

## ***The Blank Canvas: The World & HECGG***

### ***What is Expeditionary Learning?***

Expeditionary Learning fosters curiosity about the world by creating learning situations that provide something important to think about, time to experiment, and time to make sense of what is observed.

### ***How does expeditionary learning impact our classroom?***

Everything we do, from current events, to blogs and guest speakers connects to the real world. Why are minerals and non-renewable resources such as diamonds important to South Africa's economy? What role does oil (nonrenewable) play in the Middle East? These driving questions lead to the discovery of answers that help us better understand HECGG and how the world works.

### ***Implementing the critical/analytical thinking component...***

While constructing The Blank Canvas, think about "why" the information being shared is important. Be sure to explain the importance of each piece of data and information shared. Help the viewer understand a bar graph by creating a caption that helps connect the numbers to the real world. Find pictures that tell a story and are supplemented by a caption. Create a timeline that highlights world changing events, and explain how the event redefined or reshaped a culture, culture region, or the world.

### ***Topics of interest...***

What should be included in The Blank Canvas? A quick overview of the ***Power Points & Videos*** page will help with focusing on specifics. In addition, the ***Objectives*** page covers all of the key concepts learned throughout the year. In addition, the ***Blog*** can help teams focus in on specific topics as well. Each of the ***projects*** completed in class can also be incorporated in some capacity into the project.

### ***Planning the process...***

Each member of the team should first discuss their expertise or topics of interest. Determine how many parts the canvas will be broken into. What will be the backdrop to the canvas? Think about Mrreggio.com and the banner Mr. Reggio created for his web page. Do you see a theme that could be jumping point for the blank canvas? The planning stages of the project are the most important. Establish the direction of the group project and delegate responsibilities to each member.

### ***Construction...***

A total of 8 class periods will be given to plan and construct the canvas. Each class session should be used constructively. Remember, lost time is wasted time. The Blank Canvas is not intended to be constructed outside of class time, however, research time may be needed outside of class to help gather and assemble materials needed for the canvas. Each member of the team plays an important part.