What Are Human Rights?

Year-long Project: Action Research Project.

**Unit 1 – Philosophical Foundations of Societies & Global HR**
Classes 1 – 17 (17 classes) (8/28-10/9)
**Essential Questions:** Upon what philosophies are societies formed and how do they connect to Human Rights?
**Readings:** Excerpts from Global Philosophers from Plato to Xiarong Li
**Main Project:** Position Paper #1
**Other Assessed work:** Seminar, U1 Demo; written reading responses; Honors current events
First Assessment period ends 10/9.

Other important information: Conferences: October 14 & 15

**Unit 2 - The History and Web of Structures of Global Human Rights**
Classes 18 – 32 - 15 classes (10/10 – 11/20)
**Essential Question:** What local and global structures have societies created to uphold human rights?
**Readings:** Local, National and International organizations, both governmental and NGOs.
**Main Projects:** Position Paper #2; Human Rights Web Project
**Other Assessed work:** U2 Demo; written reading responses; Honors current events

Second Assessment period ends 12/18. Your first semester assessment will be based on your work for Units 1 & 2.

**Unit 3 – Global State of Human Rights for Societies and Individuals**
Classes 33 – 58 - 26 classes (11/21 – 2/12)
**Essential Question:** What constitutes a Human Rights violation?
**Readings:** Opposing viewpoints on a range of issues of justice & equity ranging from genocide to euthanasia to treatment of individuals and communities
**Main Projects:** Public Service Announcement; Opinion Editorial
**Other Assessed work:** U3 Demos; written reading responses; Honors current events

Other important information: Last Parent Conferences: January 30 & 31

**Unit 4 – HR Responsibilities, Actions & Solutions**
Classes 59-73 - 15 classes (2/13 – 3/21)
**Essential Question:** What are my responsibilities as a member of a functioning society?
**Main Project:** Action Research Project
**Other Assessed work:** Honors current events

Final Assessment period ends 3/21
Guest Speakers: Union Mission Rescue; Rape Treatment Center; Program for Torture Victims;

Readings:
Unit I - Philosophical Foundations
1. Summer Work - Introduction to Human Rights in the World Community, Richard P Claude & Burns H. Weston, eds
2. Plato
3. Aristotle
4. Confucius
5. Mo Tzu
6. Buddha
7. Kant
8. Aquinas
9. Rousseau
10. Mill
11. Gandhi
12. Abdullahi (An-naim)
13. Xiaorong Li
Unit II - Structures
14. Michael Walzer Humanitarianism
15. Justice_at_Dachua
16. Postwar_Wrangling
17. United Nations
18. Defining_HR_too_Broadly
19. The_International_Criminal_Court
20. ICC_Article
21. NYT_ICC
22. NGO Viewpoints

*Site Visit Days:

HR 1 - Mondays & Fridays before school until 10:50 (W/ advisor permission)
  - Tuesdays - 12:15 (lunch) until 2:15
HR 2 - Mondays 10:55 through lunch 12:55/Friday 10:55 - 12:40
  - Tuesdays leave school at 2:20.
HR 3 - Mondays - lunch 12:15 - 2:15
  - Thursday before school until 10:50 (W/ advisor permission)
HR 4 - Mondays leave school at 2:20.
  - Wednesdays - leave school at 11:10
  - Thursdays - 10:55 through lunch 12:55

All students who have completed their internships can always visit their sites on Wednesdays.