the end of the 4th quarter. **Students need material from the entire year in order to be successful.**

3. **Student Notebook:** The purpose of the notebook is to help the students to record, organize and process new information. It will enable them to be creative, independent thinkers and writers. The notebook will be used for class notes as well as other activities (in class and homework) where students will be asked to express their own ideas and process the information presented by this class. It is very important to keep an organized notebook.

4. **In Class Group Collaborations:** Students will periodically work in cooperative groups during class. Enabling them to synthesize unit topics or learned areas of content while assessing their progress and/or mastery. Individual and group grades will be earned.

**EVALUATION AND GRADING:**
The quarterly grade will be represented by a numerical average of grades from unit tests, chapter quizzes, knowledge checks, and homework.

- Tests 40%
- Quizzes and Knowledge Checks 35%
- Homework and Classwork 25%

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and prepared with all materials daily. Three unexcused tardies will result in a detention.

*Assignment Policies:*
Homework is not always assigned on a daily basis. Check the agenda or website to see when something is due.

Assignments not completed and turned in by roll call shall be considered late and will receive no higher grade than 50%. No credit will be given for assignments two or more days late. Late projects or long term assignments will lose a letter grade for each day they are not turned in. Tests, projects, and homework assignments turned in with no name on them will receive a 5% grade deduction.

In the event of an absence, it is the student’s responsibility to find out what was missed and to turn in any assignments upon their return.

**EXTRA ASSISTANCE AND MAKE-UP WORK:**
I am available for extra assistance and make-up work upon student’s request. Students must make an appointment a day or two in advance to come to the Social Studies classroom during lunch hour. Students have one day for each day they are absent to complete their assignments. Extended assignments (known in
advance), projects or tests are due the day upon their return to school. It is the student’s responsibility to complete all missed assignments, notes or tests. For planned absences a passport is required and must be obtained 3 days prior to the expected absence. You will receive your assignments and they are due before or upon the day of your return.

PARENT-TEACHER COMMUNICATION:
If you have any concerns or questions, please e-mail Alevtina.Lazareva@sarasotacountyschools.net (you can find a link on my website). I check my e-mail during school hours and will respond within two business days. You can also call the school 941-486-2001 and leave a message. I will contact you as soon as possible.

Please, check the agenda book or website for assignments, important dates and any other announcements.

APPROPRIATE STUDENT BEHAVIOR IS EXPECTED AT ALL TIMES.
The classroom rules are posted, explained and are consistently enforced. All inappropriate behaviors will be logged in the class book. Further action of a parent conference, detention or a referral will be implemented if needed.

Students should conduct themselves according to the guidelines in the Parent Student Handbook. The school’s progressive discipline policy will be followed. Upon signing this course expectation each student, parent and myself acknowledge support of Pine View’s Academic Honesty Code:

“I will uphold the honor code and I understand the consequences if I choose academic dishonesty. Not signing this code will not excuse me from consequences should I choose to be dishonest.”

Pine View and the 212º Philosophy
“The true measure of success is not to outdo others, but rather to outdo ourselves”. At Pine View and in my classroom, this message underscores our 212º philosophy. To be successful in my classroom, putting forth extra effort, the extra degree will have a guaranteed outcome—you will “outdo yourself”! By setting some personal academic goals in this class and then following a plan to achieve them, you will leave this course satisfied and proud of your accomplishments. Here are some examples of “going the extra degree”: participation in class discussion with enlightened and/or inspired responses, performances with an extra touch such as props, enthusiasm and encouragement for classmates, and ALWAYS, kindness toward others.

This letter is to be dated, signed by both the parent and the student, and is to be kept in a plastic sleeve located in the student’s binder all year for future reference. (Please do not detach.)

Sincerely,

Alevtina Lazareva

__________________________________________________________
Parent Signature

__________________________________________________________
Student Signature

__________________________________________________________
Date