

## HOMEWORK EXPECTATIONS AND GUIDELINES

The **first purpose** of homework here is to PRE-LEARN and/or REVIEW the ideas, vocabulary, and viewpoints we will cover in class. For example, if I asked *“Do you believe in capital punishment?”*, you may think *“what on earth is capital punishment?”* A class discussion would then be impossible. This is why it is better to do your basic learning in your homework. Class can be a lot more interesting and fun when everyone is prepared.

The **second purpose** of homework here is to help you create a STUDY GUIDE. All of your homework will be kept in ONE notebook devoted exclusively to homework. By doing your homework in this notebook, you will notice that within a few weeks you will have a useful collection of materials that you can use to prepare for the class exam. I may even allow you to use YOUR (not someone else’s) homework notebook on a one of our quizzes.

### The expectations and directions for exactly HOW to do the homework are as follows:

#### What you will need:

A **one-subject spiral notebook** for ONLY THIS class. You will ONLY do your homework in this notebook, you will NOT put class notes or any other information in this notebook. Your daily class materials should be kept in another notebook or binder. On the front of your homework notebook you should write the subject of this class + homework (example- *Global Homework Notebook*) and your name.

#### How to do your homework:

##### **Basic Information**

Each homework should begin with the **homework assignment number** (Example HW# 10) and date written clearly at the top. A separate page MUST be used for each homework assignment. DO NOT begin a homework assignment on the back of a page.

**Grading.** Grading of each assignment is simple. A complete homework receives 10 points indicated as a (✓). An incomplete assignment means any homework that does not have the questions written, have missing questions and answers, or contain very little details or little effort. An incomplete homework assignment receives HALF-CREDIT (✓-). You only have ONE opportunity to do homework completely and correctly. You may NOT resubmit or redo your homework.

**All homework MUST be handwritten.** Let me explain why. Many students find it too tempting to copy and paste information from online or a friends work. It is also extremely important that you continue to hone your ability to write neatly and clearly. Whether it be for the Regents Exam Essay or a job interview, writing is by far STILL one of the most important skills a student can possess.

**All homework questions MUST be written.** Let me explain why. By writing the questions, your homework notebook will be much more accessible for using as a study guide later on. For example, if a student DIDN'T write the questions, later on when they attempt to use their homework notebook to study for an exam, they may have no idea what a particular answer was referring to. *“He was sent to the island of St. Helena where he spent the rest of his days”* is a very vague statement! Who was? What does this have to with your upcoming exam? By having written the question *“Explain the events leading to the downfall of Napoleon Bonaparte”*, the context becomes much clearer.

**Length and content.** In order to receive credit, there must be a sufficient amount of effort evident for each answer. This is hard to generalize for the variety of homework tasks and answers you will encounter during the semester. Generally speaking, a question must be answered with at least one paragraph (4-6 sentences). Definitions or terms must be answered with two sentences (definitely not two words!). Pictures or cartoons should reflect that some time was invested in creating it- using color, a collage or printout (if drawing is a problem for you), and attention to detail. See the HW rubric for more information.

#### How your homework will be checked:

You will be required to have your homework notebook with you EVERY DAY but it is especially important to have the it on the last day our class meets each week in order to receive credit for the homework. **Your homework will be checked on the last day our class meets each week.** For example, E band doesn't meet Friday so homework will be checked on Thursday.

#### Lateness policy:

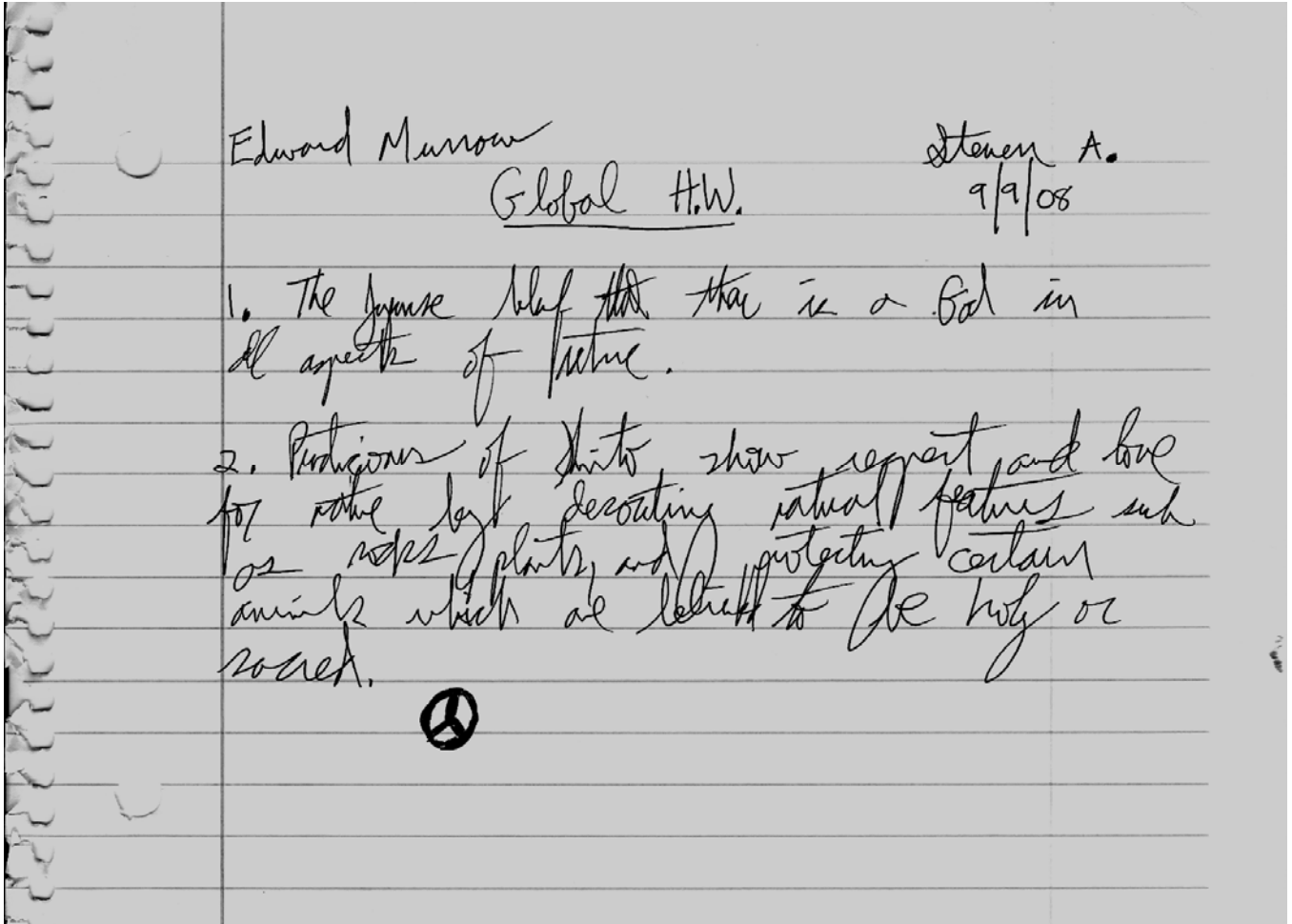
Over the years I have tried just about every possible policy for homework. What I have found is that allowing late homework (*even with penalties*) subconsciously sends this message to students: *“It’s okay not to get your homework done tonight, you can just make it up tomorrow ☺”*. This is the reason why **NO LATE HOMEWORK IS ACCEPTED**. If it is that important to you to get a good grade in this class, then GET AHEAD in your homework so you never take a chance that you will be late. You have the homework sheet so go get it done!

**What if I am absent on the day it is due?** If you are absent, you MUST show me your absence note in order for me to accept the homework. **The procedure is to show me your absence note the day you return back to school WITH your homework.** Please DO NOT ask me to give you credit for homework if you do not follow this procedure!

# HW Rubric

<b>✓ = (10 points)</b>	This HW shows "serious effort" including "extensive" answers to all aspects of the HW. Answers provide specific details, citing "numerous examples". This HW will also be neat, have a stapled copy of the designated assignment (or written questions), and be stapled to any other included material. Proper grammar and spelling should also be apparent in this HW.
<b>✓- = (5 points)</b>	This assignment may not have the questions written, may have <u>missing questions and answers</u> , or contain <u>very little details</u> or <u>little effort</u> .
<b>No Credit</b>	This HW will either have failed to answer all required tasks, or provide no examples or details. The assignment may have been copied (plagiarism) or have completely disregarded the directions for the assignment.

## ***You be the teacher!***



1. Find at least five problems with the above student homework.

- Problem 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- Problem 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- Problem 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- Problem 4. \_\_\_\_\_
- Problem 5. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Based on the HW sheet and rubric, give the student a grade on the above homework assignment.

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Make some observations about the model HW sheet(s) that are being passed around.

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