

World Cultures and Geography

COURSE OUTLINE

TERM 1:

Unit 1 – Introduction to Geography: Physical and Human Geography
Unit 2 – Understanding Culture and the Basic Institutions of Society (Government and Economics)

TERM 2: Unit 3 – United States and Canada: Discovery, Democracy, and Diversity
Unit 4 – Latin America: Conquest, Colonialism, and Converging Cultures

TERM 3: Unit 5 – Europe: Lasting Legacies and Current Challenges
Unit 6 – Southwest Asia and North Africa (SWANA): Religion and Rivalries
Unit 7 – Sub-Saharan Africa: Natural Resource and Nationalism

TERM 4: Unit 7 – (continued)
Unit 8 – Asia (South, East, Southeast): Past, Progress, and Population Patterns
Unit 9 – Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica: Adapting to Life Down Under

LATE WORK:

Students who fail to turn in work on the due date will lose points

The RTMS late work deductions is as follows:

- 10 points per day for five (5) days.
- 15 points per day for three (3) days for ACC

In addition, parents will NOT be contacted for the first missing or late daily assignment.

(I encourage you and your child to check Schoology and Skyward DAILY for important dates and assignments.)

Parents will be contacted if a major grade assignment is a second day late. Please ask for clarification if you have questions about the late work deductions.

Students will be assigned homework for practice and to prepare for tests and quizzes. It is the student's responsibility to write down any and all assignments and their due dates in their notebooks.

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

3-subject spiral notebook with pockets*
Pens (blue or black)
Pencils (standard)
Colored pencils
Tape (several rolls throughout the year)

*Each student is required to have a 3-subject spiral notebook that can be dedicated exclusively to our Social Studies class. Please do not purchase a 1-subject notebook (it will not be big enough). Do not purchase a 5-subject notebook to share with another class. A composition notebook is just too small for our purposes. Thank you.

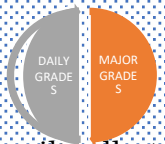
We work very closely with our classes to help teach them organizational skills and good study habits they can carry with them throughout middle and high school. In order to be most successful, it is super-important that they are prepared for class every day (both online and in person). We will have one daily grade each grading period based on students' organization of Social Studies materials in their SS notebook.

GRADES:

All graded assignments –
Classwork, homework, upcoming tests and quizzes, and major grade projects will be thoroughly explained in class. Materials to support major grade assignments (such as project rubrics, teacher examples, and test reviews) will be posted in Schoology.

As per FBISD, middle school teachers will collect a minimum of 3 major grades and 9 daily grades per student during each 9-week term.

Major grades count for $\frac{1}{2}$ of a student's overall weighted average. In turn, daily grades count for the other $\frac{1}{2}$ of a student's weighted average. Formative assessments do not effect overall weighted average but are a very important part of student feedback. We will use the Schoology gradebook although Skyward is the official gradebook.





HOMEWORK

STUDENTS WILL BE ASSIGNED HOMEWORK FOR PRACTICE AND TO PREPARE FOR TESTS AND QUIZZES. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO WRITE DOWN ANY AND ALL ASSIGNMENTS AND THEIR DUE DATES IN THEIR NOTEBOOKS.

MAKE-UP WORK:

When a student is absent, it is THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT to obtain and complete any missed work, notes, or assignments. There will be a "Master Spiral" available for copying any notes taken in class. Also, students should check the "absent box" for missed handouts and graded work that was handed back. If you are absent more than 2 days, please email me for your missed assignments.

Please remember -

If you were absent for 1 day, you get 1 day to make up missed assignments...If you were absent 2 days, you get 2 days to make up your missed assignments...etc.

If you were absent on the date an assignment was due, you should be prepared to turn in that assignment on the date you return to school. If you were absent on a test/quiz day, you will take it the day you return.

TEXTBOOK:



Title - World Cultures and Geography: McGrawHillEducation, 2016

Hardcopies of the textbook will not be issued to students. There is a class-set of textbooks for use in class at school. In addition, there is an on-line version of the textbook available.

FBISD Social Studies Curriculum department is currently working with McGraw-Hill, to set up digital access to our online textbook that can be accessed through 1Link and Schoology. We have been told that those instructions are forthcoming. I am happy to keep you posted on the status of digital access, but again.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read through this information. I know it is a lot, so if you have any questions, please contact me. I am happy to clarify at any time.

Sincerely,

DR. RILEY

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