Lee High School

Social Studies Department

S. Jolly Room 317

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**Course Syllabus and Protocol for World Geography**

**Course Description**

* World Geography is a year-long course designed to provide students with a basic understanding of and interrelationship between physical and human geography. Instruction is in accordance with the content standards set forth by Lee High School, Social Studies grade 9.

**Learning Objectives**

* Learn and review geographic tools such as maps, graphs and charts
* Locate places of contemporary geopolitical significance on a map
* Understand the processes that shape the earth’s surface as well as significant landforms, ecosystems and other physical aspects of places.
* Describe the physical processes that affect the environment, including weather, tectonic forces, erosion, and soil-building
* Examine how humans adapt to, depend on and modify the physical environment in which they settle
* Explore the impact that the physical environment has on the human systems within that space.
* Research human settlement patterns, routes of migration, and distribution and population patterns
* Define culture and review the differences and similarities between several different cultures
* Examine religion and explore how culture influences people’s perceptions of religion
* Explore different government systems and political divisions and how they affect the worldwide population
* Define economic systems and determine how the distribution of physical resources affects the population
* Address the concept of globalization and economic interdependence
* Examine political, economic, social and demographic indicators that help determine various levels of economic development.

**Student Evaluation**

Student grades will come from tests, quizzes, daily work and homework. Tests will be

30% of the total grade while quizzes, daily work and homework will be combined encompass the remaining 70%.

**Attendance Policy**

 Attendance is an essential part of the educational experience. Students at Lee High School are responsible for any work that might be missed while they are absent. All make-up work must be turned in within one week of the absence. I will not seek out students with their make-up work, instead I expect students to come to me to receive any work they may have missed during their absence.

**Make-Up Work**

 Unless I say so otherwise, make-up work is reserved only for students who were absent. Choosing not to do work in class earns a fifty. If a student is failing and would like to raise their grade, they need to speak with me. I will always find work for a failing student to do in order to increase their grade, however it will probably be more time-consuming and difficult than the original assignments.

**Classroom Expectations**

1. Arrive on time
2. Come prepared to class
3. Respect your classmates and teacher
4. No eating, cell phones, or music devices permitted in the classroom.
5. Be responsible for your actions.

**Phones and Electronic Devices**

Phones and electronic devices (ipods, etc) are a big distraction in the classroom and will not be tolerated. If I see a student on their phone during class I will take it up. Depending on how often this happens, I may keep the phone until the end of the period or I may turn it in to the front office where you will be required to pay $15 to get it back. If there is an emergency and you need to use your phone for any reason, I simply require that you communicate this fact to me and I will make an exception. Headphones are not to be used during class unless I specifically say so.

**Plagiarism, Cheating, and Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is the practice of copying words, sentences, images, or ideas for use in written or oral assessments without giving proper credit to the source. Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of illegal help on anything that has been determined by the teacher to be an individual effort. Both are considered serious offenses and will significantly affect your course grade.

**General Information**

If you are having trouble with this class, come to me immediately and I can work with you. If you wait till the end of the grading period (end of each 6 weeks), it will be TOO LATE. I will be available to help you understand so you can be successful in this class.

**Computer Usage in Class**

 We will use computers very often in World Geography and I expect students to adhere to the school’s policies when using these computers. These are educational tools and not to be used for movies/games/social media/etc. during class time. I do reserve the right to take your computer away (until the end of class) if you are using it improperly

**Food and Drinks**

Unless a specific condition dictates otherwise, no food or drink will be allowed in my classroom. This is not my policy but school-wide policy. The only exceptions will be for people who have a medical condition which requires eating/drinking throughout the day.

**Please check and sign below**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***I have read the information and I fully understand what I’m expected to do in class.*

*Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Parent / Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*