



## World Geography Studies Course Syllabus

2009 – 2010

**Instructor:** Mr. J. Johnson

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**Room:** M226

**Tutorials:** By Appointment

**Conference:** 8<sup>th</sup> Period

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### Course Overview

According to the Texas Education Agency, in World Geography Studies, students are to acquire knowledge of people, places, and environments at local, regional, national, and international levels from the spatial and ecological perspectives of geography. Students will acquire knowledge of the influence of geography on events of the past and present. A significant portion of the course centers around the various physical processes that shape patterns in the physical environment, and the characteristics of major land forms, climates, and ecosystems and their interrelationships. We will also examine the political, economic, and social processes that shape cultural patterns of regions; types and patterns of settlement; the distribution and movement of world population; relationships among people, places, and environments; and the concept of region. Students will analyze how location affects economic activities in different economic systems worldwide. Students will also identify the processes that influence political divisions of the planet and analyze how different points of view affect the development of public policies. Finally, students will compare how components of culture shape the characteristics of regions and analyze the impact of technology and human modifications on the physical environment. Students will use problem-solving and decision-making skills to ask and answer geographic questions.

### General Expectations

- \* Students are expected to respect the teacher, fellow classmates, and school property.
- \* Students should be committed to learning
- \* Students are expected to acknowledge and adhere to the Mission of Reagan

High School and the Policies of HISD (Read The Student Handbook.)

### **Required Materials**

A **Three ring binder** with **4 Dividers** which includes the following

- (1) Bell Assignments
- (2) In-Class Assignments
- (3) Notes
- (4) Test/ Quizzes

### **Course Requirements**

Text: World Geography. McDougal Littell, Houghton Mifflin Company. A class set will be available for daily use. You will also be required to pick up a text from the bookroom for use at home.

### **Criteria for Grading**

( Your grade is based on the following point sytem)

<b>*Classwork</b>	<b>40%</b>
<b>*Assessments</b>	<b>60%</b>

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**100%**

\*One research project will be assigned for Semester A and B selected from a list of topics. Research projects may be an individual or group activity.

### **Course Outline**

#### **UNIT BREAKDOWN**

This class will be broken down into 5 units during Semester A and 5 units during Semester B. After completion of each unit there will be a unit test. The following breakdown lists the units and lessons in the order that they will be taught.

## **SEMESTER A**

**Unit 1** – The Basics of Geography

**Unit 2** – The United States and Canada

**Unit 3** – Latin America

**Unit 4** – Europe

**Unit 5** – Russia and the Republics

## **SEMESTER B**

**Unit 6** – Africa

**Unit 7** – Southwest Asia

**Unit 8** – South Asia

**Unit 9** – East Asia

**Unit 10** – Southeast Asia, Oceania, and Antarctica