



Course Syllabus 2023 - 2024

COURSE TITLE: World Geography and Cultures

COURSE NUMBER: 2103010

CREDIT: 1.0

TEACHER INFORMATION

Teacher Name: Jennifer Padron

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Email: Padron@schoolhouseprep.com

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Designed to introduce students to the study of geography, this course helps students master important concepts in physical and human geography. Comprehensive and organized by region, this two-semester middle school course helps students understand the Earth's physical and human diversity. Students analyze population and settlement patterns and evaluate the ways that human activities modify the physical environment. While studying humans around the world, students compare development, standards of living, systems of government, and economic factors across the globe. In addition, students gain a rich understanding of global cultures and the historical factors that have shaped the world around them. All units in the course are parallel and include studies in physical and human geography, ancient cultures, regional studies, and modern issues.

COURSE GOALS/OBJECTIVES:

Throughout the course, you will meet the following goals:

- 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

HOMEWORK/ CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Homework is an essential part of the school program. Teachers assign homework in order to provide extra practice and to encourage further learning thereby reinforcing academic progress. It is recommended that all students keep a **"HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT JOURNAL."** Students ARE Allowed to make-up missing assignments and Exams with an excused absence. Make-Up assignments must be turned in by the date assigned by the teacher. Late assignments will not be accepted and the student will receive a "0".

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

If administration finds that a student is caught cheating, plagiarizing, and/or misrepresenting work, a "0" will be issued for the work in question. Such student will be placed on a probationary contract which states that the student will be expelled if a second offense arises.

GRADING POLICY:

Tests, quizzes, student participation, classwork, homework, reports and assignments will all be applied to the student's final grade for the quarter. Students will receive a minimum of nine (9) grades per quarter/marking period. Tests are announced in advance and posted on the portal. Study guides are provided for each test and reviewed in class as well as posted on the portal.

WEIGHT: Tests: 2 Grades; Quizzes: 1 Grade; Participation: 1 Grade per quarter; Classwork: 1 Weekly Average Grade; Homework: 1 Weekly Average grade; Midterm Exam: 3 Grades averaged into 2nd quarter grade; Final Exam: 3 Grades averaged into 4th quarter grade.

INTERIM REPORTS:

Interim reports will be issued midway through each quarter only for students who are NOT making adequate progress.

REPORT CARDS:

Report cards will be issued every nine weeks for a total of 4 quarterly report cards per academic year. The Report Card reflects a student's grade in a subject area for that quarter as well as a quarterly GPA. The Midterm exam grade is averaged into the 2nd Quarter Grade. The Final exam grade is averaged into the 4th Quarter Grade. The Final Grade is the average of all 4 Quarters.

MLA FORMAT

All reports submitted for this course should be headed in standard MLA Format. Students will learn MLA format in this course and will be expected to use it throughout the year. All reports should use the heading example as shown below:

Student's Name
Teacher Name
Course Name and Number
Date

GRADING SCALE

Schoolhouse Preparatory uses an unweighted 4.0 point grading scale

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Qualitative Points</u>
A+	97 – 100	4.0
A	93 – 96	4.0
A-	90 – 92	3.7
B+	87 – 89	3.3
B	83 – 86	3.0
B-	80 – 82	2.7
C+	77 – 79	2.3
C	73 – 76	2.0
C-	70- 72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.3
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	0.7
F	59	0.0

HONOR ROLL: At the end of each grading period, an honor roll list of students is published based on grades. In order to be considered for the Honor Roll, students must have a satisfactory attendance and discipline record. The Honor Roll identifies two types of achievement:

- Principal's Honor Roll = Straight A's.
- Honor Roll = All A's and a maximum of 2 B's.

Note: A student receiving a grade of F in a midterm or final examination will forfeit the honor roll for the marking period.

MISSED ASSIGNMENTS FOR EXCUSED ABSENCES: Students with Excused Absences are responsible for turning assignments by the due date issued by the teacher. Assignments not turned in by the due date will be counted as a "0". It is their responsibility to confer with the teacher concerning makeup work and tests. Assignments are posted on each teacher's homepage on the portal www.schoolhouseportal.com. Students will receive a zero for any assignments not turned in. **Students with unexcused absences will not be allowed to turn in assignments.**

PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to be in class by the first bell for all class periods. Late arrivals will not be permitted into the class and sent to the office. Students need to be in their Homeroom Class by 8:20 am. Students with 9 or more unexcused tardies or absences in a semester will receive an (N) in the report card.

Reporting Absences:

If you will be absent for the day, it is your responsibility to text your homeroom teacher or the office before 9:00 am to be counted as an excused absence.