

7th Grade Social Studies

Mr. Ripperger

Description

This class will start with a quick review of the information you should have covered last year concerning the field of geography. Students will then be immersed in the different regions of the Eastern Hemisphere including South Asia (with a focus on India); East Asia (with a focus on China and Japan); Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica; and concluding with Africa.

Focus will be primarily on current issues in the world and how they are seen throughout the world from a geographic perspective.

Standards

- SS.7.13 Identify social, political, and economic factors that can influence our thoughts and behaviors.
- SS.7.14 Examine what causes inequalities and how they exist within a society.
- SS.7.15 Distinguish and apply the powers and responsibilities of global citizens, interest groups, and the media in a variety of government and nongovernmental contexts.
- SS.7.16 Examine the origins, purposes, and impact of laws, treaties, and international agreements.
- SS.7.17 Describe the roles of political, civil, and economic organizations in shaping people's lives.
- SS.7.18 Explain and evaluate how economic decisions affect the well-being of individuals, businesses, and society.
- SS.7.19 Explain how external benefits, costs, supply and demand, and competition influence market prices, wages, and outcomes.
- SS.7.20 Investigate the impact of trade policies and barriers on a nation and its citizens.
- SS.7.21 Evaluate the push and pull factors involved in human population movement patterns.
- SS.7.22 Explain how the relationship between the environmental characteristics of places and production of goods influences the spatial patterns of world trade.
- SS.7.23 Explain how global changes in population distribution patterns affect changes in land use in particular areas.
- SS.7.24 Analyze connections among historical events and developments in contemporary global issues.
- SS.7.25 Explain how and why perspectives on various contemporary issues have changed over time.
- SS.7.26 Explain multiple causes and effects of various contemporary global events and developments
- SS.7.27 Analyze the role that Iowa plays in contemporary global issues.

Units

- Unit 1: Introduction to Geography Review
- Unit 2: South Asia (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka)
- Unit 3: East Asia (China, Japan, Indonesia)
- Unit 4: Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica
- Unit 5: the Middle East
- Unit 6: Africa

Behavior

Your responsibility is toward yourself and your peers. Yourself, by conducting your behavior in a manner that allows you to learn at your optimal level. Your peers by not disrupting their learning environment so they can learn to the best of their ability.

Mr. Ripperger's classroom rules are posted in the front of the classroom.

Grading Scale

<i>Grading Weights:</i>	<i>Grading Scale</i>	C+	79-78
Process 30%	A+ 100	C	77-72
Content 70%	A 99-92	C-	71-70
	A- 91-90	D+	69-68
	B+ 89-88	D	67-62
	B 87-82	D-	61-60
	B- 81-80	F	59-50

Homework

While late work is not encouraged, there is no penalty for late work. That does not mean you do not have to do it. Homework is designed to provide you with understanding the essential concepts of the unit and prepare for chapter quizzes. You can have multiple attempts to improve your grade by re-submitting homework, but once the quarter is complete, you will no longer have that opportunity. This also covers homework missed during absences. Late work will not be accepted once the grades have been turned in at each quarter. Please be respectful of my time and not turn in multiple assignments at one time.

Absences

When students are absent, they are accountable for catching up on material missed during that absence. All class meetings will be recorded as part of Google Meet and students can join if they are able to from home. Once class is concluded, the video of class will be shared with you to your "Shared With Me" folder on Google Drive. You will be responsible for watching that video to stay current with class.

Quiz re-takes

You can re-take any quiz that you received a 59% or lower score on. The philosophy is that we are looking for you to prove that you have mastered the content and we want to be able to see that. Maybe you had a bad day, maybe you just went blank, or maybe you didn't have time to study. I am willing to give you another opportunity to prove that you know the material. All quizzes will be different from the original, so there will be different questions than on the first quiz covering the same topics we discussed in class. You will only be given one opportunity to re-take that quiz, so make sure you are studying for the re-take.

Cheating

Cheating from another student, book, and/or notes is a major offense. If caught cheating, the student will lose credit for the work. If a student is caught cheating with another student, BOTH students will lose credit. Parents will be contacted by their student and informed of the offense.

Plagiarism is when a student does not give credit to an author or producer of a piece of work (i.e. music, books, magazines, websites, etc.). If a student is caught plagiarizing, the student will lose credit for their work. In the real world, college students have been expelled, lawsuits have been filed against performers.

Technology

Phones/iPods/Computers: Phones should be put away during instructional time. There will be times where phones will be allowed to be used in an appropriate manner. Students will be given an initial verbal warning. If another warning is issued, the student will be asked to hand over their phone until the end of the class period. If you are a habitual offender, your phone will be sent to the office and a parent will need to come in and retrieve it per the student handbook.

Computers: Computers are tools that serve an instructional purpose. They are not to be used for games or observing social media. If students are abusing their computer privileges, they may be barred from using during that class period. Please make sure that your computer is adequately charged.

Classroom Expectations

1. Open up your computer and access the day's Current Events. Try to figure out what the headline is and make sure that you are maintaining notes. A quiz will be given every two weeks.
2. You will have assigned seats. This allows me to get to know your names quicker, I will be able to take attendance quicker, and makes it easier for any substitutes who may have to cover class.
3. Occasionally we will have writing assignments, so please make sure that you have a writing utensil and paper available at all times.
4. You can chew gum, but please no bubble blowing. You will be told to spit it out. If gum is discovered in places it shouldn't, then there may be a moratorium instituted.
5. Please respect my materials and the school property in the classroom.
6. Don't believe everything I say. Look for proof that what I am saying is true. Look it up!
7. Don't be afraid to fail. Learn from those mistakes and errors. Become a better student and person from your setbacks.