**Honors Geography Syllabus**

**ASTEC Charter High School**

**2014-2015**

**Teacher:** Ms. Copeland

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**Plan Period:** 5th hour M,T,TH,F 12:38

**Phone:** High School 405-947-6274

**Textbook:** World Geography, Building a Global Perspective by Baerwald and Fraser

**Course Objectives:**

Scholars will explore, describe, analyze, and seek to understand the spatial arrangement of objects and people on Earth’s surface. Scholars will use the skills and tools of geography to examine the world and its inhabitants from a spatial perspective, solve problems of geographic dimensions and make informed decisions based upon solid research**.**

1. **Content Standard 1: The student will cite textual and visual evidence including maps and other geographic representations, tools and technologies to acquire, research, process, and solve problems from a spatial perspective.**
2. **Content Standard 2: The student will evaluate specific textual and visual evidence to analyze how human population is organized geographically in order to understand the cultural, political, and economic systems of the world.**
3. **Content Standard 3: The student will evaluate textual and visual evidence to analyze the components and regional variations of cultural patterns and processes.**

**Required Materials:**

* Blue or black ink pens, pencils (there will be no pencil sharpeners available in this classroom)
* Highlighters
* 2” Binder with dividers (at least 4) and non-spiral notebook paper (this binder will be graded often for organization). Dividers should be labeled as follows:
  + Notes
  + Terms
  + Graded papers
  + Homework
  + Spiral notebook (this notebook will be graded every Friday for a daily grade)

**Attendance Policy and Classroom Expectations**:

* Show up, be on time and participate.
* Ten or more excused and unexcused absences will result in a No Credit (NC) for this class.
* Three tardies will equal one absence.
* All students are expected to be respectful to all individuals in the classroom at all times.
* There is to be absolutely no gum, food or drinks in the classroom.
* Students are to come to class prepared with all materials including the textbook, binder paper, pens, and assignments everyday.
* Any student absent from class has exactly one week to turn in missed assignments. It is the student’s responsibility to find out missed assignments (check the website or ask a fellow student). Failure to turn in missed work will result in a zero. Any assignment or project that was due on the day of absence must be turned in the next school day in attendance.
* After a unit exam work from that unit cannot be made up.
* Students have one week to arrange to take a test missed due to absence. Any test not made up during the designated time will receive a grade of zero, no exceptions.
* All assignments must be completed by the day they are due. Points will be deducted for late assignments at the rate of 10% per day late or after one week.
* Academic Dishonesty: Plagiarism and cheating will not be allowed in this classroom! Zeros will be given for plagiarism and cheating, parents will be called, and further disciplinary actions may be taken. Plagiarism and cheating includes copying another student’s work.

**Extra Reading and Writing**

Honor students in this course are required to complete extra reading, writing, and research that is assigned to them. Daily quizzes over said reading will follow. The student is responsible for acquiring reading materials. Most reading will be online or a class set of books, but not always. This course will require a large amount of writing. Papers are to be typed, never handwritten, and always follow the Schaffer Method. Because of the increased rigor of this course, an additional .5 will be included in the transcript GPA calculation.

**Grading Scale:**

90 – 100 A

80 – 89 B

70 – 79 C

60 – 69 D

Below 59 F

**Category Weights:**

Exams/tests/projects 40%

Quizzes 25%

Daily Work/participation 15%

Semester Final Exam 20%

**Exams/tests/projects** are worth 40% of the student’s overall grade. Exams are given at the end of each classroom unit as a tool to assess the student’s overall comprehension of the unit. A total of 12 exams should be expected during each semester.

**Quizzes** are worth 25% of the student’s overall grade. Quizzes may be given every week or every other week to track student’s progress. A total of 18 quizzes should be expected during each semester.

**Daily Work/Participation** is worth 15% of the student’s overall grade. Daily Work is the work performed by the students each day in class including participation; however, if a student is unable to complete his/her assignment, it can be taken home as homework. At least two to three Daily Work/Participation assignments will be given each week.

**Semester Final Exam** is worth 20% of the student’s overall grade. The final exam is given on the last full classroom day of the semester and are comprehensive covering all units that have been taught in class.

**Extra Credit**: there is no extra credit. Do regular credit the first time.

**Student Progress:**

* Progress reports for students are prepared four times each year, midway of each 9-weeks grading period. Parents must come on site to pick up and sign for them on the day they are issued. Students are not allowed back in class until the progress report is picked up.
* Students who are not making adequate progress must attend tutoring after school and during half-day Saturday school.  Those who do not attend will placed disciplinary action.  Attendance to tutoring is not an option.  Grades will be given for attending tutoring sessions.

**Final thoughts:**

This is a class that requires active participation, a good attitude and constant presence. A missed class is a missed opportunity. You will need to catch up on your own time. You are encouraged to come to me if you need anything. Again, my classroom is a safe space where bullying and negative talk is not tolerated. I am always available to help you but you have to tell me. This is going to be an amazing year and remember, don’t do drugs!

I agree to abide the syllabus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_