Joplin High School

World Geography Syllabus

Mrs. Yen

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**Course Description:**

In this class we will be examining and exploring the world we live in through the lens of geography. This involves understanding how physical and human processes shape the earth along with examining the different regions in the world through the 5 themes of geography (location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region).

**Course Goals/Objectives: (Common Course Standards)**

1. Use geographic tools to acquire, process, and report information about people, places, and environments from a spatial perspective.
2. Compare and contrast the physical, cultural, human characteristics of places and regions on Earth.
3. Solve problems effectively by characterizing a problem through identification of variables and relationships and moving to a solution.
4. Analyze the causes and effects of population change on the characteristics, distribution, and complexity of Earth’s diverse populations and cultures, including the impact of demographics and the fact that they are constantly shifting.
5. Analyze the patterns and networks of economic interdependence between places and regions on Earth.
6. Analyze how the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of the Earth’s surface.
7. Analyze the interaction between humans and the physical environment.
8. Use geographic studies (e.g., demographics) to interpret the past and present and to plan or predict future events.

**Topics Covered:**

1. Geography Essentials
2. Physical and Human Geography
3. Regions of the world
   1. North America
   2. South America
   3. Europe & Eurasia
   4. North Africa/Middle East
   5. Sub-Sahara Africa
   6. Southeast Asia

**The Rule:**

**Respect yourself and everyone in the classroom.** This includes my right to teach and your classmates right to learn. No put downs of other people based on their race, religion, ethnic background, skin color, native language, gender, sexual preference, intelligence, body shape, or body size.

**Class Expectations:**

1. Actively and appropriately participate in class
2. Be responsible for your actions
3. Follow school handbook

**Grading Policy:**

I grade on point system where each assignment is worth a certain number of points and those points from each assignment are averaged together to form your grade.

A 90% - 100%

B 80% - 89%

C 70% - 79%

D 60% - 69%

F 0% - 59%

In this course I will be evaluating you on your content knowledge and your behavior/participation. This means that on assignments you will receive 2 grades one content grade and one behavior grade. The content portion of every assignment will be 90% of the grade and the behavior portion will be 10% of the grade for any particular assignment. There can also be assignments like tests and quizzes, which are only, content points and some assignments and activities that are only behavior/participation grades. There is more information about my grading policy located on my website in the resources section.

**Late Work and Make-up Work**

Late work will be accepted up to the time semester grades are due. Assignments due in 1st or 3rd quarter and can be turned in for full credit up to 1 week before the quarter for full credit and for half-credit after that quarter up to 1 week before the semester is over.

It is your responsibility to get your makeup work when you come back to class. All class work and assignments will be posted on the class website. Please make sure to check the class work and assignment section of the website for the weekly postings. In general you have 2 days to complete any make-up you have. If you need more time, please come talk to me about it.

**Tutoring:**

It is my goal to help you become successful students and people, so I try to have time every week scheduled to open for any tutoring or help that you need. Even if you just need a space to work and collaborate, I want to do what I can facilitate that. I will post my weekly tutoring/slash open classroom schedule on the calendar located on the geography page of my website.

**Communication:**

I believe that communication is vital to having a classroom that will work for all us and allow us to learn and work together. I encourage you to communicate with me about your life, our class, and whatever else you feel you need to communicate with me. I will be doing the same with you. I will also encourage parent communication and will be reaching out to your parents/guardians about what is happening in class. You can make an appointment to meet with me before or after school or you can email me, which can be faster.