**Honors World Geography Syllabus 2017-2018**

**1st and 2nd Period**

Teacher: Tom Sharpe

Room 707

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**What is geography?**

Geography is the study of the world and everything in it.  In this course, you will get an overview of the culture, economies, governments, and, of course, physical geography of the world.  So, basically, we'll be covering it all!

**What should I expect from an honors class?**

Although an honors course will make use of the same GSE standards as a standard course, honors students are called to a higher level of rigor. What this means is that you will often find that you have completely different assignments from your friends who are taking standard geography and will be required to complete a larger amount of reading and will provide a greater amount of written work.

**Objective of the class:**

* To analyze and apply the six major geographic concepts to regions and countries around the world in a rigorous classroom environment.
* To create citizens aware of the world outside of their bubble.

**Overview of class:**

The students will be studying the following topics within the class:

1. Intro to geography
2. North America
3. Latin America
4. Europe
5. Middle East
6. Africa
7. Asia
8. Australia and Oceania

We will be covering each of the above regions using the following geographic concepts/topics:

1. Physical Geography
2. Cultural Geography
3. Political Geography
4. Population Geography
5. Environmental Geography
6. Economic Geography

Within each topic the students will examine the political, economic and social structure of various countries within these regions. The focus will also be on current events and history of the regions as well.

**Readings:**

* Summer Reading: *Where am I Wearing* by Kelsey Timmerman
* Textbook: TCI Geography Alive
* Selected current events articles
	+ If you have a smartphone or tablet that you will have with you daily, you will need to download a qr code scanner so that you can quickly and easily access our readings on your device. I will have some hard copies available if you do not have access to a device. Here are some recommended qr code scanner apps: i-nigma, ShopSavvy, Google Goggles (all are free).

**Rules:**

1. Be ready and responsible: Do your homework every night, when assigned, and come to class prepared (with materials and knowledge).
2. Be respectful: Do not interrupt when someone else is participating in a class discussion. Do Not take or touch other students’ belongings.
3. Be prepared to work with any and everyone in the class – there will be a considerable amount of group work in which your partners will be determined by pre-test scores every unit.

**Grading:**

* Summative Assessments: 60% (Tests and Projects)

 Formative Assessments: 20% (Projects, class work, map quizzes, daily quizzes, presentations)

 Final Exam: 20%

* + Summative Assessments: Will be given at the end of each unit to check for student mastery of the standard(s). This could be in the form of a test or a project.
	+ Formative Assessments: Will be given daily to check for progress within a topic to make sure the student is building towards mastery. There will be one formative assessment grade for each unit that is a total of all the formative assessments done within the unit.
	+ This course does not have a GA Milestone test. However, it has a final exam that will count for 20% of the course final average.

**Tutoring**

I will be free every morning before school starting around 7:45 AM and most afternoons from 3:25 to 4:00 PM if you need additional help from me or need to make up an assignment.

Link to standards:

<https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Documents/Social-Studies-World-Geography-Georgia-Standards.pdf>