

6th grade Social Studies

2022-2023

Welcome to 6th grade Social Studies!

We look forward to getting to know each one of you! 6th grade social studies is all about World Geography. We will learn about the world around us and gain a better understanding about how we impact and interact with the world around us. Get ready for a lot of work and a lot of fun!

Class materials:

- ❖ Binder and dividers
- ❖ LOTS of pencils and cap erasers
- ❖ Scissors
- ❖ Glue sticks
- ❖ Colored pencils
- ❖ ruler
- ❖ 1 pack of Highlighters
- ❖ Box of tissues
- ❖ 1 bottle of Hand sanitizer or Clorox wipes

Your teachers: One of these amazing teachers will be yours!

Ms. Blackburn- This is going to be my 10th year teaching, and my 7th year teaching Social Studies at Mason Middle School. I have my Secondary Social Studies Education Bachelors and my Masters in Reading, both from Spring Arbor University. I previously taught Drama in Charleston, SC. I grew up in Monroe County, and have lived in Michigan for most of my life. I have a mini goldendoodle named Isla. (eye-la) I love to cook, travel, and read when I'm not teaching. I am the Youth in Government Advisor for the Middle school.

Mr. Brandjord- My name is Chris Brandjord, and I will be your child's Social Studies teacher for the year. I am married and have three young boys. I have been working with middle school students since 1999. I am excited to be teaching World Geography this year and am proud to be part of Mason Middle School.

Mr. Riley- My name is Mr. Riley and I am a 6th grade Social Studies Teacher is in my 13th year in education and 5th year at Erie Mason. I am a proud alumnus of both The University of Toledo where I majored in Geography and Northern Arizona University where I earned my Masters in Educational Leadership. At home I love to spend time with my wife Kelly, my three children Steven, Belle, and Finn, and our dog Zona. In my free time you can find me running through the cross country trails or hiking with my family.

What we will be learning:

Unit 1: Foundations of World Geography

Unit 2: The World in Spatial Terms

Unit 3: Population and Migration

Unit 4: Culture

Unit 5: Human/ Environment Interaction

Unit 6: Economics and World Trade

Unit 7: Civics, Government, and Global Politics

Grading scale:

A+ = 100

A = 99 - 93

A- = 92 - 90

B+ = 89 - 87

B = 86 - 83

B- = 82 - 80

C+ = 79 - 77

C = 76 - 73

C- = 72 - 70

D+ = 69 - 67

D = 66 - 63

D- = 62 - 60

F = 59 - 50

*Grades will regularly be updated as soon as assignments can be graded, typically on Mondays. Please check grades often and feel free to ask any questions you might

Classroom Expectations:

- ❖ Respect yourself, your classmates, your teacher, and your environment.
- ❖ Be on time, on task, and prepared to learn every day.
- ❖ Raise your hand and wait to be called on.
- ❖ Clean up after yourself and keep things clean for others.
- ❖ Always try your best and do all your work.

Absent Policy

Yes! We did something important while you were absent! It is your responsibility to check with me or with me and google classroom for your work. You have **as many days as you were absent to** make up missed work. After that, any missing assignments will be accepted as late. Any assignment you are absent for will be entered as a **ZERO** until it is turn in.

What if something is late?

Late work is welcome but will be graded for with a 25% reduction in grade. Late assignments will be assigned as the teacher has time, so know that these assignments may take longer to be graded.

Plagiarism: What it is and how to avoid it

To plagiarize is defined as taking **ideas** and/or **writings** of another and passing it off as one's own. Students caught plagiarizing will be given a ZERO for the assignment.

Plagiarism includes...

1. Turning in **someone else's paper** as your own OR **Copying** a friend's paper before class (or having another teacher catch you copying work in their class)
2. Failing to **site** a source
3. Copying an author's exact words and passing them off **as your own**

I always want you to remember:

- ✓ Struggling is a part of learning.
- ✓ You are capable of **anything**.
- ✓ You are the focus of this class, not me.
- ✓ You are **responsible** for your learning, not me.
- ✓ Everything you do affects everyone else.
- ✓ You are **important** as a learner and as a human being.

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Syllabus agreement by students and their families:

I, _____ (name of student)

have read and understand the rules and expectations for Social Studies. I understand that it is my responsibility to get all needed materials, and to ask my teacher if I have any questions or concerns. I also understand that it is my responsibility to communicate with my teacher if I am not capable of meeting all expectations. Finally, I have reviewed the classroom expectations and policies and understand the consequences for not following these policies.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Best way to contact parent/ guardians:

parent/ guardian name:

Phone: _____ time of day: _____

Email: _____