

World Geography Studies Syllabus



2021 - 2022 School Year

Instructor Information

Instructor

Mr. Barrera

Email

Salvador.Barrera@houstonisd.org

Office Location

Room 2211

Office Hours

Monday 7:20 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.

Wednesday 7:20 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.

General Information

Description

Geography is the study of places and the relationships between people and their environments. This is an introductory course into geographical terms, theory, and functioning that will assist the student in comprehending the complex relationship and influences between people and their environments.

Objectives

By the end of the course the student shall be able to:

- Define & analyze concepts from world geography studies
- Recognize the impacts that geography has on human migration
- Create their own world geographic product
- Evaluate the credibility of sources from world geography
- Describe governmental and economic systems
- Analyze the impact of culture on individuals and groups
- Describe the impacts that technology and science has had in the 21st century

Attendance & Participation

Attendance and participation are required; it is difficult to learn the content if you are not present in class. Your class participation and attendance can be a deciding factor if your class average straddles two grades. Be sure to see me about any missed work if you are absent.

*The student will be marked absent if he/she misses a significant portion of class (undocumented).

Classroom Expectations

1. Be respectful towards others
2. Be ready to participate in class discussion
3. Be receptive towards distinct thoughts
4. Be on time to class
5. BE WHAT YOU ARE, OVER-ACHIEVING!

Student Evaluation

Classwork

30%

Assessments

35%

Homework

15%

Quizzes

20%

Semester Course Assignments

- 32 Class Assignments (1 per week) based on weekly content
- 32 Quizzes (1 per week) based on weekly content
- 2 Group Project (Duration of EACH Semester)
- 6 Participation Grade (1 per 6-week cycle)
- 6 Content Based Assessment
- 2 Final Exam Review
- 2 Final Exam
- Extra-credit opportunities offered

Course Materials

Required Materials

- Laptop
- The HUB
- Pencil

Unit Overviews

Unit One

This unit serves as a review of geographic tools such as maps, mental maps, and other data tools. Students will learn the five themes of geography and they will be introduced to the geographic standards related to the World in Spatial Terms and Places/Regions.

Unit Two

This unit explores the geographic elements of Physical systems and addresses the processes that shape the earth's surface as well as significant landforms, ecosystems and other physical aspects of places. Human systems will also be introduced as students learn settlement patterns, population, demographics, places, regions, and cultures.

Unit Three

This unit examines how humans adapt to, depend on and modify the physical environment in which they settle. It also explores the impact that the physical environment has on the human systems within that space. Region: North America

Unit Four

This unit explores settlement patterns, routes of migration, and distribution patterns, including urbanization, as people began to locate themselves in a physical environment and add a human dimension to the characteristics of a place. Region: Latin America

Unit Five

This unit attempts to answer the question: What is culture? It also explores how cultural traits spread from place to place. Region: Europe.

Unit Six

By examining religion as one particular aspect of the cultural mosaic, this unit will explore how culture influences people's perceptions. Region: SW Asia

Unit Seven

This unit explores the development of political systems and divisions. As humans settled together in larger and larger groups the need for rules and laws emerged and humans began to form systems of government and various political divisions on the earth's surface. Region: Africa/Russia

Unit 8

This unit compares regional government systems and extends this comparison to examination of how political and social factors often lead to conflict and efforts toward cooperation among people and nations. Region: Asia

Unit 9

This unit explores how humans develop economic systems and how economic activity is dependent on available human and physical resources and the management, use, and distribution of those resources. Also, students will use data to compare levels of development and the relationship between availability of resources and economic disparity. Region: South Asia

Unit 10

In this unit, students will summarize the course by revisiting the concept of region and summarizing characteristics and current issues in 21st century world regions, including the impact of globalization on interdependence among those regions.

I have read and understand the requirements to be successful in Mr. Torres’s Pre-AP World Geography class.

Additional Information and Resources

Teacher Welcoming Note

It is my distinct pleasure to invite all of you into my classroom to explore this vast and never-ending field of study that is world geography. We will be working together this semester to guarantee that you come out of my classroom knowing as much about world geography as possible. The most important expectations are that hard work, accountability, and respect are fundamental. My number 1 goal is the gaining of knowledge and success of my students. I hope to get to know every one of you, and together work towards a successful school year.

***Instructor reserves the right to modify syllabus as needed.

Student Printed Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Printed Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent contact info (phone number/email) _____

Parents/Guardian: Please add any **optional information** you would like to share to help ensure your scholar will be successful.

