**Geography for Life** Disclosure Statement

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Office Hours: Monday & Thursday in Tutoring (Room D216) or by appointment

**Course Description:**

 Geography is described as the study of “how humans use nature in the context of their culture to shape the area of the earth they occupy.” In Geography for Life will explore how we use geographic skills and products to help us better understand the world in which we live. As we study different parts of the world we will discover how their languages, cultures, topical geography, and history contribute to the world around us. Further we will come to understand *how we can influence and change the world around us in positive ways.*

**Course Materials:** **\*\*MUST BRING DAILY\*\***

* Textbook: *World Geography & Cultures* by Glencoe
* 1/2 inch Binder with college ruled lined paper
* Pen or Pencil

**Agreements:**

 In this class, we follow four simple agreements, or expectations, that keep our classroom a fun and safe space. All in the room, myself included, are to follow these agreements. These agreements are: Mutual Respect, No Put Downs, Attentive Listening, and Right to Pass. Failure to follow these agreements will result in one or more of the following 1. Talk with Miss Hamilton 2. Phone call home 3. Meeting with the principal.

**Absences:**

 If students miss a day of learning and the absence was excused, they will be given the opportunity outside of class time to make up work that was done in class*.* However, seeing as there are some class activities that cannot be recreated, points may be lost. Students will find copies of all handouts and assignments on our class website along with a few extra copies in class. *If a student is 10+ minutes late to class without an excusal, they are absent!*

**Leaving the Classroom:**

 Students will be allowed to leave the classroom 10 times throughout the semester. Each student will be given a hall pass granting them 10 passes out of the classroom, this pass is to be used in conjunction with the school planner. Use them for whatever you would like, but remember if anyone is gone more than 10 minutes, they will be marked absent. At the end of the semester I will have students show their hall passes to me, extra credit will be given for each pass they did not use, up to 5 points.

**Homework:**

 Homework is a way for students to practice the concepts they are learning in class. Therefore, assignments may be redone to continue to practice and master the subjects. **Full credit may be earned if the assignment is turned in at the time it is collected.** For each week an assignment is late, it will lose 20% of the total points available. Assignments 1 month late (or more) will NOT be accepted. All assignments should have the following information written on the **top left hand** corner of the page:

Student’s Name

Class Period (ex. Second Period English)

Date the assignment is due

**Tests and Quizzes:**

            Roughly each week there will be a quiz on the content vocabulary, concepts, or maps using the website Quizstar. There will be some weeks where students will have a chance to take this quiz in class, while on other weeks it will be up to the student to take it at home or in after school tutoring. To ensure mastery, quizzes can be redone ONCE outside of class time (during after school during tutoring). The quiz students retake will be different than the original one taken but will cover the same concepts.

If you were absent and need to take an in class quiz or test, please let me know at least a day in advance so I can have a copy printed and ready. These make-up tests and quizzes must also be taken after school during tutoring hours, unless otherwise scheduled with Miss Hamilton.

**Grading System:**

I use an absolute grading system where each assignment is given a certain number of points according to assignment category. Grades are calculated by dividing points earned by total points available.

* 5-10 points—Daily In-Class Assignments & Binder Checks
* 10-15 points—Homework Assignments
* 10-15 points—Quizzes
* 15-30 points—Projects
* 25-50 points—Tests

**Grading Scale:**

C = 74% - 76.9%

C- = 70% - 73.9%

D+ = 67% - 69.9%

D = 64% - 66.9%

D- = 60% - 63.9%

F = 0% - 59.9%

A = 94% - 100%

A- = 90% - 93.9%

B+ = 87% - 89.9%

B = 84% - 86.9%

B- = 80% - 83.9%

C+ = 77% - 79.9%

**Electronics:**

Electronics can be very helpful in learning; however they can also be a distraction. **Cellphones and other electronics are NOT to be out during class**unless the whole class is invited to use them for research or other purposes. If I see someone on their phone at a time when phones are not to be used I will simply come by and the student can give me their phone. This is to help remove unneeded distractions. I will hold onto it until class is over and they can have it when the bell rings.

Our Apple TV and its Airplay technology will be used by Miss Hamilton to project notes, videos, etc. There will be times when students using Apple products will be asked to project notes from their device for the class to see. **If a student chooses to project their device without first consulting Miss Hamilton they will lose technology privileges**. If this becomes a consistent issue you will be contacted, and they may be asked to be removed from the course.

**Plagiarism & Cheating:**

 If anyone is caught copying another’s work or cheating on a quiz or exam, he/she will receive a “0” for that assignment.

**Remind.com:**

 I use an online reminder system called Remind.com, a safe website for teachers to send out text/email reminders to students. Should any parent or student wish to have these text reminders about homework, quizzes, or tests please sign up with the according DAY the student is in Geography.

A day: Text 81010 with message body: @74a96b6

B Day: Text 81010 with message body: @88ekh

**Accommodations:**

            I desire the success of all of my students therefore I am happy to help any student that feels they need additional assistance. Please email me or come see me about accommodations you may need.

\*\*\*I, Miss Hamilton, reserve the right to make adjustments to these policies and procedures as I see fit\*\*\*

**Geography for Life** Pacing Guide

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