

The School District of Newberry County

Class: Human Geography

Teacher: Ms. Sid Bush

Room: 105

Phone Number: 803-364-2134 Ext. 80105 **Email:** sbush@sdnc.org

Planning: 3rd Block (12:10pm - 1:40pm)

Contact: The best time to contact me is during my planning period, by email, or by scheduling a phone call via email. Students and parents are encouraged to arrange an appointment on Monday between 3:15 - 3:45 pm in order to get extra help and tutoring.

My website: To access my website that includes a copy of the syllabus as well as my contact information, you can go to <https://sites.google.com/sdnc.org/msbush?usp=sharing>

I. DESCRIPTION

The focus of Human Geography is for students to examine patterns and processes of how human characteristics and activities vary across Earth's surface and how humans understand, use, and alter the surface of Earth. Conceptual in nature rather than place specific, this course is organized systematically around the topics of population and migration geography, economic geography, cultural geography, political geography, and urban geography. Students will also learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human patterns and processes and their environmental consequences.

II. TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

State Adopted/Course Textbook(s): Holt McDougal Geography

Supplemental Materials: <https://www.geographypods.com/>, Articles from various internet and news sources

Required Materials: Class notebook or binder with loose leaf paper, pencils or pens, student laptop & charger, an open mind and positive attitude.

III. COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to explain the importance of basic geographic tools like Cartography, GPS, and GIS by analyzing application of these tools in everyday life.

Students will be able to Identify and analyze the spatial distributions and patterns of human population using maps, geographic models, and representations.

Students will be able to explain the impact of migration on populations from the local to global scales by using geographic models while completing case studies based on current day populations.

Students will be able to identify and analyze the spatial distribution, patterns, and diffusion of ethnic, linguistic, and religious cultural characteristics using maps and other geographic representations.

Students will be able to identify and analyze global cultural values by studying variations of international sports. Students will focus on one sport from a foreign society in an effort to research and draw conclusions through the building of a research presentation, global display, as well as by planning out a sporting tournament/poster.

Students will be able to identify and analyze the global economic development of peoples around the world and how agricultural developments over time have led to globalization by analyzing employment and literacy rates as well as completing agricultural case studies.

Students will be able to identify regions of varying economic development and explain the factors that influence the location and spatial distribution of those regions at the local and global scales using geographic models and representations.

Students will be able to identify and explain the conditions and connections that influence the characteristics, forms, and functions of cities and their spatial distribution by writing case-study analysis reports and creating model cities.

IV. UNITS OF STUDY

Unit I – Theories and Concepts of Geography

Unit II – Population and Migration

Unit III – Cultural Patterns and Processes

Unit IV – Global Economic Development

Unit V – Urbanization

Unit VI – Energy Sources

V. ASSESSMENTS

- Exit/Entrance Slips & Daily Warm ups, and/or Classwork/Homework – Will count as part of the daily/homework 10% grade.
- Quizzes, Discussion Posts, Multi-Day Assignments - Minor grades 40%.
- Projects/Essays – Most will be completed in class. Projects/Essays will vary as to whether they are a “minor 40%” or “major 50%” grade. Students will be told at the beginning of each activity if it is minor or major.
- Tests – Test dates will be posted on the board and in Schoology. Common unit assessments will count as a major grade. A mid-term semester exam and final exam will be administered. All tests will count as a “major 50%” grade.

VI. GRADING SCALE

As of the 2019-2020 school year high school students in the state of South Carolina will be on a 10-point grade scale as follows:

A (90-100)
B (80 – 89)
C (70 – 79)
D (60 – 69)
F (Below 60)

Grades are classified into three categories:

Major (50%)
Minor (40%)
Daily/Homework Effort (10%)

****All MCHS Academic Integrity Guidelines will be followed in my classroom. A copy of these guidelines is found on page 4 of your student handbook. ****

VII. HOMEWORK

Any work not completed in class will become homework. It will be due the next class period or the time and date listed on Schoology. It is the student's responsibility to turn any work into the teacher. Students should also study notes after they are given in class. This is considered homework as I need students prepared for class and knowledgeable about the information given in class.

VIII. RULES AND PROCEDURES

Students are expected to behave in a manner that demonstrates: respect for self and others, value for quality work, personal integrity and character, and a spirit of cooperation. Students are also expected to come to class prepared. This means the students should have completed all assignments and readings as well as have all appropriate materials for class (notebook, textbook, pen/pencil). For a student to be successful, he/she must keep up with the reading and review notes regularly. Regular attendance is also essential.

Class Discipline Code:

1. **All MCHS** rules will be enforced in class
2. No food or drink in the classroom or hallway. (Clear bottled water acceptable)
3. ID displayed properly.
4. Hats and hoodies off.
5. Unauthorized electronic devices not allowed.*
6. Students will **RESPECT** other's space, belongings, and ideas.
7. Students will arrive on time prepared physically and mentally.
8. Students will follow all directions promptly.

*Cellphones: Per the 2022-2023 school year, phones are no longer allowed during instructional time.

Daily Procedures for the Classroom:

1. Be in your seat and ready to learn (laptop out and plugged in if needed, schoology up) when the bell rings.
2. When I begin class, be quiet and respectful so you and your fellow students don't miss important information about the plan for the day.
3. **Bathroom Policy:** If you need to use the restroom or get water during class, raise your hand, and if granted permission, submit an e-hallpass.. If you are gone for more than 10 minutes, I will submit a referral as this is against school policy. I only allow one student to leave the room at a time for this purpose, so you may need to wait. If I am in the middle of teaching or giving instructions to the class, I will likely ask you to wait until I am done so you do not miss important information.
4. Turn in all assignments! This is the biggest issue that causes low grades. If I don't have it, I can't grade it.
5. Clean up after yourself! Throw away your trash and keep track of your personal belongings.
6. Respect everyone's personal space. This includes no rough-housing, turning off other's laptops, or hiding other's personal belongings. This behavior will not be tolerated in my classroom and will lead to disciplinary action if it occurs.

IX. MAKE UP PROCEDURE

Students' missed work will be found in the student's daily folder on schoology. Teachers will permit students to make up work missed during an absence as long as the student makes appropriate arrangements with the teacher no later than their fifth day back at school. The student must then complete the work within 10 days after their return to school. It is the student's responsibility to inquire about make-up work due to absences and suspensions. Students can come before or after school by appointment or during enrichment to make up work. Students are also given a chance to retake 2 major and 2 minor grades throughout the semester. Note that these

are not classwork/participation grades. These will be complete retakes, not test corrections. **IT IS THE STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE UP MISSING WORK, NOT THE TEACHER'S!**

Social Studies Department Makeup Policies:

Makeup Work: If you are absent, please check the Schoology page to collect what you missed. Please ask me if you have questions. It is the **student's responsibility** to inquire about missed assignments. I will permit students to make up work missed during an absence as long as the student makes appropriate arrangements with the teacher no later than their fifth day back at school. The student must then complete the work within 10 days after their return to school. It is the student's responsibility to inquire about make-up work due to absences and suspensions. Missing work may result in zero (0) points for that assignment.

Late work: Each assignment will have a due date of when it is expected to be completed and turned in. In the case that an assignment is completed late, the student has until the end of the unit (day of the unit test) to turn in the missing work for full credit. **Any work turned in after the end of the unit will have 20 points taken off for each school day and will not be accepted after 5 days** unless arrangements have been made with the teacher. A zero will be entered into the gradebook the first day an assignment is late but will be changed to reflect the earned score once that assignment is turned in.

Test Makeup: If a student misses school the day of an assigned test, **they will make up the test the day they return to school.** (exceptions may be made for extended absences due to illness).

X. MOVIE/VIDEO MATERIALS

As part of the daily lessons, there will be video materials that support our units, case studies, and topics. These videos will consist of a mixture of youtube videos, documentaries and movie clips. All videos will be carefully edited and be previewed by the teacher before showing to make sure that they are school appropriate and follow the MCHS video guidelines.