

Spring 2020—Coffee House Project
10th Grade Humanities

Mr. Oscar

ocarrion@hightechhigh.org

Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 3:30-4:30 PM

“Coffee, the sober drink, the mighty nourishment of the brain, which unlike other spirits, heightens purity and lucidity; coffee, which clears the clouds of the imagination and their gloomy weight; which illuminates the reality of things suddenly with the flash of truth.”

—*Jules Michelet, French historian (1798-1874)*

Essential Question: What’s really in our cup?

Driving Questions: Is the global industry of coffee fair for all parties? Where does coffee come from and where does it end up? How did coffee become to be the second most traded resource in the world? How does our consumer culture affect our global neighbors?

This semester we will be taking a look at the powerful effects of coffee on society, community, and individuals. You, the student, will explore Modern World History by examining the globalized trading of this precious commodity through country profiles. Once becoming experts in that country, you will be writing historical fiction short stories to reveal to the reader how the coffee bean affects all parties involved in the process of growing, selling, and trading.

Using Jhumpa Lahiri, Mark Twain, Ta-Nehisi Coates and others as our models, you will be publishing these short stories and reading them at exhibition on March 19th in our student-built-and-run coffee house, in an attempt to lead discourse on the implications of our consumer culture. Let’s create not consume!!!

Materials Needed:

- Pens
- Dedicated Humanities Notebook
- Internet access at home

Project Deliverables:

- Designing and creating a coffee house on campus
- Writing, editing, and publishing an educational International Recipe Book

Humanities Deliverables:

- 5 page Research Paper - Is the situation fair for those involved in the coffee industry?
- Historical Fiction Short Story
- San Diego Coffee Shop Review
- Personal Resume

Honors:

Lexi and I will hold a weekly Wednesday meet-up at lunch for students who would like to further their knowledge and abilities in the field of Humanities. This will be a student-constructed course in the hopes that the students will get the most out of the history and/or writing involved.

Expectations:

- Respect for the space, people, and yourselves
- Full attention and engagement in class - no phones, unless prompted
- Headphones and music only during designated work time
- Transparent communication between teacher and student to ensure success for both parties
- Drive to create beautiful work, strive to make art

Grading:

- [Portfolio](#)* (Essays, Reading Logs, Reflections, Book Critiques, etc.): 50%
- Presence and exhibition: 25%
- Participation (mindset, collaboration, attendance/tardiness): 25%

*Portfolio System explained on my DP (ocarrion.weebly.com) under *Student and Parent Resources*.

Google Classroom will be used every day to post assignments, homework, and provide an electronic archive of your work this semester.

Humanities is a class to **learn about yourself and the world around you**. Be prepared to make mistakes, be prepared to grow, and be prepared for class everyday.

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____