

CRA Sixth Grade Geography/Social Studies Syllabus

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C.R. Anderson Middle School
Room 221

Course Information:

Sixth-grade Social Studies focuses on the geography, history, and cultures of the Western Hemisphere. Students learn about the basic foundations of geography, and focus specifically on North America and Latin America. 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 of what we will be focusing on. 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/Cwilliams/.

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 324-2800.

Daily Supplies:

*Charged up Chromebook/Laptop *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.

<u>C</u> OOPERATIVE	<u>R</u> ESPECTFUL	<u>A</u> CHIEVERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be prepared for class.• Follow directions.• Be an active, productive group member.• Stay on task and avoid distracting others from their learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Treat teachers and students with respect.• Encourage each other.• Be kind when communicating with others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.

Western Hemisphere Geography Unit Plan for 2023-2024

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: The USA and Canada

- Ch. 3 – Settlement Patterns and Ways of Life in Canada
- Ch. 4 – The Great Lakes
- Ch. 5 – Urban Sprawl
- Ch. 7 – Consumption Patterns

UNIT 3: Latin America

- Mapping Lab: Latin America
- Ch. 9 – Spatial Inequality of Mexico City
- Ch. 10 – Indigenous Peoples
- Ch. 12 – Land Use Conflict in the Amazon Rainforest

UNIT 4: To Be Determined as time allows

- Complex Societies Inquiry Unit
- Ch. 6 – National Parks
- Ch. 34/35 – Australia/Antarctica
- Final Independent Activity

SOCIAL STUDIES SYLLABUS ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Please sign below and remove this page and return it to Mrs. Williams by Friday, September 8, 2023.

I acknowledge that I have read and understand Mrs. Williams's syllabus for the 2023-2024 school year.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____