



7TH GRADE GEOGRAPHY

Spring 2021 Syllabus

Discovery Middle School
1304 Hughes Road
Madison, AL 35758

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Course Description:

In this nine-week course, students will increase their knowledge about the physical and human nature of the world and about relationships between people and their environments. Students will study Earth as a physical object, and a place in which humans live. Students also study geography in the context of economics, civics and politics, history, and culture.

Additional information for this course can be found on the Alabama Department of education website. [Geography Standards](https://doe.alabama.gov/geography-standards)

Course Objectives:

During this course, students will be able to identify the patterns of geography including the 5 key features. Students will study regions of the world in spatial terms as well as with reference to people, the economy, the ecosystem, culture, religion and history. Geography can be scaled small beginning with an individual to large scale at a worldly factor.

Classroom Expectations:

Classroom Rules and Procedures:

1. Have a positive attitude.
2. Be responsible.
3. Be respectful to others and their opinions.
4. Set high expectations for yourself in this class.
5. Follow all school rules.

Accommodations:

Requests for accommodations for this course or any school event are welcomed from students and parents.

Concerning laptop utilization:

1. Student laptops should not be hard wired to the network or have print capabilities.
2. Use of discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices will not be allowed on Madison City computers.
3. Neither the teacher, nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops.
4. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the individual discretion of the teacher.



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Grading Policy: Test grades will account for 60% of the 9-weeks grade, with the remaining 40% being determined by quiz/daily grades. The grading scale is as follows: A (90-100), B (80-89), C (70-79), D (65-69), and F (below 65). Grades will be a reflection of mastery of the standards. Make sure all absences are excused as class work can be made up and graded for excused absences only.

Late Work: For unexcused absences and/or work turned in late, the following policy will apply:

- The assignment will drop one LETTER grade for each school day that passes. For example, if an assignment is turned in one school day late, the highest a student can receive is 89%; two days late, 79%, etc.
- Once the late assignment has dropped to 59%, a student may receive up to 50% for late work turned in any time within a grading period (9 weeks). Half credit is always better than no credit!

Until work has been made up, "NTN" ("not turned in," which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book. This will be updated as soon as work is completed and turned in.

Make-up Test Policy: It is the student's responsibility to set up a time to make up a missed test. Students may schedule to make up a test before or after school. Tests cannot be made up during class. Until a missed test is made up by the student, "NTN" ("not turned in," which counts as a zero) will be put in the grade book.

Textbook: *National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography*
ISBN: 9780736289986

Materials and Supplies Needed:

- ½" 3-Ring Binder
- 6 Pack of Dividers
- Notebook Paper
- Colored Pencils
- Pencils
- Glue Stick
- Scissors

Course Outline:

- Unit 1: The Essentials of Geography (Chaps. 1 and 2)
- Unit 2: North America (Chaps. 3 and 4)
- Unit 3: Latin America (Chaps. 5 and 6)
- Unit 4: Europe (Chaps. 7 and 8)
- Unit 5: The Middle East and North Africa (Chaps. 15 and 16)
- Unit 6: East Asia (Chaps. 19 and 20)