World Geography Syllabus

S.P. Waltrip High School 2022 - 2023



Instructor Information

Instructor

Email

M. Martinez Mario.martinez@houstonisd.org

Office Location & Hours

Room 1132

Conference Period: 8th Period

General Information

Course Content

Over the course of the school year, scholars will examine people, places, and environments at local, regional, national, and international scales from the spatial and ecological perspectives of geography. They will be able to describe the influence of geography on events of the past and present. Additionally, they will focus on how economic, social, political, and environmental processes shape processes such as regional cultural patterns and settlement patterns, and the relationship between the physical environment and climates and ecosystems. Scholars will be expected to use problem-solving and decision-making skills to develop their knowledge and mastery of geography skills.

Expectations and Goals

Learning is an active process that requires active engagement and participation. As a scholar, and young adult, you will be expected to practice the behaviors that you would desire from your friends, family, and neighbors. Occasional and commonplace lapses of judgement are expected and will be met with warnings, conversations, or both. It is expected that scholars will heed any warnings given. Failure to do so will result in consequences that include office referrals or after school detention. Disrespect, inappropriate and disruptive behavior will not be tolerated.

About the Teacher

I was born and raised in Houston, TX and am a proud alum of Waltrip High School, having graduated as part of the class of 2009. Following that, I graduated from Arizona State University with a B.A. and MEd. Prior to teaching, I worked as a legal assistant at an immigration law firm specializing in employment-based immigration. In my spare time, I enjoy listening to music, reading, playing video games and tabletop role-playing games (i.e., Dungeons and Dragons), and traveling.

Assignments and Grading

The assignments given to scholars will vary from participatory to graded. It is expected that scholars will complete all assignments with the expectation that it will be graded, as all work given is done with the intent to prepare scholars for exams.

Scholars must keep track of missing assignments. They will be expected to talk to the teacher about missing work as soon as possible and will turn in all missing and late assignments before the last day of the grading period. Any assignment still missing at the end of a grading period will be given a O grade in the grade book.

If a scholar receives a grade lower than a 70, they are invited to redo the assignment.

Extra Credit can be provided upon request.

Grading Scale

Classwork		30%	
Quiz		20%	
Exams/Projects		35%	
Homework		15%	
Passing = 100 - 80%	At Risk of Failing = 79 - 7	0%	Failing = 69 - Below

Technology Policy

Unless otherwise instructed, all technology, which includes cell phones, headphones, smart watches, and laptops, are to be stowed away during class. If a scholar has any unneeded technology out during class, they will be reminded once to put the device away. If they continue to use the device, it will be picked up and put away until the end of class, at which point it will be returned to the scholar.

If a scholar continues to have unneeded technology out during multiple class periods, the device will be confiscated until the end of the school day, at which point it will be returned to the scholar.

Should the use of technology in class remain a problem, a conference between the teacher with the scholar and parent/guardian will be requested.

Course Materials

Required Materials

- Laptop/Charger
- Pen/Pencil
- Notebook (three ring binder)

Unit Overview

Unit	Topic	
Unit 1	The World in Spatial Terms	
Unit 2	Physical Systems	
Unit 3	Environment and Society	
Unit 4	Population and Migration	

Unit	Topic	
Unit 5	Social/Cultural - Defining Culture	
Unit 6	Social/Cultural - Religion	
Unit 7	Political Systems	
Unit 8	Sources of Conflict and Cooperation	
Unit 9	Economic Systems	
Unit 10	Examining Economic Disparity	
Unit 11	Regionalization and Globalization	
Unit 12	Inquiry	

Additional Information and Resources

Tutorials

If a student requires tutorials, they can request it at any time and schedule with the teacher. Tutorials will only be available after school.