

SEVENTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES

First semester: North American and World Geography

Students will study use a new program entitled: *Geography Alive-Regions and People*

This program was created in partnership with scholars from the National Council for Geographic Education. It is a stimulating, case-study approach to geography. The program is designed to reach learners of all abilities using multiple intelligences teaching strategies and theory and research-based active instruction.

Students have online access to the test book. They also have an interactive notebook and there is a set of text books available in the classroom.

Topics:

- Canada and the U.S.A.
- Latin America
- Europe and Russia
- Africa
- Asia
- Oceania and Antarctica

Second semester: American History

Topics:

- Exploration of North America
- The 13 colonies
- Causes of the American revolution
- Revolutionary War
- The Constitution and American government
- Industrial and economic growth in America

Learning Methods:

- Co-operative learning in group settings
- Debates- Taking and arguing different points of view
- Evaluation of primary and secondary sources
- Recognizing point of view and perspective
- Interpreting and creating political cartoons
- Taking notes- using different styles

- Evaluation of illustrations and photographs
- Interpretation of graphs and charts
- Understand how to use resources to gather and analyze information
- Develop essay writing skills- how to write and develop an argument
- Research and gather information from a variety of sources
- Reading and understanding current events – using articles from the Upfront magazine
- Develop an understanding of how Catholics and the Catholic Church have influenced American history
- Use of Thinking Maps
- Students will have choice about how to display mastery of some concepts
- Participation in STEM and interdisciplinary activities
- Use of ipads – research, games, presentations-many of these are displayed on Seesaw

Grading:

Weighted values are assigned as follows

First and third quarters: Class Work (can include participation) = 30%, Daily Homework= 10%, Quizzes= 20%, Tests/Projects= 40%

Second and fourth quarters: Class Work (can include participation) = 25%, Daily Homework= 10%, Quizzes= 20%, Tests/Projects= 35%, Final= 10%

Absences:

Class work and homework that are missed because of an absence may be turned in no later than 3 school days after the student returns to school. Long-term projects may still be due on the date assigned, if reasonable. If not, an extension of no more than 3 days may be given. Absence work is recorded as a "1" in the grade book. If not completed within the allotted time, the grade becomes a zero.

Extra help, questions and concerns:

Students may come to my room early in the morning to get extra help. However, please notify me in advance to ensure that I am available.

