



Mr. Shawn McGirr

Grade: 7th

Course: Ancient Civilization & Geography of Africa and Asia

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Course Description

The seventh grade social studies curriculum focuses on the concepts and factors that influence the lives, movements, and interactions of the people of the Eastern Hemisphere. Many of the concepts were initially presented in the sixth grade, and are reinforced through continuous use and development. We will also be studying the beginnings of human civilization (earliest records to 4000 B.C.), early civilizations (4000 B.C. to 1000 B.C.), major empires (1000 B.C. to 300 A.D.). Collection, interpretation, analysis and the application of information are key ideas. Making them important to the students' lives and the life of their communities is the overriding goal of all lessons.

Course Objectives

- ❖ Identify geographic information about people, places, and cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere.
- ❖ Interpret geographic information about people, places, and cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere.
- ❖ Analyze geographic information about people, places, and cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere.
- ❖ Apply geographic information about people, places, and cultures of the Eastern Hemisphere to the lives and communities of the students.

Materials

- ❖ Textbook
- ❖ Student selected reading material for D.E.A.R. (NCA/AdvancED Goal)
- ❖ Planner (required daily)

Suggested Materials

- ❖ Writing materials
- ❖ Organizational materials
- ❖ Creative materials

Grading Policy

All grading is based on points earned on assignments, tests, and common assessments. As per building policy, assignments are 40% of the marking period grade and tests are worth 60%. Common assessment grades are recorded as a running "Final Exam" and will be merged into the year long grade at the end of the year with each quarter being worth 20% of the year long grade and the final exam being worth 20% of the year long final grade.

Percent Earned	Letter Grade	Percent Earned	Letter Grade
98% - 100%	A+	77% - 79%	C+
93% - 97%	A	73% - 76%	C
90% - 92%	A-	70% - 72%	C-
87% - 89%	B+	67% - 69%	D+
83% - 86%	B	63% - 66%	D
80% - 82%	B-	59% - 62%	E

Late Work & Retake Policy

Students need to turn work in on time. Work needs to be in on the due date. Grades will be lowered for late work and will diminish to “no credit” over time. A student who would like to retake a test may submit a short persuasive letter explaining their desire for a retake.

Mr. McGirr reserves to amend and augment this syllabus as necessary or if district policies change.

Common Core Standards addressed in this course:

- RH.6-8.1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
- RH.6-8.2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- RH.6-8.3. Identify key steps in a text’s description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).
- RH.6-8.4. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
- RH.6-8.5. Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).
- RH.6-8.6. Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author’s point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).
- RH.6-8.7. Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
- RH.6-8.8. Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.
- RH.6-8.9. Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.
- RH.6-8.10. By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Technology

Students will be required to adhere to the district technology policies set forth in the student code of conduct. Potential uses of technology may include, but are not limited to Edmodo, Moodle, Google, various internet databases, and ClassDojo.

ISTE NETS*S standards potentially addressed in this class:

- 2.b: Communicate information and ideas effectively to multiple audiences using a variety of media and formats. (e.g. Edmodo)
- 3.b: Locate, organize, analyze, evaluate, synthesize, and ethically use information from a variety of sources and media. (e.g. Google)
- 3.c: Evaluate and select information sources and digital tools based on the appropriateness to specific tasks.
- 3.d: Process data and report results. (e.g. Moodle)
- 4.c: Collect and analyze data to identify solutions and/or make informed decisions.