SEPTEMBER 11TH TO THE PRESENT

COURSE SYLLABUS
THE END OF THE INNOCENCE

Remember when the days were long
And rolled beneath a deep blue sky
Didn't have a care in the world
With mommy and daddy standin' by
But "happily ever after" fails
And we've been poisoned by these fairy tales
The lawyers dwell on small details
Since daddy had to fly

But I know a place where we can go
That's still untouched by men
We'll sit and watch the clouds roll by
And the tall grass wave in the wind
You can lay your head back on the ground
And let your hair fall all around me
Offer up your best defense
But this is the end
This is the end of the innocence

Who knows how long this will last
Now we've come so far, so fast
But, somewhere back there in the dust
That same small town in each of us
I need to remember this
So baby give me just one kiss
And let me take a long last look
Before we say goodbye

O' beautiful, for spacious skies
But now those skies are threatening
They're beating plowshares into swords
For this tired old man that we elected king
Armchair warriors often fail
And we've been poisoned by these fairy tales
The lawyers clean up all details
Since daddy had to lie

Just lay your head back on the ground
And let your hair fall all around me
Offer up your best defense
But this is the end
This is the end of the innocence

DON HENLEY / BRUCE HORNSBY – 1989
End of the Innocence – Geffen Records
SEPT. 11 TO THE PRESENT

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001
7:59 AM - Colgan Air Flight 5930 departs Logan Airport, Portland, Maine in route to Boston, MA.
As many of you know, I began teaching a course at Linganore High School in the spring of 2002 called National and Global Issues.

The course was heavily affected by the events of 9/11 and remained so for the 15 years that followed. As the years went by more and more students entered the class knowing less and less about that day and the impact it was continuing to have on domestic and international geopolitics. For those of us who are older, it was like watching our collective memory being overtaken by youth.

For years I wondered what it would be like to offer a class that began it’s studies at 8:46 AM on 9-11-2001 and chronologically traced the events forward into time. Finding no examples of such a class being offered elsewhere, I endeavored to create one.

Now, on this 15th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on America, I and many of my colleagues who have helped, are proud to offer this “pilot” course – a bit of a work in progress. It is my deepest hope that it will deepen your understanding of the world around you and an event you barely recall.

Mr. Hornbeck
COURSE INFORMATION

Teacher: Mr. Hornbeck / Room: A229 / Email: darren.hornbeck@fcps.org / Phone: 240-566-9952 /
Book: The 9/11 Report – A Graphic Adaptation by Sid Jacobson and Ernie Colon

Course Website: september11tothepresent.weebly.com

Additional Sources: Online open source materials from various news organizations, journalists, authors, and artists. These include but are not limited to, CNN, NBC, ABC, CBS, RT, Al Jazeera, PBS, NPR, The History Channel, The Washington Post, The New York Times, The Intercept, The Guardian, Newsweek, Time, CSPAN, Democracy Now, Radio Lab, Test Tube, Newsy, The AP, and many more. Significant attention will be paid to accuracy and bias.

Relevant Films and Documentaries: The class will also screen various motion pictures related to the curriculum. A potential list is included on the course website. Some films are rated R and require parent permission. A signature form will be provided.

Amazon Fire: All students will receive, free of charge, an Amazon Fire tablet to use and take home for the duration of the course. They are provided through a generous grant from the National Education Association, and matching funds from FCPS. The purpose of the tablet is to allow the user to access many of the online sites listed above, download readings, worksheets, and assignments, and follow along with each day’s lessons. All presentations will be posted online. The Fire was selected for its increased level of privacy afforded to the end user. There will be limited use of Google Apps for Education during the course. A permission packet will be provided.
CLASSROOM MATERIALS
a listing of what you will need to bring each day

- Bring your Amazon Fire fully charged each day. A typical charge lasts for 7 hours, but you should remember to charge it up each night. A few charging stations will be located throughout the room in case you need one.

- Bring a notebook. Although all lessons will be posted online – and you may follow along with your tablet – you will still need to write down specific information as you learn it.

- Bring pens and pencils. Extra are available upon request.

- Bring an open mind. This course will provide you with various opinions and multiple points of view, especially in regard to American policies following 2001. Having an open mind does not require agreement – it merely means that you consider the views of others, and, in the end, make up your own mind, and support your opinions with logic and facts.

THE VALUE OF CONVERSATION

As you learn about the events of the last 15 years, I encourage you to reach out to the people around you who remember it, including your parents, family, friends, and other faculty. Talk about what you are learning – and get the opinions of others.
HOW GRADES ARE DETERMINED
understanding how to earn the highest grade possible

Your term grade is made up of scores you earn on the coursework assigned throughout the term. Tests are worth 100 points, with one exam given per unit. Other assignments are generally worth between 25-40 points. There will be many interactive assignments offered throughout the course. You may ask for your grade at any time or consult HAC for the most current average.

At the end of the term your grade will be determined by dividing the total number of points you have earned by the total number of points possible to arrive at a percentage. The percentage will fall into the categories above.

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<th>LETTER GRADE</th>
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STUDENT CHOICE

Many of the assignments in this course allow you to select from various options.

Some selections are of a more graphic nature than others, and some are more “hands-on” while others are more artistic.

Your choice of assignment will not affect your grade. All are weighted equally.
Content Note

By its nature, this course will often deal with graphic and disturbing content. If any aspect of the class bothers you (either in policy or subject matter) please don’t hesitate to talk to me about it. If you feel disturbed by anything in our studies or discussions, please bring it to my attention. This may be done during our class time or in private either before or after class if you like.

Alternative assignments are available for every unit and activity. Please do not hesitate to ask for one.
WHY THIS COURSE IS NOT DEFINITIVE HISTORY

While more than a decade has passed since 2001 we are still unraveling the true narrative of what happened on 9/11 and the events that followed. As years go by more and more information is declassified, giving us a fuller understanding of the event and our reactions to it.

This course is designed to give us an “open source” snapshot of what we currently know – it is not intended to be the final word on history.

How did we kill Osama Bin Laden? What was the Saudi role in the attacks? What is the full nature of drone warfare? As the years go by the “history” of our time will be written.

Here’s what we know so far...
A BLENDED EXPERIENCE
how this class will be taught

This course will be using a “blended learning” approach to education. This means that learning will take place through traditional means such as lecture with PowerPoints, Notebook slides, etc. but much of it will also take place online both inside and outside of the class-room. These include interactive readings, video, graphics and website exploration. Much of the material may be downloaded while on the school’s data network for use offline.

If internet access poses a problem either here or at home, notify me ASAP and we will make alternative arrangements. It is your job to use your tablet for academic use only as per the signed agreement. See me if you have questions or wish to download an app that is not on the list.

AUTHENTIC LEARNING
and assessments

Built into this course are a variety of real-world assignments that ask you to voluntarily interview people, visit places, and build things. These experiences, if you choose to do them may often count as assignment grades or even be counted as part of test grades. Such activities are part of student choice, and you are encouraged to select only the one’s that best fit your personality and style of learning.
BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

a listing of what is expected of you.

- **RESPECT:** Respect for yourself, fellow students and the teacher is necessary in the classroom. Each class member is a valuable individual and should be treated as such; therefore, interrupting or disrespecting fellow class members will not be tolerated. In this room you are respected for who you are, and the same is expected of you.

- **HONESTY:** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Copying assignments or test answers from another student or taking someone’s work and passing it off as your own will result in a zero for the assignment.

- **TIMELINESS:** You are expected to be on time to class, AND turn your assignments in on time as well. Late assignments may result in a lower grade and continued lateness will result in a referral.

- **CELL PHONES / ELECTRONICS:** Your tablet is to be used for academic purposes only. You may not use it for gaming or visiting social media of any kind. You may not use it to visit inappropriate websites here or at home. Cell phones will not be necessary in the class and must be put away, inside your book bag. Violation of these policies will result in having your phone and tablet taken from you and forwarded to administration.

- **BATHROOM:** You have adequate time to visit the restroom on your way to class. Restroom passes are given sparingly and only for emergencies.

- **CONSEQUENCES:** For the first offense you will be given a verbal warning. For the second, you will have an after-school conference. Subsequent offenses will result in a parent contact and/or referral.
THE MEDIA ROOM: As an added bonus to the course, a small media center adjacent to the classroom has been established. This area contains a small collection of books and movies (DVD and Blu-Ray) from the teacher’s own personal collection. These materials may be voluntarily checked out by students enrolled in the class. A complete listing of films is available on the class website and a printed list of books is available upon request.

These films and books are not part of the FCPS or LHS library system nor are they endorsed as such. The collection is not intended to be part of the curriculum but is offered as voluntary enrichment for students who want it. A variety of materials, created from multiple viewpoints are available and the inclusion of any item should not be construed as a validation by the teacher or the school system of its contents. Some films are rated “R” and parent permission is required for checkout and viewing. A permission form is included in this package.
UNITS OF STUDY
a listing of the seven units for this course

SCAN HERE FOR DETAILS

THE PATH TO 9/11
WORLD RELIGIONS
AFGHANISTAN / PAKISTAN
THE WAR IN IRAQ
EVOLUTION OF DRONES
HUMAN RIGHTS
SURVEILLANCE
Useful Links

Class Webpage
Direct link to the class homepage / Contains descriptions about each unit and key questions to be answered.

Permission Slips
Downloadable permission slips for tablet, internet policies, motion pictures, and media coverage. Also in this packet.

About the Pilot / BOE Approval
Read more about our pilot and view, via web link, the FCPS BOE meeting at which the course was approved.

All of the above pages are available in hard-copy by request. Permission slips are already included in this packet.

Photo Credits

- Cover – Support “Forks” of the World Trade Center / Associated Press
- Page 3 – Empire State Building and World Trade Center / AP Photo, Photographer Marty Lederhandler
- Page 4 – World Trade Center Burning / Associated Press
- Page 5 – Pentagon, SE Corner / Released by U.S. Navy
- Page 6 – Raising flag at WTC / Photographer Thomas E. Franklin
- Page 7 – Rock Marks Crash of United 93 in Shanksville, PA / AP Photo Photographer, Gene J. Puskar
- Page 8 – World Trade Center from Space / USGS
- Page 9 – Pentagon (top), WTC (bottom) before and after photos / Flicker
- Page 10 – George W. Bush and Barbara Bush at United 93 Crash Site / White House Photo
- Page 11 – Memorial Lights / Photographer , Anthony Quintano
- Below – Robert Peraza, who lost his son Robert D. Peraza, pauses at his son’s name at the North Pool of the 9/11 Memorial / Getty