

Geography

(Semester 1)

Course Syllabus 2023-2024

Instructor: Mr. McPhillips

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Text: *World Cultures and Geography, National Geographic, 2016*

Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the study of the world through the geographic perspective. The course will study the impacts and major themes of geography. The acquiring of map skills, understanding of the environmental, cultural, and economic differences of various regions around the world. The different government structures of major societies around the world and develop a further knowledge of the impact globalization has on our world today.

Course Objectives:

- 1) Students will understand the five themes of geography and how they relate to life on Earth.
- 2) Students will acquire map skills and be able to locate places using different techniques.
- 3) Students will understand the environmental, cultural, and economic differences of various regions of the World.
- 4) Students will be aware of the major types of governments and religions of the major societies of the world.
- 5) Students will further their knowledge of the impact that Globalization has on Human Geography

Grading Policy:

Summative (Tests, Papers, Projects, Quizzes): 60% of Quarter Grade

Formative (Homework, Classwork): 40% of Quarter Grade

Semester 1: 45% Q1, 45% Q2, 10% Final Exam

Semester 2: 45% Q3, 45% Q4, 10% Final Exam

Communication: I am happy to assist students with questions outside of the classroom, and I encourage every student to self-advocate for themselves if they are in need of clarification. The best way to contact me is through my email address at any time of the day. I try to respond to this as quickly as possible.

Late/Missing Work: Any academic work turned in late will not receive full credit. Work will be accepted for a maximum of 70% up until the day of a unit test. Work cannot be submitted once the test for that unit has been completed.

Excused absence work will fall in line with school policy and will not be considered late. If work is turned in after the grace period given, it will be considered late. All electronic work must also be submitted **before** the class period. (If not it is considered to be late.)

IT IS ALWAYS BETTER TO MAKE UP MISSING WORK.

Cheating- DO NOT DO IT! If cheating, suspected cheating, or attempted cheating takes place you will receive an automatic zero on the assignment and appropriate disciplinary action.*** (Includes talking during a test)***

Plagiarism- Plagiarism falls under the cheating category. Any text that is borrowed, quoted, or otherwise included from an outside source must be cited or its inclusion is considered plagiarism. If plagiarism occurs, you will receive a zero and will be further dealt with in accordance with school policy. If you do not know what plagiarism is in regards to an assignment, please ask.

General Guidelines:

1. You will not be marked tardy if you are in your seat when the bell rings. If you are not in your seat, only a signed note from a teacher will excuse the tardy.
2. Students will be expected to use the restroom before or after class. If it is an emergency, students will be allowed to use the restroom on the condition that they come in after school to make up for the lost time.
3. Everyone will be better off if only one person talks at a time.
4. Don't be afraid to ask questions, particularly if something seems difficult.
5. Read the material before the assigned class period.
6. Be careful with all classroom materials, especially your books. Take your materials with you after class including garbage, to keep the room clean.
7. Bring your own pens, papers, books, etc. every day.
8. Remember that your performance and behavior in this class is your responsibility and yours alone. A major part of maturity is accepting responsibility without blaming other people.

9. Things happen in life that do not appear to be fair from all perspectives---this classroom is no exception. Not everything will always seem fair to everyone, but part of growing up is learning to understand and deal with it.
10. Not everything in class can necessarily be made up. Please try to be here and complete any absent work as soon as possible.
11. All of you are talented enough to do the assigned work without any help from each other. If you need help with completing an assignment I am more than willing to answer questions before the assignment is due. "Working together" does not mean sharing answers. All of your work should reflect your own individual expression of the subject matter and should not be rephrased or copied off someone else.
12. In group projects and activities, all members of the group are expected to contribute equally to the overall success of the project.
13. In this room, students are graded on production, not talent. Be prepared to prove yourselves over and over again but always keep in mind that I want you to do well.

Student Signature: _____.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____.