

MR. Hughes

SYLLABUS & COURSE DESCRIPTION 2011/2012

Subject Area: Social Studies **Course Title:** *Geography*

Major Concepts/Content: This course is designed to teach the students the core ideas involved with geography. Including what the 5 themes of geography are, how to locate things on a map and how those 5 themes of geography are connected to help people establish an area and what that area consists of.

Content will include:

- longitude
- latitude
- mapping
- 5 themes of geography
- Similarities and differences of places and people of the world.

NOTE - My goal is to make learning interesting & fun by using a variety of skills, tools and additional materials to strengthen student connections to World History/Geography. I look forward to an exciting new year! Please feel free to e-mail me anytime or call me.

Materials needed: pen or pencil, loose leaf paper or a notebook.

*This course will utilize a variety of tools films, worksheets, reading, group projects and other things will all be a part of this course. In order for the course to run smoothly it is important for you to become prepared to learn everyday with the correct materials and correct attitude. This course will utilize technology and it is expected that the students treat the technology with respect. The technology is a privilege and can be taken away from the students.

Grades: Grades come from the following areas

- Notes
- Key terms
- End of chapter questions
- quizzes
- class work

Course Requirements: Students will be expected to complete *all* assignments. The classroom grading scale is as follows:

A	90 -100
B	80 - 89
C	70 - 79
D	60 - 69
F	59 - 0
I	Incomplete

Special Note: All work must be completed to receive a grade. Students will be allowed time to make up missed work *with the exception of dated assignments*. *Students* are responsible for setting up a make up day after school if necessary. All assignments *must* be completed.

Students not meeting these expectations will receive an Incomplete for their final quarter grade.

Grades: Grades will come from a variety of places, in-class assignments, tests, quizzes, notebook checks, participation and any projects that may be assigned. There will be a notebook check every two weeks.

Books: Textbooks will be used in this class, students will be assigned a textbook, but the text book does NOT leave the classroom unless the students are informed otherwise. In the event the student loses or destroys a text book they will be responsible for replacing it.

Note: Cheating will result in a zero for task assigned.

All students are expected to comply with school wide and county rules.

Learning earnings/point system: There is a point system that is associated with this class for behavior. Students will be explained the system in depth on the first day of school and parents will receive the necessary information. The point system is a way to track behavior and promote positive behavior.

Behavior Expectations: Students will be anticipated to work quietly, raise their hand to speak or ask questions, stay seated during lessons, and to respect themselves and others. All students are expected to comply with school wide and county rules.

School-Wide Expectations for Students:

- Respond with respect to reasonable requests from adults to comply with school policies and rules
- Positively contribute to an atmosphere of respect for the learning environment
- Disrespect and non-compliance interferes with the teaching and learning process, and will lead to temporary (or longer) removal from the instructional opportunity and further corrective actions
- Participate in the BCHS Student Safety Net Program (to their required intensity level)
- Maintain appropriate dress at all times
- Refrain from the use of electronic devices with the exception of before/after school and lunch

- Refrain from the use of profanity
- Be to school and class on time

Consequences of failure to comply: 2 warnings, seat change, parent/guardian phone call or e-mail, AP referral, parent/teacher conference. Consequences vary due to severity of the offense. Other consequences may stem from the token economy set up in my classroom to reward students for good behavior.

Tardy/Attendance Policy:

- 1st period - 4 warnings, and the fifth tardy will result in a detention
- After lunch - tardy is an automatic detention
- All other periods - 2 tardies excused, 3rd tardy results in an after school detention.
- Tardy policy begins with each new grading period.
- A missed detention will result in ABS (Alternative Bell Schedule - 1:50 to 6:00pm) assigned by an administrator.
- Three unexcused tardies equals one absence.
- If you miss more than half of the period, you will be marked absent, unless you come in with an excused pass.
- If you are absent from three or four block classes in the school day, you will be considered absent from school that day.
- More than 3 days missed will result in a phone call home.
- Grades will be dropped one letter grade for late work submitted due to an unexcused absence.
- All late work submitted due to an excused absence will receive full credit.
- If you are absent, you may pick up your work on the next day of the class, but it will be due the following day.
- Number of days to make up work will equal the number of days you were absent.

FCAT: Specific lessons and assessments will be aligned with FCAT expectations. Reading materials will include instructional materials such as textbooks, newspapers, magazines, fiction/nonfiction, etc. Please encourage your students to read at home.

Other: Cell phones and other technology and distractions are NOT permitted. They must be kept off (or on vibrate) and out of sight. Students are also expected to dress appropriately for the learning environment setting. Dress code violations may result in In School Suspension. Proper dress includes: sleeves must be on all shirts, no sagging pants, shorts must be mid-thigh length, and shirts must not be too low-cut.

Parent Signature - _____
 Student Signature _____