

World Geography *“Umm, is that in Africa?”*

Welcome to World Geography! I'm excited to be your guide in exploring and understanding the geography of the world and what that entails. Our class has changed greatly this year. The 7th grade year is usually dedicated to World History but we thought it would be better to give you a better understanding of the world around you before diving into history.

Maps, Maps, Maps! Okay, not really. Maps an location will only be one of the many tools we use to help us in understanding the world. We will also explore music, food, dance, and many other cultural aspects in order to obtain a more comprehensive view of “World Geography”. Each region of the world will focus on several “Spotlight” countries, allowing us a chance to delve deeper into specific areas.

Guiding Questions

1. What cultural aspects influence the shaping/geography of a country or region?
2. What is the most important aspect of a country's geography?
3. How are countries often misrepresented in our world?

Necessary Materials

Pen/Pencil & Paper
Textbook
Notebook
Any other text we may be working on
Completed homework
YOU! – Physically & Mentally

Expectations

Arrive prepared and on-time
Take your seat and be quiet by the start of class
Listen to and follow instructions
Participate actively & sincerely
Take care of class materials
Be **respectful** and **courteous** towards everyone

In-Class Policies

1. Arrival – Students should arrive to class on time and be seated before the start of class.
2. Homework is due at the beginning of the hour unless noted otherwise
3. Students will have 9 hall passes each trimester to use at their discretion and with my permission. Please read the following restrictions
 - a. Students can not leave the classroom during the first and last 15 minutes of class.
 - b. No hall passes can be used during a test or quiz.
 - c. Once a student has used their hall passes, they can no longer leave the room.
 - d. Hall passes can not be traded or sold.
4. Students arriving late to class will be immediately sent to the office for a permission slip to enter class
5. Cellphones may not be used unless instructed to do so by me.
6. iPods may only be used when permission is granted. Do not ask me! I will let you know when it is appropriate.

Notebook & Journal: All students should keep a notebook (3-ring binder) that is for this class only. We will be using a lot of primary source documents and material outside of the textbook. Notebooks will help keep students organized and aid in studying. Due to the comparative nature of this course, it will also be very important for students to have a resource in which they can find past assignments and projects easily. It would be ideal for each notebook to be divided into the following parts:

1. Daily Notes
2. Current Unit Handouts & Assignments
3. Journal
4. Graded Homework, Projects, and Quizzes (organized by past unit)

