

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies - The Explorers

## Ms. Cynthia Herbig

### Contact Information

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### Course Overview (from JCPS Six Curriculum Map):

The Grade Six Social Studies Program uses the five big ideas of social studies to focus on an integrated approach to the study of world geography. Concepts, skills, and content from both human and physical geography are taught. Special emphasis is placed on the five themes of geography and the uses of the methods and tools of the geographer. Study revolves around the examination of various world regions and the cultures of those regions. In Grade Six Social Studies, students analyze and compare different patterns of life, including forms of government, economic systems, histories, beliefs, and attitudes, arts, and recreation for cultures around the world. Instruction explores the connections between the physical environment and the patterns of life. Students make comparisons with life in Kentucky and the United States, and explore the concept of global interdependence.

### Texts (only available in class):

- World Geography, Holt, Rinehart Winston 2007
- Geography Alive, Teachers' Curriculum Institute

### Student Expectations:

**In order to maximize your education, it is essential that you be a responsible, active learner.**

1. Be respectful.
2. Participate in classroom activities.
3. Be in your seat and begin your entry activities immediately.
4. Be prepared for class. Bring all materials to class **EACH DAY**. You will not be allowed to return to your locker once class has started.
5. Complete all assignments in pencil.
6. Follow all classroom procedures and school rules.
7. You will not bring drinks, food, seeds, gum, or candy into the classroom.
8. Turn in assignments on time. Late work will **NOT** be accepted, except for an absence.
9. All student work must be original. **Copying of any nature (test, quizzes, homework, class work, and projects) will result in a grade of zero for all individuals involved, including the person allowing the copying to take place.**

### Materials:

2 folders with prongs (1 – kept in class and 1 – for homework)

Loose leaf **college ruled** paper (white only)

Pencils (preferably mechanical)

Pencil sharpener which catches the shavings

Highlighter

Colored pencils

Crayons

1 Box of Kleenex (turn in to teacher)

Hand Sanitizer – female student (turn in to teacher)

Antibacterial Wipes – male students (turn in to teacher)

### **Grading Scale:**

93% - 100% = A  
86% - 92% = B  
79% - 85% = C  
70% - 78% = D  
69% or below = U

### **Grading Policy:**

Class Assignments – 20%  
Group Work – 10%  
Homework – 15%  
Projects – 10%  
Participation – 15%  
Proficiency Assessment – 5%  
Test – 10%  
Quizzes – 5%  
Student Reflection – 10%

### **Class Assignments/Group Work:**

Students are given assignments during class to practice new and previous concepts. These assignments allow teachers to help redirect any misunderstanding. Assignments may be reviewed during class or collected and graded based upon completion

### **Homework/Projects:**

I believe homework is a valuable aid in helping students make the most of their experience in school. I give homework because it reinforces what has been taught in class, prepares students for upcoming lessons and helps students develop self-discipline, responsibility and organizational skills. Homework is given on a regular basis and is graded.

- Homework is checked daily. A zero will be given when homework is not completed, not out at the time of check, or not in the room when it is time to turn in.
- **No late work will be accepted.**
- **I will offer extra credit assignments throughout grading period that are due on specific dates. This is offered to all students who want to improve their grade.**

### **Participation**

To meet the challenges of 6<sup>th</sup> grade social studies, you will be expected to actively participate. This means coming prepared, speaking up, interacting with others, explaining and sharing ideas, asking questions and listening to what others have to say. Discussing possibilities and concepts in this way will help you understand the content at a deeper level. Students will also need to write their assignments in their agenda and get it signed once a week. Please have a parent sign over weekend to show that you reviewed their assignments from the previous week. They students will also need to be sure to complete their learning targets.

### **Quizzes , Tests and Proficiency Assessments**

- Quizzes will be given several times throughout the unit. Prepare for quizzes. I recommend you study all daily work, and review your notes.
- Tests are teacher generated and given at the end of a focus topic. Proficiency Assessments are district generated and will be given at the end of a unit.
- Any student talking or copying answers is not acceptable and, if caught, all involved will receive a zero on the assignment.

**Student Reflections:**

- Students will be given the opportunity to reflect and respond to daily activities.

**Absences and Late Work:**

**Absences: Attend class on a daily basis. It is important that you are here. If you are absent, it is YOUR responsibility to get the make-up work and turn it in on time.** The school attendance policy will be strictly enforced. Students will need to request make-up work when they are absent.

- You must ask for missed assignments three days from date of absence.
- You will have the number of days that you were absent plus one to make up missed work.
- If you miss a test you will make up the missed test in class on the day you return. You are responsible for the daily work missed while making up the test.
- Tests not made up within one week of return will be scored as a zero.
- When absent for a band concert/orchestra/similar activity, due dates for homework/projects/etc. stay the same. Students must turn them in during homeroom before going downstairs for the concert/activity. Work turned in late will result in a zero.

Cut along this line

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I acknowledge receipt and have reviewed this syllabus and understand that I am responsible for knowing the policies as stated:

Print Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

