

Online Photo/Video Parent Release Form:

I maintain a website for my Modern World History classes at <http://www.martinsaphug.com>

This website enables students to:

- ❖ access course content
- ❖ conduct course related research
- ❖ engage in course relevant online discussions
- ❖ receive regular updates regarding course-related events and assignments

The primary function of the class website and blog is to serve as an easy way for students and parents to access course material, review our course calendar, as well as to assist students conduct online research in our many projects. Often, I will make posts on the website about content that students find interesting in class discussions, but we do not have the time to cover in class. I will be frequently post additional course content to the website only, and will expect students to access this information online and complete a related assignment.

Most importantly, I use my website as a tool for students to conduct research and publish their work for other students to see and use. For instance, I will often have students research a specific topic and create a publish a webpage linked to our course site. When doing so, students can "tag" this page with any related keywords, which makes the page visible to other students who are researching a similar topic.

My website enables students to register and set up an account, which requires a that they have a username and password. When creating your username, it is useful for me to use students' first name and last initial. These account names are visible on the website as students post content or leave comments.

Also, students have the option of uploading a very small picture that will show up beside their posts, This is not at all mandatory. In my experience, however, I have found that this feature increases the rate that students frequent the site, increasing its overall effectiveness as a tool to help my students succeed.

Students with accounts will be able to comment on posts, such as asking a question about a particular assignment. This is encouraged as it makes the question and answer available to all of my students. This also takes the learning and class discussion online in a format that is likely very familiar to my students.

As an aside, all students are automatically sent emails whenever I post new information on the website. Parents are also encouraged to subscribe to the website. To do so, simply go to the website and enter your email where it says Subscribe to RSS. This will send you an email update whenever the site is updated with a homework assignment or class presentation. This enables the parents to know homework assignments for their students. I can also create parent accounts so that you will see and receive the exact communication I send to students. If you would like this, please email me: jdmartin@bcps.k12.md.us

Students must review this material with their parent/guardian and have it signed before I will create an account for them. By creating accounts, students are linked into a network of fellow students where they can publish their work, learn from each other, and extend their study in ways that might not otherwise be possible. However, if you choose for your student to not have an account, it will not affect their grade or access to material in any way.



Please detach and return to Mr. Martin

I _____ (Parent's Name) parent/guardian of _____ (Student's Name) give permission for my child to create an account on www.martinsaphug.com. I give my child permission to upload a small (40 x 40 pixels) avatar image on the website that might be visible to the public. I understand that some assignments will be published to the website for other students to access, which might be visible to the public.

_____ Parent's Signature _____ date _____ Parent's Phone #

_____ Parent's Email (please print)

_____ Student's Signature _____ date