

7<sup>th</sup> Grade World Geography  
 Social Studies Course Syllabus  
 Austin Road Middle School  
 2017-2018

**Mission**

*Austin Road Middle School strives to develop a nurturing school community that encourages academic success for each student through a rigorous curriculum and extracurricular opportunities supported by dedicated teachers and staff. Each student will become a contributing citizen of our community and global environment.*

**Vision**

*Austin Road Middle School will cultivate an environment for creativity, innovation and leadership where we exceed expectations everyday.*

**Course Instructors:** Mr. Michael Browning ([michael.browning@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:michael.browning@henry.k12.ga.us))  
 Mr. James Crawford ([james.crawford@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:james.crawford@henry.k12.ga.us))  
 Ms. Sherrell Henderson ([sherrell.henderson@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:sherrell.henderson@henry.k12.ga.us))  
 Dr. Glennis Jackson ([Glennis.Jackson@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:Glennis.Jackson@henry.k12.ga.us))  
 Mr. Johnny Walker ([Johnny.Walker@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:Johnny.Walker@henry.k12.ga.us))

**Phone:** 770-507-5407

**Textbook:** Holt People, Places and Change (Holt, Rinehart and Winston)

**Course Description**

Students in grade 7 will study aspects of world geography. Students will gain an understanding of the modern cultural and physical landscape of Southwest Asia (Middle East), Africa and South and East Asia. Students will compare and assess the human environment interaction of these regions by examining the distribution, pollution and use of natural resources in the areas. Students will explore factors influencing the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services in each region through trade and world influences. Finally, students will examine historical events in the regions to determine how governments, nations, economies and culture were formed during periods of conflict and change.

**WORLD GEOGRAPHY Grade 7 Course Guide**

First Nine Weeks	Second Nine Weeks	Third Nine Weeks	Fourth Nine Weeks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concepts Used in Global Studies</li> <li>• Introduction to Economics and Government</li> <li>• Southwest Asia (Middle East Today)</li> <li>• Origins of the Modern Middle East</li> <li>• Impact of Environment and Economy on Southwest Asia (Middle East)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Africa Today</li> <li>• Impact of Environment and Economy on Africa</li> <li>• Connecting Africa's Past with Africa's Present</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southern and Eastern Asia Today</li> <li>• Impact of Environment and Economy on Southern and Eastern Asia</li> <li>• Historical Background for Southern and Eastern Asia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geography of Georgia</li> <li>• Enrichment</li> <li>• Historical Fiction Unit</li> <li>• Interact World Simulation</li> </ul>

**Grading Explanation:**

**Grading Policy (Category Weights)**

- Practice Work: Max 20%  
 Classwork 10%  
 Homework 5%  
 Notebook 5%
- Assessment: Max 65%  
 Tests/Projects 25%  
 Quizzes 15%  
 CSA (Common Summative Assessments) 25%
- Final Exam: 15%

**Board-Approved Grading Scale**

- A 90- 100
- B 80 – 89
- C 74 – 79
- D 70 – 73
- F 69 and below

*\* Student grades in all courses are cumulative and will, from August through May, be calculated based upon year-long grading averages.*

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**Interactive Notebook**

All students must keep an updated Interactive Notebook. The purpose of the interactive notebook is to enable students to be creative, independent thinkers and writers. Interactive notebooks are used for class notes as well as for other activities where the student will be asked to express his/her own ideas and process the information presented in class. This notebook serves as the student's textbook for this course

**Late Work/Absence Policy**

Assignments that are not submitted on time will receive an "M" (missing) within Infinite Campus gradebook. Not submitting assignments is a behavioral characteristic that should not receive an academic penalty. All scholars will be given ample opportunities to submit their work through activities to include but not limited to amnesty day(s), working lunch, before/after school tutorial, etc. All work assigned an "M" (missing) within Infinite Campus will remain as such during the term in which the scholar's assignment was due. **Upon the completion of the term, any assignment that is not submitted, as required, will then result in the scholar receiving a grade of zero (0%) to remain permanently within the gradebook. Finally, all assignments submitted after the assigned due date will not receive a late penalty and will be graded accordingly contingent upon satisfactory completion of all requirements within the assignment.**

In the case of an excused absence, make-up work is accepted for the number of days' absence plus one day, unless special arrangements have been agreed upon. Tests missed during an absence must be made up in a timely fashion. If a student returns to school on a test date that was announced prior to the student's absence, then the student must take the test as regularly scheduled unless there are extreme extenuating documented circumstances.

**National History Day Competition**

The 2016 - 2017 National History Day theme is Taking a Stand in History. Students will be required to complete either a National History Day project or a Science Fair project. Students will sign up during the first month of school. Research should begin right away. You can access information about National History Day at [www.nhd.org](http://www.nhd.org).

**Expectations**

1. Students are expected to complete all assignments in a timely manner.
2. Students are expected to bring materials to class daily.
3. Students should keep an updated and accurate Interactive Notebook.
4. Students are expected to bring appropriate writing materials and textbook as indicated.
5. Students are not expected to disrespect the instructor, peers, school personnel, school, team, property or the subject matter we will cover throughout the year.
6. Maturity and Courtesy will be demonstrated at all times.

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**LEAVE SIGNED SYLLABUS IN YOUR INTERACTIVE NOTEBOOK AT ALL TIMES.**

I have read and understand all items in this syllabus.

Print Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom: \_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Guardian's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian's E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Guardian's Phone#: \_\_\_\_\_ (Indicate if home, work or cell)