



World Geography

Mr. Travis Applegate

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Tutorials: 8:20-8:50am or 4:20-4:50pm (at school and by appt)

Email me for a different time for tutorial if needed

Vision

To become a geo-literate citizen that uses geography as a discipline to be relevant to your life in solving problems and building a global perspective.

Tardies:

Our time in class together is valuable, so please be in class on time and ready to participate. Penalties for tardies are the following:

3rd Tardy: Warning

4th Tardy: Parent Contact by AP

5th Tardy: After school detention

6th Tardy: SAC Assignment

Electronic Devices:

While EMSISD is a BYOD district that supports the use of electronic devices to help further students learning, the district policy regarding the use of these devices will be strictly adhered to. These rules are as follows:

- "These devices must remain turned off during instructional class time...unless they are being used for approved instructional purposes."
- "If a student uses a telecommunications device without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated. The parent may pick up the confiscated telecommunications device from the principal's office for a fee of \$15."

For more information on the use of electronic devices, please see pg. 53-54 Of the EMS ISD.

Supplies:

- ✓ College Rule Notebook (Please no Composition notebooks if possible)
- ✓ Pens (blue or black ink)
- ✓ #2 pencils (may be mechanical if desired)
- ✓ Highlighters

Classroom Donations:

If you are able to donate the following items for the classroom to use, it would be greatly appreciated:

- ✓ Facial Tissues!!! PLEASE
- ✓ Hand Sanitizer

Weekly Homework:

Students will be required to complete weekly homework tasks. These tasks will draw on the skills and knowledge the students have developed over the course and will address current issues and events. This homework is important to ensure students are developing critical thinking as well as an awareness of the world in which they are living. This will not be the only homework they may be given but is expected to be completed.

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 this course successfully will be able to address the following questions:

- How does geography help us interpret the past, understand the present, and plan for the future?
- How do physical processes shape the earth's surface?
- How is climate important to life on earth?
- How do the characteristics and distribution of human populations affect human and physical systems?
- How do physical systems and human systems shape a place?

EXPECTATIONS IN THE CLASSROOM

- Upon entering the classroom, you will immediately begin to work quietly on the Bellwork that will be either on the white board or the Promethean Board.
- Everyone is to respect anyone which enters the classroom. Anyone who disrespects anyone else will go through the discipline policy located in the SHS Student Handbook.

Assignment Guidelines

- Turn all assignments in ON TIME.
- Write neatly - If I can't read it, I can't grade it.
- Always put your name and period on your work – no name = no grade.
- If you know you're going to be absent on the due date, let me know.

Student Evaluation

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Semester exams will count 1/7 of the semester grade
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student’s conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), “The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.
- Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

Make-Up Work

- You will have time equal to the days you were absent from class plus **one** day to complete all missed assignments.
- Make up tests will be administered before or after school to prevent you from missing additional class time. (You must make arrangements for transportation.)
- Work, including tests, assigned prior to an absence is due on the first day you return.
- Remember that you are responsible for all information covered during class when you are absent. This includes notes, exam dates, assignments, handouts, special topics of discussion, group and individual work, projects, and special announcements.

Retesting (aka Redo/Reteach) Failing Grades

- 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 teacher will determine the redo/retest due dates based upon the assignment/assessment length and/or timeline for tutorials/reteach.
- Re-tests will be done before and after school only.
- The assessment may be of an alternative variety from the original assignment/assessment as long as it covers 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 and does not apply to minor grades!
- Students will ONLY be allowed to retest if effort was given on the original assessment. **Grades of zero are NOT permitted to be changed by retesting.**

ABSENCES/ATTENDANCE: Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education—to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day’s learning on the previous day’s, and to grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student’s mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. Two state laws—one dealing with the required presence of school-

aged children in school, e.g., compulsory attendance, the other with how a student's attendance affects the award of a student's final grade or course credit—are of special interest to students and parents.

Retesting (aka Redo-Reteach) Passing Grades

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 is 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 teacher will determine the redo/retest due dates based upon the time-line for tutorials/reteach.
- Re-Tests will be done before and after school only
- The summative assignment/assessment may be of an alternative variety from the original assessment as long as it covers 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.

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.

Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

1. Unit 1 – Intro to World Geography
2. Unit 2 – North and South America
3. Unit 3 – Europe and Russia
4. Unit 4 – SW Asia, North Africa, and Central Asia
5. Unit 5 – Sub-Sahara Africa
6. Unit 6 – South and Southeast Asia
7. Unit 7 – East Asia and Oceania

Grading Period	Assigned Readings/Projects/Exams/Presentations/Major Assignments	Due Date
Each Unit	District Common Assessments will occur at the end of each Unit	End of each unit (Units 4 & 5 will test at the end of 4th Six Weeks)
Each Unit	Students will undertake 3 CERs minimum each 6 week period	Each 6 weeks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are required to complete a <u>minimum of 3 major grades and 4 minor grades</u> each 6 week period. Teachers will ensure that students receive at least 1 weeks notice for major grade due dates. Minor grades can include anything ranging from quizzes to class participation. 	

Agreeing to Policy

This syllabus will be due on Canvas by the conclusion of this weekend (August 20th at 4:19pm). You need to click on the post which has the syllabus and write a submission back to me stating, **"I have read and agreed with the syllabus' expectations."**