**CRA Seventh Grade Geography Syllabus**

Teacher: Paul Connolly (Elkhorn Team) C.R. Anderson Middle School

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**Course Information**:

This class is focused on geography of the Eastern Hemisphere. Students will explore people and their cultures, major governments and religions of the world, ancient civilizations, and the political and physical geography of Europe, Africa, and Asia. Students can access TCI, the social studies text, online daily through Clever on their laptops and they will be given instructions on how to access the online text and daily classwork the first week of school. Students will be assigned written work at times, so they will need a pencil and a folder that can hold lined paper, or a spiral notebook for this purpose. These will be stored in a consistent location in the classroom so students can access them daily. *Additional supplies are listed below.*

In addition to the daily assignment details, a weekly agenda will be posted in the Files tab in Teams at the beginning of each week, for students to get an overview on what it is we will be focusing for the week. Parents/Guardians can view the daily social studies class agenda by using their students’ Teams login information at any time, or they can visit my teacher page at <https://staff.helenaschools.org/staff_page/Pconnolly/>.

Grades are updated regularly on PowerSchool, where students and parents each have their own unique login. If parents do not have a username or password, please contact the main office at 406- 324-2800.

Daily Supplies*:*

\*Pens/Pencils \*Folder/paper or Spiral Notebook

**At CRA Middle School we strive for Cooperative, Respectful, Achievers.**

**Below are steps for success in Social Studies at CRA.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| COOPERATIVE | RESPECTFUL | ACHIEVERS |
| * Be prepared for class. * Follow directions. * Be an active, productive group member. * Stay on task and avoid distracting others from their learning. | * Treat teachers and students with respect. * Encourage each other. * Be kind when communicating with others. | * + Give your best effort in class.   + Complete your work on time.   + Use technology appropriately to help you learn.   + Take responsibility for doing your own work. |

**Grading:**

Grading Scale: 90-100 = A, 80-89 = B, 70-79 = C, 60-69 = D, <60% = F

* Each of our units will be structured in a similar way. First, a preview activity will get students thinking about the topic. Students will learn key vocabulary, and will also do practice activities that help them better understand the unit’s essential question. I will check or score student work in these early stages of learning, providing feedback on student progress. These practice scores will fall under the ‘Classwork’ category, and will be worth **40%** of students’ total course grade.
* The final portion of each unit centers on student performance. It will be worth **60%** of students’ course grade. For the ‘Assessments’ category, students will generally either complete a project or take an assessment that allows them to show what they’ve learned from the unit.

Redo, Rewrite, Retest

* Students may choose to redo a test/assessment if they score lower than a 70%.
* If students plan to redo a test/assessment they must contact the teacher immediately after initial assessment results to determine the additional practice required and to determine the test retake date/time.
* Students have one week from the original test date to retake or redo an alternate test during Advisor in the Social Studies classroom unless the teacher agrees to a different arrangement.

**Late work:**

Late classwork will be accepted for full credit until the end of the unit/chapter assessment. Missing assignments will show as a zero in the gradebook until they are turned in. Students are encouraged to check PowerSchool regularly to identify missing or incomplete work, and to finish any missing work at home if they are unable to finish during class or if they have missing work after an absence.

**Eastern Hemisphere Geography Unit Plan for 2024-2025**

The numbers refer to lessons/chapters within our online textbook from TCI:

*UNIT 1: The Foundations of Geography*

Ch. 1 – The Tools of Geography

Ch. 2 – A Spatial Way of Thinking

Mapping Lab: The United States and Canada

*UNIT 2: Southwest and Central Asia*

Mapping Lab: Southwest Asia

Ch. 24-Oil in Southwest Asia

Ch. 25-Istanbul: A Primate City Throughout History

Ch. 26-The Aral Sea

*UNIT 3: Europe and Russia*

Mapping Lab: Europe and Russia

Ch. 14-Supranational Cooperation in the European Union

Ch. 15-Population Dilemmas in Europe

Ch. 16-Invisible Borders: Transboundary Pollution in Europe

Ch. 17-Russia’s Varied Landscape: Physical Process at Work

*UNIT 4: Africa*

Mapping Lab: Africa

Ch. 19-The Nile River

Ch. 20-Life in the Sahara and the Sahel

Ch. 21-Micro-entrepeneurs

Ch. 22-Nigeria: A Country of Many Cultures

Ch. 23-Resources and Power in Post-apartheid South Africa

**SOCIAL STUDIES SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

***Please sign below and remove this page and return it to Mr. Connolly by Tuesday, September 10, 2024.***

I acknowledge that I have read and understand Mr Connolly’s syllabus for the 2023-2024 school year.

Parent/Guardian Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_