

GLOBAL STUDIES II: AFRICA & ASIA

SYLLABUS

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Mission Statement:

As the twenty-first century begins, the world is truly becoming a smaller place. From the European Union to NAFTA, political and economic organizations are creating intricate and global interconnections between nations and governments. Conventional definitions of world regions as separate and enclosed systems have become increasingly blurred as these new global units redefine the map as we have known it.

The Middle School curriculum in Global Studies introduces students to this quickly changing world environment. In Global Studies I & II, the curriculum focuses on developing geographic literacy so that students not only become capable of identifying nations, capitals and major natural resources, but also gain an understanding of the role geography plays in the formation and growth of societies. Students will also learn about key historical, cultural and political events which have shaped various nations and their relationships with the United States. In Global Studies III: American Foreign Policy, students will utilize their geographic literacy to study how America has defined national security and foreign policy since World War II. The course will provide students with an overview of the content and creation of American foreign policy with an emphasis on the period after World War II. By reviewing America's history of international and military conflicts in the twentieth century, students will obtain a richer understanding of the changes to national security that have occurred in the post September 11 world.

Required Materials:

World Geography
Spiral Notebook

Notebook Atlas
Yellow highlighter

Class Overview:

This class will focus not only on introducing students to the geography and cultures of Africa and Asia, but will also hone research skills. We will be methodically covering the nations of the world, continent by continent, in order to learn the geographic, historical, political and cultural framework of each world region. Students will be required not only to memorize and identify nations, capitals and geographic landmarks, but also to conduct research on specific facets of selected nations and regions. By the conclusion of the course, students will have acquired a better understanding of the global environment and their place in it as citizens of the United States.

Grading:

Your grade in this course will be calculated based upon the following:

First Trimester

20%	Projects/Essays/Presentations
30%	Tests & Quizzes
35%	Homework
15%	Participation

Third Trimester

35%	Research Paper
20%	Tests & Quizzes
30%	Homework
15%	Participation

Second Trimester

20%	Projects/Essays/Presentations
30%	Tests & Quizzes
35%	Homework
15%	Participation

Outline of Topics and Projects for the Year

During the course of the year, we will be covering the following topics:

- I. Russia and the former Soviet Union
- II. The Middle East
- III. Northern Africa
- IV. West and Central Africa
- V. Southern Africa
- VI. Eastern Africa
- VII. South Asia
- VIII. China
- IX. Japan & the Korean Peninsula
- X. Australia & New Zealand
- XI. Antarctica

**PLEASE SEE THE SOCIAL STUDIES SYLLABUS FOR MY POLICIES ON:
HOMEWORK,
CLASS PARTICIPATION,
ACADEMIC HONESTY, AND
COMMUNICATIONS**