



## **World Cultures & Geography**

Coach Bronaugh

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**Conference Period:** 6th Period

**Tutoring Opportunities:** Monday 7:45-8:15 by appointment only and Wednesday 7:45-8:15

### **Class Materials:**

- Three Ring Binder (All subjects with divider for Social Studies)
- Pencil/ Paper
- Map pencils/markers/crayons (only brought to class when asked)
- Additional supplies may be needed for special projects throughout the year.
- Tissue
- Hand sanitizer

Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our Single Sign-on Portal (SSO). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

**Course Description:** World Cultures & Geography is designed as a study of the people and places of the contemporary world, this course is built on the Social Studies strands: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science and technology and social studies skills. The content, as appropriate for the grade level, includes an assortment of written, visual and auditory, primary and secondary sources.

Pre-AP World Cultures & Geography is designed to meet the needs of the district's more advanced students, this course is a study of the people and places of the contemporary world, this course is built on the Social Studies strands: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science and technology and social studies skills. Students will read and interpret primary and secondary source documents, sharpen writing and research skills and/or to develop creative projects for historical periods covered. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP Program.

### **Course Goals:**

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

- Examine methods used by geographers to study and compare regions, including the use of demographic data, economic indicators, maps and photographs, cultural characteristics, characteristics of government, and physical features
- Identify and locate major landforms, bodies of water, countries, and population centers
- Identify, locate, and describe the Earth's major climate types and ecosystems
- Analyze how physical processes change and shape the Earth's surface



- Investigate the characteristics of the world's culture regions, analyze how cultural diffusion occurs, and describe the factors that can cause cultures to change
- Examine the causes and effects of human modifications on the environment, and discuss modern environmental issues
- Use social studies skills to access, interpret, and apply information from a variety of sources 2 Student

### **Student Evaluation:**

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor (Advanced courses 70% Major 30% 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%.

### **Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:**

Students should come to class ready and prepared to get better at learning each day. I am not only teaching social studies, but how to apply techniques they learn such as note taking, critical thinking, and debating to real life situations.

**Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:** Work will be constantly assessed and evaluated in multiple ways. Late work will be subject to a penalty per district policy pending the assignment. Students will know ahead of time the due dates and possible penalty for work turned in late. Reassessment will be continuous through the various 6 weeks. When absent, excused or unexcused, it is the students' responsibility to ask for what was covered during their absence. If a student misses any work, then they will have an opportunity to get the information that was covered and any work that was missed. This work will be given the same amount of time to complete as those that got it prior. As for work that was assigned before the absence, it will be due upon the students return to class.

### **Classroom Expectations:**

- **RESPECT:** All students will respect themselves, their community members and their learning environment.
- **READINESS:** All students must attend class every day & be ready to actively participate in daily activities.
- **RESPONSIBILITY:** All students must accept responsibility for themselves and their actions.



### **Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments**

- Unit 1.1 Physical Geography (14 days)
- Unit 1.2 Processes Shaping the Earth (10 days)
- Unit 2.1 People & Nature (10 days)
- Unit 2.2 Aspects of Culture (9 days)
- Unit 2.3 Cultural Regions (5 days)
- Unit 3.1 Demography (10 days)
- Unit 3.2 Migration (15 days)
- Unit 3.3 Cultural Diffusion (10 days)
- Unit 4.1 Historical Change (9 days)
- Unit 4.2 Types of Government (10 days)
- Unit 4.3 Borders & Powers (8 days)
- Unit 5.1 Political Processes & Citizenships (10 days)
- Unit 5.2 Economic Systems (10 days)
- Unit 5.3 Economic Development (9 days)
- Unit 6/7 Challenges of Globalization & Current Events/Projects (22 days)

### **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, which 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.