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Early College High School: Social Studies
Pre-AP World Geography

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Pre-AP World Geography *Course Requirements (Syllabus)*

Course Description: Pre-AP World Geography provides students the opportunity to study the interaction of people and their physical environments in the major areas of the world. The purpose of the Pre-AP World Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. Content also introduces the students to the world of geographers, their unique vocabulary, tools and methodologies. Students will be offered the opportunity to put into practice the geographical concepts and skills through critical thinking applications about the world. This course will establish a solid foundation of skills needed to master their future social studies advanced placement coursework.

On successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Use and think about maps and spatial data
2. Understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places
3. Recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes
4. Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process
5. Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places

Materials Needed:

- #2 pencils
- Pen: black & blue (on written assignments)
- Three-ring binder (2-3")
- Index dividers (12 total)
- Map pencils (24 preferred)
- Highlighters
- Loose leaf notebook paper (college ruled)
- Small six-inch ruler or protractor (imperative for maps)
- Kleenex
- Hand sanitizer

*Class materials are required for the success in this course

Grading Policy

Tests/Projects/Binders: 60% *There are 3-5 tests in each nine-week period; one project per 9 weeks; one binder check per 9 weeks; 3 research projects per year*

Daily Work/Quizzes: 40% *Daily work includes homework, class handouts, content packets, and class participation. Quizzes assess whether or not students are keeping up with the assigned work, readings, and vocabulary. These quizzes can be unannounced, and may be at the beginning or end of the period.*

Late Assignments:

All assignments (major and daily) are to be completed on time. Late work will incur a maximum penalty of 10 percent of the total grade for each day late. A zero will be recorded after the 3rd day or the last day of the grading period in which the assignment was made, whichever comes first.

Assignments with no name on them will be assessed as a zero.

*School related absences **do not** give the student extra time to turn in assignments. Assignments are due before the student leaves school or the day before, whichever occurs first. If the assignment is not turned in on the due date it will be one day late and will receive a 20-point deduction.*

Make-up Tests/Work and Absences:

Policy follows that of the District. Students will have the number of days absent plus one to complete and turn in make-up work/test. Arrangements must be made with the instructor to make up a test before or after school as make-up tests will not be administered during class time. It is your responsibility to make up any homework or tests that you missed. Anything not made up within the allotted time will be recorded as a zero.

Extra Credit:

I do not believe in extra credit because students tend to not do their work because extra credit will "help them out." I encourage consistent habits as opposed to last minute efforts.

Semester Projects:

Both the Fall and Spring Semester will include a combination of book projects and other projects throughout the year for each 9 week period. Guidelines for these projects will be given in advance of the project's due date, with ample time provided for completion. **Projects are not accepted late for any reason except in extreme circumstances – ex. death in the family, hospitalization, etc.**

Required Out of Class Reading:

Students will be given a book list of required readings, in addition to readings in the textbook and assigned readings. These books can be purchased at any book store in the area. Some of the books are available at public libraries. Students will be quizzed on each of the books that we will read over the year, and they will be required to produce a well thought out and planned research project.

Current Events:

Students should make a serious effort to keep up with what is going on in the world and how it relates to the subject/area we are studying. *Time, Newsweek, U.S. New & World Report, New York Times* and *The Washington Post* are all good weekly and daily news sources to read. "National Public Radio" in the morning and evening provides in-depth radio news. And as far as TV, PBS and/or one of the national news shows at least twice a week will help the student to stay abreast of breaking news stories. Do not rely on social media posts for your current events.

Classroom Rules:

1. Be on time, on task, & prepared to learn EVERYDAY
 - a. Absences will affect your grade, so your consistent presence in class will contribute to your success
 - b. Tardies are considered a disruption to the learning environment. Students are expected to be in their seats and on task working at the beginning of each class. Standing outside the door when the tardy bell rings constitutes a tardy.
2. Respect the teacher, the classroom, other students & yourself
3. Be responsible for your own learning
4. Clean up after yourself
 - a. Food and drinks are not permitted at any time in the classroom
5. Self monitor electronics (chromebooks)
 - a. Cellphones tucked away in backpacks
6. BE KIND always
7. Cheating, under any circumstances, will not be tolerated. The assignment/test/quiz will be taken up, and the student will receive a recorded grade of zero. The student's parents will also be notified.

Tutoring:

Before school on Tuesdays & Wednesdays; 6:50-7:10

Parents:

After reviewing the information, please provide me with your contact information on the letter indicating you and your child understand the requirements for this pre-advanced course. Please call me if....

- you have any questions regarding this material,
- you have something important you want to share with me,
- you have any concerns about the class or any other project.

Thank you for your time, I look forward to a productive and enjoyable year with your student!

Student Name (Last name, First): _____

Student Class Period: _____

We have read and understand the requirements for this pre advanced course. Should you need to contact me about my child's performance in Pre-AP World Geography I can be reached by:

Phone: **Home:** _____ and the best time to call is _____.

It is okay to leave a message on our home answering machine.

I would rather you did not leave a message on the home answering machine.

Work or Mobile #: _____

E-Mail address: _____

Parent or Guardian Printed Name

Parent or Guardian Signature

Student Printed Name

Student Signature