KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS 2016-17

GEOGRAPHY (SGS110) CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ISSUES (SGS115)

Instructor: Mr. Perkins
Office Hours: Before school T-F or by appointment
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Course Description

Geography/Contemporary Global Issues is a year-long social science course designed for 9th grade students. As an interdisciplinary introduction to social science, the course provides the foundation for the later study of World and United States History, Economics, and United States Government. This course also blends in contemporary global issues with every unit of study. This course will introduce and develop skills that will be needed in subsequent social studies classes, such as mapping, analyzing social change over time, and comparing and contrasting diverse cultures.

Materials

Primary Text: World Geography (McDougal LiSell) c. 2003. The book will be used exclusively in class. Students will not need to bring it home. You are required to assume full responsibility for the text once the text is checked out to you. Other suggested class materials consist of a three-ring binder, subject dividers, blue and black pens, #2 pencils, markers, highlighters, and lined paper.

Expectations

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times, towards each other as well as their instructor. Students must be in class on time and prepared to participate on a regular basis. Students must give 100 percent in every task, assignment, project and exam. Students are expected to come to class with thoughtful questions, concerns, and/or comments.

Attendance Policy

Those with *excused absences* are allowed to makeup work without penalty. You will receive 1 day for each *excused absence* to make up the assignment/exam. Upon your return, consult with the instructor or a classmate to collect any missing work. Students are responsible for making up all class work, homework and exams. Students with *unexcused absences or off-campus suspensions* **cannot** makeup missed work.

Tardy Policy

The school tardy policy will be followed; this policy can be found in the student handbook. Please be in your assigned seat and ready to work when the tardy bell rings.

Classroom Rules

1. Arrive to class on time and ready to work.
2. **NO** food, drink (except bottled water), gum or candy in the classroom.
3. Appropriate attire is expected; **NO** hoods or sunglasses in the classroom.
4. Remain in your assigned seat at all times.
5. Raise your hand for permission to speak or leave your seat.
6. Respect the property of the school and of others.

Consequences for violating these rules are as follows:

1st offense: verbal warning
2nd offense: seat change, student/teacher conference
3rd offense: referral to an administrator

Cheating Policy

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. Be sure to produce your own work and appropriately cite sources if needed. Cases of cheating or plagiarism will result in a score of a zero for that assignment or exam for all participating students and appropriate contacts will be made (parent/teacher/admin).

Homework

Homework will be given regularly throughout the course. Readings, objectives, outlines, and/or writing assignments will be assigned on a regular basis. Check the website for updated assignment calendars.

Incomplete/late assignments

Students must show evidence of effort and knowledge and therefore incomplete work will NOT BE ACCEPTED. Late work will be accepted within ***two school days*** of the original due date. Late work will receive 50% of the credit. The instructor will not accept e-mailed assignments/projects or assignments/projects on flash drives or CDs unless otherwise noted. All assignments must be ready to submit on the due date.

Assessments

Reading, lecture, or discussion quizzes may be given throughout the course with *or* without notice. Each unit will conclude with some variation of an exam, project, or essay. Midterms will cover material from the 1st semester and will be given at the end of the fall term, whereas the final will cover material from 2nd semester and will be given at the end of the second term.

Grades

The instructor does not give or change grades; you earn grades and they are reported. Grades are calculated through the Infinite Campus grading system. Grades are inserted into the following grading categories:

Homework
Class work
Writing
Projects/Presentations
Exams/Quizzes

97-100	**A+**	**93-96**	**A**	**90-92**	**A-**		
87-89	**B+**	**83-86**	**B**	**80-82**	**B-**		
77-79	**C+**	**73-76**	**C**	**70-72**	**C-**		
67-69	**D+**	**63-66**	**D**	**60-62**	**D-**	**0-59**	**F**

Grades will be updated on a regular basis and parents and students may review assignments through their district Parent Link account. Students inquiring about grades are encouraged to meet with the instructor during office hours; NOT DURING THE PASSING PERIOD.

Extra Credit

Extra credit ***may*** be offered throughout the course and the due dates will vary.

Personal Learning Devices

1. ALL PLDs MUST RECEIVE PERMISSION TO BE OUT AND USED IN CLASS AT ALL TIMES.
2. The use of any electronic device for photography, audio or video recording is prohibited unless such activity is explicitly approved by the instructor.
3. There are times when use of PLDs during class time will be permitted and other times when it is not. If asked to put PLD away, the student must comply immediately.
4. ***Neither Kennedy High School, Sacramento City Unified School District, nor the instructor shall be held responsible for cell phone charges, or if the device is lost or damaged.***
5. PLD use shall be permitted only when I am in the classroom. When there is another teacher or a substitute teaching the class, no electronic devices of any kind are permitted.

Consequences of Misuse of Personal Learning Device

If a student fails to comply with these guidelines, the privilege of using a PLD may be suspended for the remainder of the grading period or permanently. All school discipline policies regarding the use of electronics are in effect at all times.