

World Geography Syllabus

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Course Description:

The study of World Geography focuses on the relationships among people, places, and environments that result in geographic patterns on Earth. The students will use geographic methods to compare and analyze landforms, climates, and natural resources, as well as cultural, political, economic, and religious characteristics of world regions. Students will use a variety of interdisciplinary sources, both primary and secondary, such as maps, pictures, and documents to learn about the geography of different world regions.

Major Learner Outcomes:

- * Students will analyze the major landforms, climates, and ecosystems of Earth and the interrelated processes that produce them.
- * Students will demonstrate knowledge of geographical information and present this knowledge in a variety of assessment formats, which include essay compositions, document analysis, project-based research, written tests and quizzes, cooperative grouping and decision-making simulations, and other performances based activities.
- * Students will be able to detect the role of cause and effect in understanding historical events and examine their effects on the development of our modern government
- * Students will demonstrate knowledge of **current social problems, global economic interdependence, governmental processes, and the characteristics of culture.**
- * Students will demonstrate technological competency by producing and presenting Web based project that reflects mastery of basic computer skills. Access to the Internet will also be utilized to enrich available governmental information.

Style of Course:

This year-long course will be taught according to the blended model. Research has demonstrated that students need to participate in authentic, self-created learning experiences in order to be prepared for college and future careers. Students will participate in traditional classroom activities as well as online activities such as

discussion boards, self-paced assignments, and collaborative projects. Students are encouraged to bring their own technology devices, and I will assist them in learning how to utilize such devices appropriately for educational/professional activities. Access to devices will also be provided in class.

Sequence:

- 1.Introduction to Geography
- 2.Review of Maps, Graphs, and Charts Skills
- 3.Physical Geography
- 4.Human Geography/Demography
- 5.United States & Canada
- 6.Latin America
- 7.Europe
- 8.Russia and the Republics
- 9.Middle East, North Africa, Central Asia
- 10.Sub Saharan Africa
- 11.South Asia
- 12.East Asia
- 13.Southeast Asia
- 14.Oceania
- 15.Final (Atlas)

Unit Details

Each unit builds approximately the same way:

- * Introductory Video (goal: to build background knowledge)
- * Vocabulary (goal: to build foundations)
- * Vocabulary Quiz (**Daily Grade**-goal to assess progress)
- * Maps (**Double Daily Grade**- must be sketched- keep for final project goal: to build knowledge)
- * Lecture Quiz (**Daily Grade**- open notes- goal: to assess progress)
- * Classroom Discussion (**Double Daily Grade**- to apply knowledge)
- * Review Sheet (optional)
- * Test and Essay (**Test Grade**: final assessment)

Quizzes are meant to show student progress toward the final unit assessment. If quiz grades are low, please check that student is completing the assignments, studying the material, and/or attending tutorials.

Materials:

- * Box of Tissues for the classroom (please write your name of the bottom)
- * Map pencils
- * Blue, and Black Ink Pens
- * Color Pencils for mapping
- * 1 brad folder to be used as your portfolio (end of the year for Atlas-you will get back)
- * 1 inch binder with 6 dividers
- * pencils
- * 180 page spiral with card board covers

Current Events:

This a social studies class. The news is filled with relevant matters at the international, national, state, and local levels. You should make an effort to keep conversant with what is going on and how it relates to the subject we are studying. You will be required to watch one of the reputable daily world news programs on television, or read a daily world news paper to keep in touch with the events that unfold daily. We will have *daily* class discussions to support current events fluency, and students will earn critical participation points through this activity.

Grading Criteria:

Tests, and Quizzes, 30%

Daily Work, Homework, Class Participation 30%

Major Projects 30%

Final Exam 10%

A three-ring binder is required and will be used to help students stay organized, compile work produced, use as reference/study guides, and assess at the end of the semester. It should be organized with the following dividers.

1. Question of the Day/Current events
2. Notes
3. Maps
4. Assignments
5. Tests/Quizzes
6. Projects/Misc.

Rubric

Unless *otherwise stated* when evaluating responses for **essays** and **discussions**, we use the basic Scoring Standard of:

- . **5- Exceeds Expectations** equivalent to a 100
**easy to read, clear, wow factor, mastery, sophisticated, complex*
- . **4- Meets Expectation** equivalent to 90.

**simplistic, topical, mechanical, a level of vagueness, generally acceptable*

3--Somewhat Meets Expectations equivalent to 80

** inconsistent, incomplete, meager, oversimplified, unedited*

2--Barely Meets Expectations equivalent to 70

** inept, mechanically unsound, just a passing reference to the task*

1- Did Not Meet Expectations equivalent to below 70

A Note on Respect

We will explore many different viewpoints this year. Not all of them will align with your own. However, we will learn and practice respecting all persons, their thoughts, ideas, and property-This policy includes anyone who enters our classroom at any time during the year. Should you disagree with any opinions put forth during a discussion, you must do so respectfully. For example you might say, "I appreciate your opinion, however, my opinion is..." All conversation must adhere to this policy, in class and online.

Digital Citizenship Skills and Expectations

- Electronic devices are to be used in the classroom for **class-related activities only** and at the discretion of the teacher. Texting, gaming, or accessing social media during class time will not be tolerated. If in doubt, ask.
- All district guidelines stated in the student handbook will be followed. ie. Devices will be taken up and turned in to the office, and \$15 must be paid to the Business Office.
- Student work should be original and authentic. Plagiarized work will not be accepted and will result in a score of "zero." Honor Code action may also be taken for instances of plagiarism.

Classroom Expectations

1. Be respectful to the classroom environment and people in it.
2. No electronic devices as per school rules, unless instructed otherwise by the teacher.
3. Students must be in seats when bell rings or will be tardy.
4. Students will be ready with appropriate writing material (pen, pencil, paper) for all classes.
5. Students are responsible to check webpage, and follow up on missed assignments and/or material when absent. If absence is an excused out, student will be allowed the amount of days they were not of class to turn in.
6. Students will get an opportunity to retake any regional quizzes before school or during A Lunch Tuesday and Thursday in my classroom.

Consequences

These are the consequences for students who are disruptive or are not following the expectations.

1. Warning/ discussion with student who are disruptive or are not following the expectations.
2. Written Reflections/sentences on the expectation not being followed.
3. Parent Notification phone call of behavior.
4. Parent/ Student Conference
5. Referral to Assistant Principal

Student Name _____ Student Signature _____

Parent Name _____ Parent Signature _____

Parent email _____ Parent Phone _____