

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade World Geography

### Syllabus

Mr. LeFebvre

Textbook: Exploring Our World: People, Places, and Cultures

### **Course Outline**

Welcome to Geography. This semester we will be studying chapters 1-15. This will cover the continents of North America, South America, and Europe. At the end of each chapter will be a test.

This class is more than book learning. As well as reading every day, you will be working on the Internet, applying art skills and public speaking skills.

Each of you will be responsible for at least one country in each continent we study. Sometimes you may have two. You will be required to make a map, flag and report on your country. You will be graded on each of these three areas of your presentation. The presentation itself is worth thirty points with each of the three areas equaling ten points each.

This is also a cooking class. Students will make a food native to their country they are studying. For example, if your country is Mexico you can make burritos.

In addition to the classroom presentations you will also be required to complete map work for every area we study. You will complete two maps per unit. One map will be of the physical characteristics of a continent and the other will be the political map of the continent.

Every Friday is current event day. You will be required to bring one current event every Friday. When we start talking about areas of the world (i.e. Europe, Asia) you will be required to bring a current event of the country that you are assigned in that area. If you cannot find a current event on your country you will bring a current event on another country in that region.

### **Supplies Needed**

One folder with all of your geography homework and worksheets in it.

Pen or pencil

One notebook

Your textbook

Your brain

### **Classroom Rules (My favorite part):**

**1. Never speak out of turn.**

**a. Always raise your hand if you want to talk.**

**2. When working in groups whisper, don't be loud.**

**3. Swearing is strictly prohibited (I decide what words are bad, not you).**

- 4. Respect your fellow classmates = Do not hurt anybody's feelings.**
- 5. Do not, for any reason, sit on the heater or set things on the heater.**
- 6. Do not, for any reason, play with the windows, shelves, or my desk. These are strictly off limits unless you have permission**
- 7. Your book and notebook is required in class every day. No excuse will work. Your book must be open to where we are discussing so you can participate with the class**
- 8. Bring a writing utensil to class every day. If you need to borrow one from me I will need to borrow something of yours.**
- 9. Do not use cell phones in my class. If I catch you using your phone I will warn you. If I catch you again it belongs to me for the day. You are not being sneaky when you use them, no one stares at their crotch for minutes at a time.**
- 10. Bullying will not be tolerated. If you are bullying you will have detention with me or the principal throughout the day.**
- 11. Late work.**
  - a. If your assignment that is due that day is turned in by the end of the class period it is not late.**
  - b. If your assignment that is due that day is turned in by the end of the school day (3:15) your work is docked 10%.**
  - c. If your assignment that is due that day is turned in by the next class period your grade will be docked by 50%.**

Questions for the first day:

1. What is Social Studies?
2. What is geography?
3. What do you use it for?
4. What do others use it for?
5. When was the last time you used it?
6. What will we talk about?
7. What do you want to learn?
8. What do you like about geography?
9. What do you dislike about geography?
10. Where is your favorite region/country?
  - a. Why?