

Class Syllabus

Global Studies

Fall 2018

“Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation.” John F Kennedy (1917-1963) Thirty-fifth President of the USA.

Instructor: Mr. Nathan Coombes

Email: nathan.coombes@ankenyschools.org

Phone: 515-965-9635

Text: *Geography Alive: Regions and People*. TCI. 2011.

Ankeny Mission Statement:

“Excellence in Education..... By Putting Students First!”

Course Description:

Global Studies is a survey of the different regions of the world. Students will learn about the major regions of the world, and their geography, religion, history, traditions, economics, daily life, literature, art, music, entertainment, and sports, in addition to the role of the region in the world today. Current events will be a significant part of the learning process and will augment our study of World.

The world is growing increasingly independent. Technology is breaking down old barriers and making communication easier, cheaper, and faster than ever before. Studying other cultures will help us to gain a better perspective of the world around us.

Units/Themes

Seven Revolutions

Geography and Culture

Economic Unit

Latin America/Research Project

Europe/Russia/Oceania

Africa

Monsoon Asia – India, China, Globalization, Hinduism

SW/Central Asia – Middle East and Three Major Religions

Research Group Project

Assessments:

Course evaluations will be based on a variety of instruments; including but not limited to, the following: individual and group projects, class simulations, oral presentations, written assignments, website discussion boards, quizzes, tests, and semester projects. Please note that this list is subject to change as necessary. Multiple and Varied Assessment Opportunities (including Retakes)

Retakes:

Students will be allowed to retake an assessment but must do some sort of reteaching component. Examples: worksheet, group activity, informative or formative assessment, quiz, tutoring or studying notes. Students will have no more than two weeks to retake an assessment unless arranged by the teacher. Students are only allowed to retake three assessments each semester.

All students should have multiple assessment opportunities to demonstrate higher levels of achievement. The opportunities may be initiated by the instructor or the student, but always at the instructor's discretion. Additional opportunities may include retakes of an alternate form of an assessment (e.g., Form B instead of Form A), student revisions of work products based on descriptive feedback, or alternative methods of assessments (e.g., an oral response rather than a written test). Students have two weeks to retake the assessment once the assessment is in the grade book. No retakes will be allowed during the last two full weeks of the semester.

Homework:

Homework/Independent Practice –10% of Global Studies Grade

Homework is an opportunity for students to practice skills, apply knowledge, review and build on past learning, and extend learning. Homework is individualized and based on each student's progress towards established standards. The purpose of the assignment will determine whether or not a grade is given and will be clearly articulated to students. Through independent learning tasks (homework), students assume more responsibility for their learning and are given opportunities to apply what they have learned to new situations or experiences.

Students are expected to use an agenda (print or electronic) to responsibly monitor and track assigned independent practice work. Any due dates for independent practice will be given during class, posted on the Agenda Board, and can be found on the Global Studies Google Calendar.

All assignments are expected to be completed to a high quality and on time, and must be completed before the assessment is taken.

Assignment Completion Policy:

Successful completion of assignments leads to academic success. Assignments are expected on time and fully completed. Missed assignments will be made up at a later date. Homework is an opportunity for students to practice skills, apply knowledge, review and build on past learning,

and extend learning. Homework is individualized and based on each student's progress towards established standards. The purpose of the assignment will determine whether or not a grade is given and will be clearly articulated to students. Through independent learning tasks (homework), students assume more responsibility for their learning and are given opportunities to apply what they have learned to new situations or experiences.

How students will be graded:

A 0-100 percent scale will be utilized at the secondary level in the Ankeny Community School District.

Letter grades will continue to be assigned for all courses at the secondary level based on the 100 percent scale.

When utilizing a rubric with a 1-4 scale, teachers will show the connection between a student's performances on the rubric to the assigned grade within the 0-100 percent scale. This connection will be communicated at the onset of its use and throughout the learning progression for the purpose of providing feedback. When a rubric is converted to a letter grade, the 0-100 percent scale will be employed.

Letter Grade: A
Minimum Percent: 92.5

Letter Grade: A-
Minimum Percent: 89.5

Letter Grade: B+
Minimum Percent: 86.5

Letter Grade: B
Minimum Percent: 82.5

Letter Grade: B-
Minimum Percent: 79.5

Letter Grade: C+
Minimum Percent: 76.5

Letter Grade: C
Minimum Percent: 72.5

Letter Grade: C-
Minimum Percent: 69.5

Letter Grade: D+
Minimum Percent: 66.5

Letter Grade: D
Minimum Percent: 62.5

Letter Grade: D-
Minimum Percent: 59.5

Letter Grade: F
Minimum Percent: Below 59.5

Academic Honesty:

You are expected to do all your own work. Any plagiarism or cheating will be treated as a violation of the school code found in the student handbook. As you will use the Internet often for research and to complete projects, you will be required to list all Internet sources used. Quality sources will be expected, as defined, in class, and properly documented.

Extra Credit and Bonus Points:

To ensure that grades reflect progress toward and achievement of the standards, giving extra credit points or bonus points will not occur in this class.

Testing:

Formative and Summative Assessment:

Formative Assessment: Formal and informal processes teachers and students use to gather evidence for the purpose of improving learning.

Summative Assessment: Assessments that provide evidence of student achievement for the purpose of making a judgment about student competence or program effectiveness.

Daily Knowledge:

During most class periods you will have the opportunity to compete against the other Global Studies classes in information learned via a short question and answer game. The winning class at the end of each semester will enjoy a nice reward for their efforts. The game will be described at a later date.

Behavioral Expectations

The vision of the Ankeny Community Schools is that behavior will be reported separately from academic achievement. Behavioral Expectations.

The work habits/behavior standards are for grades 6-12 courses in our district. These work habits/behavior standards will be reported throughout the semester and are as follows:

- Organization and Readiness
- Productivity and Accountability
- Collaboration Skills

Performance Levels for Work Habits/Behavior Standards			
MS	PM	DM	NE
Meets Standard	Partially Meets Standard	Doesn't Meet Standard	No Evidence

These descriptors are intended for feedback and communication and do not impact a student's GPA.