World Geography

Mr. McKenna – Room 182
Phone: (630) 876 – 6465  
Email: mmckenna@d94.org  
Planning periods: 1, 4, 5, & 6

Description:
World Geography is a one-year course required for all freshmen. We will start with an introduction to the social sciences (Units I - IV) and move into several world regions. The study of each world region will begin with a general history, followed by an investigation of selected current events.

General Overview:
The activities and assessments of each unit are based off of the focus question(s) for each unit.

Social Studies Theme: What is an effective citizen in the global community?

1st Semester

Unit 1: Culture
Focus Question: How does culture define people?

* Each regional study will include map identification and a physical geography overview.

Unit 2: East Asia
Focus Question: What controls people?

Unit 3: Latin America
Focus Question: How do people's choices affect others?

Unit 4: Europe
Focus Question: What compels countries to cooperate?

* European Union Simulation

*First Semester Final Exam

2nd Semester

Unit 5: Sub-Saharan Africa
Focus Question: How do people break away from their past?

Unit 6: Middle East and North Africa
Focus Question: What causes conflict?

Unit 7: South and Central Asia
Focus Question: How can history and progress meet?

Unit 8: Human Rights
Focus Question: How do people suffer when their human rights are denied; and how might these abuses be improved?

* Human Rights Simulation

* Second Semester Final Exam
Grading
89.5 + = A
79.5 + = B
69.5 + = C
59.5 + = D
Below 59.5 = F

Grading Policy (weighted)
Assessments: 35%
Homework: 25%
Class Participation: 25%
Final Exam: 15%

Expectations

Required Materials
- Pen / Pencil / Highlighter
- Binder labeled World Geography
- Google Chrome Book --- Not your phone

Attendance / Tardiness
Attending classes daily and not being tardy shows responsibility and works against failure. See your handbook for more information on specific tardy / attendance rules.

Late Work
If you are absent, you can make up the work for the DAY YOU MISSED up until 5 days, and then by school policy, it is not accepted.
Any assignment turned in ONE DAY LATE will receive a 60% (D) credit (if correct). Anything after is a zero.

Websites / Online / Cell Phones
1) Please register for Power School. Here will be a weekly update of your grades and more: http://ps.d94.org/public
2) Please join our Google Classroom where we will share copies of class materials and have various announcements. Web address is classroom.google.com
3) Please put your cell phone silent / OFF during class – THANKS!

Plagiarism
Students are expected to do their own work and not share their work with other students.
If you plagiarize, you automatically get a zero (along with the person who let you copy), and a call/email to home.

Food / Drinks in Class / Bathroom
Food / Drinks are okay as long as they are NOT: 1) Messy, 2) Smelly, 3) Distracting ... and you don't destroy your computer with it.
If you have to go to the bathroom, please use the bathroom pass near the door. You need to sign out and be back in 6 minutes.

School Rules
The rules of the school are listed in your student assignment book and are always in effect in the classroom.

I look forward to a fun year with you – Welcome to WEGO!