



World Geography

Notre Dame Preparatory

Classroom Guidelines and Syllabus

Ms.Dibonaventura
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480-634-8200
Room: 506

Office Hours: Monday- Friday before or after school

(Please contact to schedule a time outside the above noted office hours)

Course Description

World Geography

1 semester, .5 credit

This College Prep course focuses on five units covering five major regions of the world. As we explore each region, we will take a look at the way their physical geography has shaped their current and historical development of factors such as cultural diversity, population patterns, lifestyles, human behaviors, etc. This course will be intermixed with current events throughout the year, allowing students to make a modern-day connection to the countries, cultures and physical location of places throughout the world.

Guidelines

1. Supplies needed on a daily basis:
 - a. Pencils/erasers
 - b. Blue or black pens
 - c. College ruled paper
 - d. A binder and dividers to organize papers
 - e. Colored pencils
 - f. Scissors
 - g. Computer
 - h. Computer Charger
 - i. Headphones
2. Attendance: I will follow the rules set forth by Notre Dame Preparatory and the Social Studies department.
3. Remember that I am here to help guide you through your first experience at NDP. If you have any troubles or concerns with Geography or anything else, please do not hesitate to send me an email or come by and speak with me privately before or after class. *However*, as a freshman in high school, it is expected that *you, the student*, will be communicating directly with me, whether it be through email, by phone or in person. Your parents are always welcome to reach out, but as part of becoming an adult, I expect that you will be the person communicating with me first and foremost.

4. When the bell rings each student is expected to be in their seat with the day's materials on their desk.
5. All food, gum, and beverages will not be allowed in the classroom, with the exception of water.
6. Bathroom trips are allowed, but within reason.
7. Homework: There will be assignments to be completed at home, outside of class time. Each time something is assigned, it will be posted on Canvas, announced in class and written on the white board.
8. All Dress Code, Cheating/Plagiarism, & Cell Phones/Electronic Devices handbook policies are expected to be followed.
9. iPad Policy: Please follow guidelines in the handbook on appropriate uses of any electronic device. It will be used every day for assignments, notes, etc. so don't forget it!

Grading Policy

The student's grade will be evaluated through tests, quizzes, homework, notebook, projects, essays, and participation. Grades are given by the scale in the Student Handbook.

Geography classes at NDP weigh grades by the types of assignments and the weights are given below. At any given moment, the student should know what he/she is earning in this class by reviewing Canvas. The breakdown of summative and formative assessments is as follows:

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| ● Summative Assessments (e.g. tests, projects, debates, Socratic Seminars) | 55% |
| ● Formative Assessments (e.g. homework, discussions, assignments) | 25% |
| ● Semester Exams | 20% |

Teacher Responsibilities and Goals

It is my responsibility to provide an organized and creative lesson each day. Students will have a clear understanding of the progress of this course and their success with the material. Assessments will be designed to mark progress within a structured series of units. All students will be treated equally and fairly during the course of this year. It is my intention to guide the students in learning the Social Sciences within the Catholic context of Notre Dame Preparatory.

Content & Material:

Units of Study:

- Unit 1: 5 Themes of Geography
- Unit 2: The U.S. & Canada
- Unit 3: Latin America
- Unit 4: Europe
- Unit 5: Africa
- Unit 6: Asia, Australia, Oceania & Antarctica

January 2021

To: Freshman World Geography Students and Parents/Guardians

From: Ms. Dibonaventura, World Geography

Dear Students and Parents,

I would personally like to welcome every one of you to World Geography and first class at NDP. As you will find, your Geography class will be one of not only learning places, names and dates, but of exploring the world that we all live in and share, and the world which God has entrusted to us.

Before we get the year started, we would strongly request that both you, the student, AND your parents/guardians read over your Notre Dame Preparatory student handbook and the attached classroom guidelines and syllabus to become familiar with what will be expected of you. By becoming very familiar with, and following, all of the information your Geographic experience will be fun, exciting, and trouble free.

Parents, I would also strongly encourage you to become "Observers" of your students on Canvas. In doing so, you can stay up-to-date on your student's grades, as well as the progression of our course, homework assignments, tests/quizzes and any important due dates. If you have any questions on how to do so, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Please remember that I am here to help guide you through this semester, therefore communication is strongly encouraged. If you have any troubles or concerns with Geography or anything else, please do not hesitate to send me an email or come by and speak with me privately before or after class. *However*, as a freshman in high school, it is expected that *you, the student*, will be communicating directly with me, whether it be through email, by phone or in person. Please understand that parents are always welcome to reach out with questions or concerns, but as part of becoming an adult, I expect that you will be the person communicating with me first and foremost.

With that, we kindly request that both the student and the parent/guardian fill out and sign the attached Parent/Guardian Contact Information Sheet. Should you have any concerns, questions, suggestions, etc. through the year please contact me at ANY time via phone, email or by setting up a time to meet in person. I am here to not only teach you, but to help you with your transition into the world of high school.

I look forward to getting to know each of you and to spending time together this year exploring the world around us!

Sincerely,

Ms.Dibonaventura

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Academic dishonesty is defined as an act of deceiving. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, any of the following behaviors:

1. Copying another person's OR allowing another to copy test/assignment answers.
2. Copying another person's OR allowing another to copy homework.
3. Plagiarism, the act of intentionally or unintentionally treating work done by someone else as though it were one's own, copying portions of reports (including reports in books, encyclopedias and magazines, from those written by other students, or from Internet/online sources) without giving credit to the people who wrote these reports. It is unacceptable to borrow a report (or pay another person to do one's own paper) and then hand it in as original work.
4. Lending or receiving materials via electronic instruments or equipment, sharing of electronic files via email, jump drive, CDs or network drive.
5. Copying from pre-written answers or "cheat sheets" during an assessment.
6. Use of electronic translators or internet translators for work in World Language classes.

Academic Dishonesty of Summative Assessments:

Notre Dame Preparatory works to provide fair and equitable assessments of student learning. At no time should a student violate a testing environment or be placed in a situation where they are being intimidated/forced/enabled to violate any of the following.

A violation of testing procedures includes but is not limited to the following behaviors:

1. Verbal or nonverbal communication with another student while an exam is in progress
2. Use of an electronic device during a testing period without permission of the instructor
3. Divulging test questions to another student including online resources (e.g Quizlets)
4. Possession of notes or class materials within view of any student taking an exam

Note: It is by the discretion of the teacher that a violation has been made.

New to Distance Learning: Students will agree to the following stipulations during summative assessments taken online:

- I agree that I will not receive any assistance from another individual. This includes tutors, friends, family members, etc.
- I agree that I will not receive any assistance from technology. This includes other assignments in Canvas, videos, content-related apps, etc. I MAY use a graphing calculator if permitted by the exam.
- I agree that I will only have one browser open during the entire length of the exam.
- I agree that the only page I will have open in my one browser is the exam itself.
- I agree that I will not use my cell phone during the exam period.
- I agree that I will not take any photos or screenshots of any questions on the exam.
- I agree that I will not share any information about the exam or its contents with any other individuals. This includes once the exam window is closed.
- As a general rule, I agree to take the exam as my teacher would expect me to in a classroom, with the teacher observing me.

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty:

Please note: The following consequences apply to all courses over a student's academic career at NDP.

- **First Offense:** For a summative assignment, the student is given an alternative assessment/different test, but the score will be capped at 50%. On formative assessments, students receive a zero (0%). A disciplinary referral is written, a detention will be issued, and parents will be contacted in all cases of academic dishonesty.
- **Second Offense:** Procedures for a first offense are followed. For both formative and summative assignments, the student will receive a zero (0%). A student will be asked to sit before the Academic/Discipline Review Board.
- **Third Offense:** Student may be dismissed from Notre Dame Preparatory.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____