

Teacher: Mrs. Lauren Gustafson  
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Office Hours: Before/after school via appointment



### **Mrs. Gustafson's, 2024-2025 Teaching Schedule**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Period – Co-Taught World Studies with Mrs. Penley
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Period – Prep
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Period – AP Human Geography
- 4<sup>th</sup> Period – AP Human Geography
- Lunch
- 5<sup>th</sup> Period – Duty
- 6<sup>th</sup> Period – World Studies
- 7<sup>th</sup> Period – World Studies

### **Course Descriptions/Objectives**

*World Studies can best be understood by examining all of the natural features, regions, countries, societies, people, language, cultures, and institutions that make up the planet. Our course of study allows students to embrace the 'inquiry-based design model' that supports both our national and state aligned standards align. These support compelling question checkpoints through designated criteria and dimensions.*

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- BECOME AN INDEPENDENT CRITICAL LEARNER

### **Roadmap Of Topic and Unit (*students will explore SIX of the EIGHT options below, TBD*)**

- Western Europe; *Are Empires Destined to Fail?*
- Eastern Europe and Russia; *Does Unity Lead to Harmony or Division?*
- Americas; *What Makes a Complex Society?*
- Africa; *What Makes a Region 'Rich?'*
- Middle East/West Asia, Southwest Asia, Central Asia; *Does Misperception Cause Conflict?*
- East and Southeast Asia; *What is the Cost of Friendship?*
- South Asia; *How Does Society Benefit From Diversity?*
- Australia/Oceania; *Does Change Lead to Progress?*

To understand each of the inquiry units, we will explore each topic through a variety of ways. For example: Lecture, podcasts, readings (*both primary and secondary*), case studies, video, imagery, testimony, map & graph analysis. We as a class will also utilize various forms of writing, including performance tasks, annotations, and literacy-based activities.

Analyzing our subject matter will become a large part in helping us understand why it is important to know how the examination of social sciences within designated regions can and do affect our planet on a very in-depth scale. I will continually encourage, help mold, adapt, and build critical thinking skills with students along the way.

### **Expectations**

Please refer to the student/parent handbook for further guidance regarding what we as a school expect of you as a Bengal learner, which can be accessed [here](#).