

COURSE CODE: 6th Grade Social Studies/Western Hemisphere

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Fall Trimester-2017
Monday-Friday

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students will begin the year being exposed to world geography (specifically a focus on the Western Hemisphere). They will also have the opportunity to participate in the study of Canada from the land bridge and Vikings to modern Canada. The trimester will end with one last unit of Mexico. This will consist of geography, Aztecs and modern Mexico.

PREREQUISITES/COREQUISITES: No prerequisites required.

OBJECTIVES: As a result of this course, you will be able to:

- Understand and identify geographic features of the world, types of maps and how to use them.
- Analyze the cultural differences between civilizations.
- Evaluate and analyze how events of the past affect present day.
- Synthesize how geographic features are indicative of where people tend to settle.
- Identify, name and label continents, countries, capitals and geographic features of areas covered during the semester.

INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES:

Google classroom will be your go to place for handouts and resources from class.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY: If a student is absent please contact the office to let us know.

Students who arrive at school after the first tardy bell should report to the main office to sign in.

Students are allowed nine (9) absences per class period during the semester.

Students who receive ten (10) absences in any class will lose credit unless cleared by the attendance office as extraordinary within five (5) days of the absence. Verbal communication must come from a parent/guardian within 48 hours of the absence to prevent truancy

The following absences count against a student's total of nine (9) absences: In-School Suspension (I), Out of School Suspension (O), Truancy (R), Unverified (A), Verified (E), Unexcused (U)

MAKE-UP WORK

After an absence, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher for make-up work. They are to check google classroom first, as all daily agendas and objectives can be found there. Handouts and worksheets will also be uploaded on google classroom. The student must complete and turn in work within a reasonable time in accordance with the teacher's late work policy.

TARDIES

Students are considered tardy if not in their assigned classrooms when the tardy bell rings. Tardies accrue on a semester basis. The tardy policy incorporates the following:

First Tardy -- Teacher warns student

Second Tardy -- Teacher warns student

Third Tardy -- Student assigned to designated detention

Fourth Tardy -- Student assigned after school detention.

Additional Tardies - Saturday School (9:00am-12:00pm) **

COMMUNICATION: If you have a question you can reach me by phone, email, and even google classroom. I will answer emails within 24 hours. Many students send messages via google classroom. I usually have my phone with me and am able to respond even if I am not at home or in my classroom. I try not to respond after 8:30pm. But if you are struggling with a concept still email or send a message so I know you tried.

Skyward is where you will find the grades for students. (*Note: you can set Skyward up to email you progress reports and missing assignments so you don't have to go into Skyward to find out how you are doing

Progress reports will be emailed to parents on a regular basis. I will try to have all grades updated and in the gradebook no later than midnight on Sundays. I will also meet with students one-on-one, on a regular basis to discuss how they are doing in class.

CELL PHONES, COMPUTERS, AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES: Students are allowed to have their cell phone or electronic devices in the classroom. They are to put the cell phones on their desks face down and not touch them unless given permission. I will allow students during independent work time to listen to music with earbuds, they can also read books that they have uploaded if their work is completed. I also allow students to use their phones to look up information if parents have given them the okay to use their data at school. Please note that misuse of this privilege will result in a verbal warning the first time, loss of phone for the class period the 2nd time and if a 3rd time should occur parents will be notified. A 4th violation will result in the cell phone not being allowed in the classroom or student must turn it in upon walking into the room. I do not allow texting or games during class.

FOOD AND DRINK: Students may have water bottles in class and bring a healthy snack. 6th grade lunch is usually pretty late compared to what they were at the elementary schools, so I would suggest a snack for 6th graders about 4th or 5th period. I allow gum unless it becomes a problem where it ends up on furniture floors or I can see it.

COURSE PACING GUIDE

Weeks 1-4: Mapping, oceans, continents, hemispheres, major longitude and latitude lines, compass rose, and reading/using a map

Weeks 5-9: Geography of Canada, Vikings, immigration, French-Indian War and Modern Canada

Weeks 10-18: Geography of Mexico, Aztecs, Mexican American War, Modern Mexico

End of Trimester

GRADING: To determine your final grade in the course, I will calculate your percentage by dividing your total earned points by the total points possible. 90% of the grade is from unit tests and assignments during the semester. 10% of the final grade is from the EOC. These will be converted to letter grades as follows:

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70 -79% = C 60-69% = D < 59% = F

ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSION: Some assignments will be turned in via hardcopy in the turn in box and some assignments will be submitted electronically.

LATE WORK: Students are allowed to turn in late work 2 weeks after the due date or end of the unit. Whichever comes first. (If an assignment is late, students will be required to fill out a form as to why the assignment is late.) If the assignment is not turned in during that allowed time period, the student will receive a zero (0) on the assignment.

RESUBMISSIONS: I allow students to redo assignments to show proficiency. I also allow students to redo tests. To redo a test students must complete a retake contract and schedule a time with me to retake the test. I do not allow retakes on open note tests or projects.

PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC OFFENSES: If a student is caught plagiarizing or cheating they will be required to do the assignment again from the beginning and parents will be notified. It will also be documented. If it happens again, the parents will be notified and the matter will be turned over to administration.

Signature Page

We have read and understand the 6th grade social studies classroom policies and expectations as well as the cell phone rule and consequences.

Date _____

Student Printed Name _____

Student Signature _____

Parent Printed Name _____

Parent Signature _____

Parent Preferred Contact Method

Email @ _____

Call @ _____