**Human Geography**

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**Course description**

 This Course focuses on the question “**Why** human activities are located **where** they are?” that is not to say we will ignore the physical features of the earth, but instead will observe those features through the lens of human interaction and involvement. The five themes of geography will be emphasized throughout this course location, space, scale, pattern, regionalization, and place. Through these themes we will observe populations and their migrations, culture, political geography, agriculture, industry, and the urban environment.

**Course objective**

 The purpose of the course is to teach students to think about the world from a geographic perspective, to consistently ask the question, “How has location effected what is happening?” Students should become adept at observing patterns and relationships between places and people to better understand the interconnected world we live in.

**Key Course Structure and Readings:**

1. Geography: Its Nature and Perspectives (3 weeks)

Ch. 1

1. Population and migration (5 weeks)

Ch. 2-3

3. Cultural Patterns and Processes (8 weeks)

 1. Folk and Pop Culture Ch. 4

                                    2. Language Ch. 5

                                    3. Religion Ch. 6

                                    4. Ethnicity Ch. 7

**Course Materials**:

1. Textbooks:

a. Pearson-Prentice Hall Cultural Landscape: An Introduction to Human Geography, (10th ed.) by Rubenstein (2011).

b. Rand McNally Goode’s World Atlas

2. Supplies: a. Pencils, Pens (any readable color), & highlighters

a. composition notebook

b. Colored Pencils

c. A flash drive is highly recommended

 d. If special supplies are needed for projects, an advance notice will be given to the student.

**Grading Policy:**

Letter Grades are based on the 100 point scale:

A= 90 -100%

B= 80 - 89%

C= 70 - 79%

D= 60 - 69%

F= Below 59%

Main Assignments

1. Weekly quiz - 20pts

2. Guided reading - 20pts

3. Class work/ activities- 20pts

4. Participation- 5pts

5. Tests

\* Weekly point value

 Semester Breakdown:

Class Participation 5% (90 pts)

Class work 20% (360 pts)

Guided reading 20% (360 pts)

Friday quiz 20% (360 pts)

Unit Tests (3) 30% (500 pts)

Total points 1670

Late Work Policy

Only late work due to an excused absence will be accepted. All due dates are posted on the website calendar, as well as in class. Because of this there is no excuse for not knowing that something is due. If you have an excused absence and miss a due date or a test you will be responsible for any pre assigned grades when you return. You will have the same time as you missed to make up any in class assignments that you missed.

Assignments must be turned in by the end of the school day when due.

Quizzes and test should be made up on the day that students return to class.

Tardy and Attendance Policy

I follow the school policy on attendance, and absences will count against your participation grade.

Academic honesty

Plagiarism of any kind will result in a zero on the assignment.

Weekly structure

We will follow a similar structure every week. Monday we will half of the period to finish assigned reading guide from the previous week. The rest of the hour will be spent in a lecture over that week’s material which will continue into Tuesday. On Wednesday and Thursday students will be given a writing assignment, project, reading or discussion topic to work on. Friday will generally be a work day where students have the opportunity to work on any of the week’s assignments they have not completed as well as their reading assignment. All of that week’s classwork and vocabulary is due Friday.

**Classroom Rules**

1. Respect your peers, teachers, and school property.

2. Be in your seat ready to work when the bell rings.

3. Disruptive behavior of any kind will not be tolerated.

4. No cell phones or other electronic equipment is allowed in the classroom.

5. No food or drinks in the classroom.

6. Students should display common sense when asking to use the restroom, and must have a pass from the teacher.

7. Remain in your seats until dismissed.

8. Have the materials you need for class. (Homework, pen, paper)

9. Have an open mind and be ready to learn.

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 **Student Signature                 Parent Signature               Date**

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**Print Student name**

* **Syllabus subject to alteration by instructor**