

Geography and World Cultures Syllabus

COURSE OVERVIEW: Holt, Rinehart, Winston *People, Places, And Change* textbook acquaints the student with the geography, history, economics and cultures of Asian, African and Middle East regions of the world. The seventh grade curriculum is a continuation of the sixth grade curriculum and builds on the skills and knowledge students acquired last year. The course is designed to teach students varied skills while teaching the required topics to meet state performance standards. This is going to be an exciting and fun year in which students will participate in many “hands on” activities and will be active participants in their learning process. Many class activities will be done in cooperative groups to allow students the opportunity to help each other learn as well as developing good character traits.

COURSE GOALS: ALL STUDENTS will work toward being able to:

1. Develop a greater appreciation for the cultural diversity of the people who make up the world community.
2. Make wise and informed decisions in political and civic affairs.
3. Use research skills to locate appropriate historical information.
4. Select, interpret, and analyze information and draw valid conclusions on the basis of evidence.
5. Organize ideas and information into acceptable written patterns.
6. Assume more personal responsibilities in the learning process.

COURSE SCHEDULE: The following units will be covered.

1st semester – Geography, Southwest Asia (Middle East), Central Asia, and Africa

2nd semester – Africa, South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia.

GRADING POLICIES: STUDENTS are responsible for their own grades. Students are graded based on the quality of their work, class participation, and personal conduct. Extra credit is determined by the teacher and in all fairness, will normally be offered as a class wide option. There is no extra credit if a student has not completed all assigned work. Therefore do the work assigned, participate in class, and follow the expectations for class.

1. Grading scale for report cards: A = 90 - 100 B = 80 - 89 C = 70 - 79 F = below 70
2. Tests will normally occur after each unit of study. However, test dates will be announced at least three days prior to the test. Quizzes may occur at any time.
3. Missing a test review does not excuse a student from the test on its assigned day.
4. Arrangements for make up work (class work, tests, homework, and projects) for an excused absence must be done within three days of returning to school and completed within five days, afterwards the missing assignments become "late work". Due to the nature of some classroom assignments, make up work may not be the same as the original assignment. Remember it is your responsibility to make the arrangements.
5. Assignments not turned in (NTI) will be considered "late work" and be subject to the late work policy and grade reduction.
6. All homework is due at the start of class. If not submitted then, it is considered late and graded as "late work". If a student is absent (excused) on the day it is due, then it is due at the beginning of class on the day of return.
7. Late work policy: 30 point reduction for the first day late, an additional 10 points for the second day, and an additional 10 points for the third day. No late work will be accepted after the third day.
8. You will be required to keep a notebook which will contain all work, notes, and warm-ups for each nine weeks. Notebooks are subject to random checks along with your agenda book.

SAFETY NETS: Whenever you don't understand or if you need help with your work:

- Look back at your notes or textbook.
- Request a peer tutor be assigned.
- Request teacher's help during the Work Period
- Stay after school for help.

Let's have a great year!

Mr. Register

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Classroom rituals and routines

Beginning Class

- Come to class on time. Being late for class is unacceptable without an excuse that has the time, reason and signature of school personnel.
- Enter class quietly and take your assigned seat.
- Take out materials needed for class-pencil, notebook, textbook, assignment, agenda book, etc. Begin work immediately on the "DO NOW". You only have 5 minutes to complete!
- Read and listen to "LESSON STEPS".

Assignments

- Make sure your paper is headed correctly – NO NAME NO GRADE!
- When turning in work place work in the basket by the door unless instructed otherwise.
- Unless you are absent you are expected to turn in your work when it is due.
- If you MUST be absent, you are responsible for checking assignments that you missed.

Out-of-Seat Policy

- Raise your hand and get permission to leave your seat for anything.
- Only one person at the pencil sharpener. (Come to class with at least 2 sharpened pencils.)
- Only one person at materials storage.
- Only one person at bookcases.

Classroom Activities

- When working individually work quietly and do not disturb others.
- During group work use a 1 inch voice. If I can hear you, you are too loud.
- Absolutely, positively DO NOT TALK while the teacher is talking.

Leaving the Classroom

- Bathroom breaks, water, locker trips, etc. must be done during times reserved for these activities. If you have special situations please bring a note from home. When we leave the classroom together line up single file, on the designated side of the hall, behind the designated leader, and move silently through the hall, DO NOT TALK and KEEP YOUR HANDS TO YOURSELF.
- No one leaves class without permission and signing the "sign out board" located by the door.
- Class is dismissed by rows by me, not by the bell.

Disruptive behavior consequences

1. Teacher counseling/silent lunch
2. Team meeting with student
3. Parent contact
4. Team timeout
5. Parent conference
6. Office referral- Administrative detention/ISS/suspension

Disrespect, destruction of property, or violence is an automatic office referral.

Syllabus is to be kept in the front of your notebook.

