



Course Syllabus-- Spring 2021

GEOGRAPHY (SGS110)

Mrs. Julie Law-Marin

Room C-310

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Classroom Website:

<https://sites.google.com/a/scusd.edu/law-marin-history/>

Remind: <https://www.remind.com/join/esgeo9> or text

@esgeo9 to the number 81010

Geography is a semester-long Social Science course designed for 9th-grade students. As an interdisciplinary introduction to Social Science, the course provides the foundation for the later study of World and United States History, Economics, and United States Government. This course also blends in contemporary global issues with every unit of study. This course will introduce and develop skills that will be needed in subsequent Social Studies classes, such as mapping, analyzing social change over time, and comparing and contrasting diverse cultures.

In addition to the geographic skills and concepts described, students in Geography will learn academic reading, writing, and speaking skills. A lot of attention will be focused on how to interact with text and how to think critically about what you've read.

Textbook

Primary Text: *World Geography* (McDougal Littell) c. 2003, Arreola, Daniel; Smith-Deal, Marci; Petersen, James F.; and Sanders, Rickie.

Students will also be reading a variety of additional texts, including news articles, personal narratives, and literature.

Attendance

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of the Zoom meeting on days when the class meetings Synchronously. As students enter, attendance will be updated. If there are any errors in attendance, please allow for twenty-four hours before Infinite Campus is updated. If there are still concerns, please contact the teacher. **The teacher can only change and/or modify attendance when there is a technology or login issue.** All other attendance matters must be cleared through Ms. Alva (Shiela-alva@scusd.edu).

Monday Attendance will be composed of an Attendance Form (located with instructions on the "Stream" section of Google Classroom) and the Monday assignment. If neither task is completed by that Monday at 11:59 PM, students will not be marked present for class.



Grading Policy

All assignments are worth points and grades will be calculated based on the number of points earned in each category. Most work will be completed during Synchronous and Asynchronous times. Work will be divided into the following categories:

Asynchronous Coursework-- 30%	Classroom Participation-- 5%
Current Events-- 10%	Final-- 15%
Synchronous Coursework-- 25%	Unit Assessments-- 15%

Check grades on Infinite Campus via www.scusd.edu

Parents/Guardians are also recommended to follow student progress with Distance Learning by subscribing for updates on Google Classroom. Emails should be sent to accounts listed on Infinite Campus or contact the class instructor.

Late Work

Late assignments will be accepted during the current unit by the **following week of the Unit Assessment due date. Any assignments not submitted upon the due date listed on Google Classroom will be considered late and will receive a 25% deduction.** If there are extenuating circumstances that may prohibit work submission, please contact the teacher immediately to discuss alternative arrangements. Students will receive notice of the deadlines when the Unit Assessment is assigned. The Final Semester Deadline will be **Friday, June 04, 2021.**

Grading Scale

Your grade will be given the following mark based on percentage:

A (+/-)	B (+/-)	C (+/-)	D (+/-)	F
90% and above	80-89%	70-79%	60-69%	59% or below

Course Outline

The semester will be broken down into the following units:

Geography of:

- North & Latin America
- Africa
- Europe
- Middle East
- Asia (East, South, & Southeast)
- Oceania



Academic Expectations

- **We are here to learn together.** We are a community as well as individuals and we should each remember that when engaging in things that distract from that mission, such as texting, eating, drinking, working on other things, sleeping, rude behavior, long walks to the bathroom, etc.
- Every student is expected to attend every class on time every day unless the student is required to be absent for a valid excuse. Truancy, unverified and unexcused absences, excessive absences, and tardies affect the students' education and increase the chances for failure. Tardies interrupt and interfere with the learning environment for all students and the teaching opportunities for teachers. For the rest of the school and district policy on attendance please see the JFK Handbook.
- Students will enter the classroom ready for class. Try to make sure your devices are charged and you have materials to take notes in addition to having the tabs opened for what is necessary for the class period.
- As soon as the class begins, students will be working on the Warm-Up task.

Behavior Expectations

1. Be on time. School Tardy policy will be enforced.
2. Be prepared to learn once entering the class.
3. Treat others with respect at all times.
4. One person will speak at a time.
5. Believe in your ability to succeed.

Office Hours

The instructor will offer Zoom Office Hours on Mondays from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM and Wednesdays from 3:20 PM to 4 PM. Zoom Meeting links will be posted in Google Classroom. Please utilize Office Hours for academic support or questions in addition to any additional support needed.

Technology Use (JFK Handbook)

“During [in-person classroom] instructional time, a teacher may grant students use of their cell phone or like device for educational purposes. Any student who violates any term of this policy will have their device confiscated. First-time offenders will be placed on an “electronics contract,” and the student can pick up the device at the end of the day from the office. Subsequent violations may carry additional disciplinary consequences and/or require that the parent/guardian pick up the electronic device from the school. Refusal to comply with confiscation of a device can result in a disciplinary consequence, including suspension.”

Classroom Materials:

The following materials are recommended in order to be successful. If you are unable to get a supply, please contact the instructor.



<u>Recommended Materials</u>	<u>Optional Materials</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Composition Notebook (2-- 1 for each semester) (or digital equivalent)<input type="checkbox"/> Pencils (2)<input type="checkbox"/> Pens (2)<input type="checkbox"/> Highlighter (2-3 Colors)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Colored Pencils<input type="checkbox"/> White-Out<input type="checkbox"/> Different Colored Pens<input type="checkbox"/> Blank Paper