



World Geography

Mr. Harper

charper@ems-isd.net

Remind Code: (download app on phone) Text 81010 to @watsonmi OR <https://www.remind.com/join/watsonmi>

Conference Period: 9:15-10:10

Tutoring Opportunities: T/TH 7:45am-8:35 am or by appointment

Class Materials:

- School Issued Laptop
- Binder – primarily for in class learners, however virtual learners who have access to printers may want to print out resources and materials to use for review later.
- In class: Loose-leaf paper/ Virtual: Be sure to save ALL documents. May want to write some things on notebook paper as a precautionary method in case technology fails.
- Writing utensils (pens and/or pencils)
- Students will use Odysseyware at link [emsisd.owschools.com](https://www.emsisd.owschools.com) - login: Username: First initial (first name) Last name; Password: student ID number
 - Ex: Username: Charper Password: 333333
- [Launchpad.classlink.com/ems](https://launchpad.classlink.com/ems) - Login: (Same as login for computer) Username: Student number Password: First initial first name capitalized, first initial last name capitalized, Birthday with 4-digit year.
 - Ex: Username: 333333 Password: JB052019XX
 - This will allow students access to Canvas, skyward, Microsoft teams and email.
 - Students will be prompted to change their password upon first sign in WRITE IT DOWN.
- World Geography can be completed on Odysseyware.

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment. (Same launchpad website listed above).

Course Description:

In World Geography Studies, students examine people, places, and environments at local, regional, national, and international scales from the spatial and ecological perspectives of geography. Students describe the influence of geography on events of the past and present with emphasis on contemporary issues. A significant portion of the course centers around the physical processes that shape patterns in the physical environment; the characteristics of major landforms, climates, and ecosystems and their interrelationships; the political, economic, and social processes that shape cultural patterns of regions; types and patterns of settlement; the distribution and movement of the world population; relationships among people, places, and environments; and the concept of region. Students analyze how location affects economic activities in different economic systems. Students identify the processes that influence political divisions of the planet and analyze how different points of view affect the development of public policies. Students compare how components of culture shape the characteristics of regions and analyze the impact of technology and human modifications on the physical environment. Students use problem-solving and decision-making skills to ask and answer geographic questions.

Course Goals:

Students who complete these courses successfully will be able to:

- Read, understand, infer, and draw conclusions about grade level social studies material
- Report to high school the following year

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- **Participation (Minor grade 40%):** Students are expected to complete work on time, follow assignment directions, offer their thoughts and ideas during class reading discussions (which can also be completed virtually), and contribute to group discussions and assignments.
- **Daily Written Work (Minor grade 40%):** Students will complete various writing assignments and activities. All assignments will be considered for grading.
- **Tests/Projects/Book Reports (Major grade 60%)** Any exams or summative assessments.
- **Quizzes (Major grade 60%)**
- **Reteach/Redo** - The following are the criteria regarding the retest procedures for major grades. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades (i.e., summative assessments, projects, and other identified major grades, and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test given last week of six weeks, and semester final examinations). Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%. This is a one-time reteach and retest, unless, at departmental/course discretion, they feel it is important to continue to reteach for mastery and then reassess for higher levels of mastery. The student must make the request to redo the major assignment or retake the test for which he/she earned a failing grade within 3 days of the failing grade being posted in Family Access. The student, at teacher discretion, may be required to attend tutorials prior to the opportunity to redo/retest. The number of tutorials or reteach opportunities is determined by the teacher. The teacher will determine the redo/retest due dates based upon the assignment/assessment length and/or timeline for tutorials/reteach. The assessment may be of an alternative variety from the original assignment/assessment as long as it is coverage of the same TEKS and at the same level of cognition as the original assessment. The highest available grade on the retest for a failing grade is a 70%. The opportunity to retest is a one-time offering per assessment. Regarding passing grades, The District is invested in and values students learning at the highest levels by demonstrating mastery with as much of the content as possible. Therefore, the following retest option is available for students who passed a major graded assignment or assessment and earned a grade of 70-84 the opportunity to retest based upon the following criteria: The student must make the request to redo the summative assessment for which he/she earned a passing grade within 3 days of the original passing grade of 70- 84 being posted in Family Access. The student, at teacher discretion, may be required to attend tutorials prior to the opportunity to retest on a summative assessment. The number of tutorials or reteach opportunities is determined by the teacher. The teacher will determine the redo/retest due dates based upon the time- line for tutorials/reteach. The summative assignment/assessment may be of an alternative variety from the original assessment as long as it is coverage of the same TEKS and at the same level of cognition as the original assessment. The highest available grade on the redo/retest of a passed major graded assignment or assessment for an initial grade of 70-84 is an 85. The opportunity to redo/retest on a passed major graded assignment or assessment is a one-time offering per assignment/assessment. Reteaching and redo/reassessing provisions do not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-weeks test given last week of six weeks, and semester final examinations.

In class Policies/Expectations:

- Arrive to class on time.
- Students must bring their laptop and charger to class every day. Students will use a combination of online work and paper instruction. A recorded video orientation will be completed during the first week of school.
- Assignments are due on the due date, not after. The date each assignment is due will be made clear when the assignment is given.
- If you are absent, **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE UP ANY MISSED ASSIGNMENTS.**

- Teachers will be available from 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. Parents can reach teachers through email, Odysseyware, Canvas, Microsoft TEAMS, REMIND app, and through phone calls.
- If forced to quarantine, students will follow virtual policies listed below (if physically able to complete work).

Virtual Policies/Expectations:

- Students are expected to log on by 10am. **ALL DAILY COURSEWORK IS DUE BY 3:35 PM.** If it is not turned in by this time it is considered late!! Assignment due dates will be made clear when assignments are given.
- Students will complete all work online. They will use a combination of Odysseyware and Canvas. A recorded video orientation will be completed during the first week of school.
- Students who have not logged in at all by the end of the school day are considered absent. It is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE UP ANY MISSED ASSIGNMENTS.
- Teacher will be available from 7:45 am to 3:45 pm. Students can reach the teacher through email, Odysseyware, Canvas, Microsoft TEAMS, and/or the REMIND app. Parents can reach teachers through the same platforms and through phone calls.
- If forced to return to school at any time, students will follow in class policies listed above.

Classroom Expectations:

- Treat everyone and everything with RESPECT and Kindness.
- No cellphones! Cellphones are distracting. During the school day please limit your cellphone use. In class, cell phones will be taken if students cannot self-limit use.
- Stay ALERT! Stay AWAKE! Participate!
- Keep your papers, materials, and laptop clean and well kept.
- Be on time to class.
- Ask questions when you do not understand what is being taught.
- Schedule Tutorials when needed.
- Complete assignments, so your understanding improves.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

- **First six weeks:** Introduction to World Geography
- **Second six weeks:** The Australia Realm & SE Asia/Eastern Europe
- **Third six weeks:** S. Asia/Russia & The Republics/Europe
- **Fourth six weeks:** Europe/SW Asia, N. Africa & Central Asia
- **Fifth six weeks:** Africa South of the Sahara
- **Sixth six weeks:** Latin America/N. America

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.