

Geography and World History Syllabus

Mrs. Abts

2025 - 2026

Description:

Geography-World History is a basic understanding of physical geography and the events that happened around the world in the past and how that affects the present and even the future. We will study a period of time and examine what the world is doing at that time including the physical features, culture, and history.

Course Sequence:

- Fall Semester - Geography
 - Geography Skills
 - Continents of the World
 - Country Projects
- Spring Semester - World History
 - The World in 1500 - Aztec, Inca, Ming, Mali, and Ottoman Empires, etc
 - Big Era 6 - 1400-1800 - Exploration, Renaissance, Scientific Revolution, etc
 - Big Era 7 - 1750-1914 - French Revolution, Imperialism, Industrialization, etc
 - Big Era 8 - 1900-1950 - World Wars, Great Depression, etc
 - Big Era 9 - 1945-Today - Cold War, Terrorism, Globalization, etc

Materials for Class: Wired earbuds to plug into your chromebook (wireless earbuds will not be allowed), paper, pencils, and colored pencils (maybe).

Grade Components:

- **Assessments:** (70%): Tests, quizzes, projects, essays, semester exam, etc.
 - Tests will be taken by everyone on the day that it is given, even if a student was absent the day before. However, tests can be retaken up until the end of the quarter.
 - All tests and quizzes must be completed in the class period when they are assigned. Tests and quizzes will be graded as is. Retakes are available up to 60%.
 - Students need to retake multiple choice tests as many times as needed to earn a 60% before the end of the quarter. A Review Worksheet must be completed and turned in before a multiple choice test can be retaken. The grade for this test can only be increased 10% if the second score is more than 10% better.
 - If the assessment is not a multiple choice test, it must be turned in by the due date. 10% will be deducted for each day that it is late, down to 60% possible. 60% credit is possible for any work turned in four days or longer after the due date. Late work will not be full credit.
 - Academic Misconduct - Phone out, talking, or disruption during a Test - results in a zero on the test and the retake is averaged with that zero. Students can retake tests up to a 60% possible.
 - Test Retake Times:
 - CATS on Fridays with teacher approval
 - Before or after school - Make arrangements to get a pass
 - After School Tutoring in the Library - 3:30 PM - 4:25 PM in the Library (Monday-Thursday) - Make arrangements
 - Saturday School in the Library - 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (most Saturdays) - Make arrangements

- **Daily Work (30%):** Warm-ups, worksheets, exit tickets, etc.
 - Homework assignments are due at the beginning of the next class period, unless otherwise specified.
 - Late daily work assignments will be accepted until the unit is over (usually marked by an assessment) at 50% credit. Daily work assignments will not be accepted after that time.
 - Students must fill out the Make-up Work form on Google Classroom if any work is turned in after the due date. The assignment will not be graded until it is on the Make-Up Work form.
 - If you know you will be gone for whatever reason, please let your teachers know so you may gather and complete the assignment **before** your scheduled absence.

Chromebook Usage in Class:

Students must bring Chromebooks to class fully charged and ready to work every day. Chromebooks will be used almost every day. If an adult asks you to close your Chromebook, you must do so. If you forget to charge your Chromebook or leave your Chromebook at home, you may have a paper copy of the assignment or be required to do the assignment for homework. Students will never be allowed to charge their chromebook during class. The library will allow you to check out a Chromebook TWICE a semester.

AI Policy:

Students may use artificial intelligence or related platforms when any of the following occurs:

1. The student receives advance permission from the teacher for the given assignment or project; or,
2. The teacher's classroom rules or expectations established artificial intelligence as a permissible resource for students to access.

Any student with questions about the permissible use of artificial intelligence should contact their teacher in advance of using artificial intelligence to assist with any assignment. It is the responsibility of each student to understand the permissible use (if any) of artificial intelligence in a given class or a particular assignment. Students must be fully forthright and honest about their use of artificial intelligence to assist with any school assignment.

Unless otherwise permitted by this policy, students may not use artificial intelligence or related platforms to assist or complete any assignment, project, test, or other school-related task. The impermissible use of artificial intelligence may subject the student to discipline in accordance with the District's plagiarism policy and academic dishonesty rules.

Absences:

If a student misses a class for any reason, he/she will be expected to get the missing assignment from Google Classroom and/or the Homework Binder. The Homework Binder will contain a list of what was done each day that week. If there were hand-outs, those will be in the binder with your name on it. This binder is located on the counter by the door. After the student returns to school, they will have one day for every day they are absent to get an assignment done. Here is the link to the policy for SHS. [SHS Extended Leave Guidelines](#)

Tardies:

A tardy is defined as not being in your seat when the tardy bell rings. After 15 minutes, you are considered absent. This is the school policy:

- Tardy 1-2: Teacher warning
- Tardy 3: Detention 5 minutes with the teacher
- Tardy 4: Detention with teacher and student calls parent in front of the teacher
- Tardy 5 or more: Lunch detention for each tardy exceeding 5

If you are tardy, you will need to make-up the Warm-up either before or after school. Please be on time.

Restroom Passes:

Each student will be allowed to leave the room one time each quarter. If you have a reason that you will need to leave the room more than one time a quarter, please communicate that with your teacher. You will be allowed to leave more than one time, but you will need to serve a 5 minute detention with me each time. If this detention is not served, future requests to leave the room will be denied and could result in a referral to the administration. The best time to use the restroom is between classes. You will not be counted tardy, if you drop off your stuff and let your teacher know where you are going. This can be revoked, if it is abused. After School Restorative Supports for 30 minutes after 3 tardy detentions aren't served.

PED - Cell Phone/Earbud Policy:

- Cell Phones - Freshman Academy classes are considered RED zones (absolutely no cell phones). Your cell phones will be in the cell phone holder at all times during the class period. If a student has an issue and needs their cell phone, the student may get a note from the office to allow cell phone use during class.
 - First refusal – Teacher warning (Statement at the beginning of class to place phones in holder)
 - Second refusal – PED turned into the office and may be picked up at the end of the school day. Parent contact will be made by administration.
 - Continued refusal – PED consistent with the Progressive Discipline Chart for student insubordination.
- Earbuds - Freshman Academy classes are considered YELLOW zones (use only with teacher approval). Your earbuds need to be put away as soon as the tardy bell rings and should remain put away unless your teacher allows you to use them. You will not be allowed to use wireless earbuds in class. You will need wired earbuds that can be plugged into the chromebook. If you don't have wired earbuds, Mrs. Abts has some you can borrow.

Extra Help:

There is an availability sign outside my door. Please come in for extra help or to make up assignments. I will usually be in class from 7:15 AM to 4:00 PM each day. Make sure you get a pass from me if it is before school, after school, or during CATS.

- After School Tutoring on Mondays - Thursdays from 3:30 - 4:25 in the Media Center
- Saturday School from 9:00 - 11:00 in the Media Center
- **Nebraska SMART** Free after school virtual tutoring through qualified tutors from Chadron, Peru, and Wayne State Colleges. Parents can access through www.nscs.edu/NebraskaSMART
 - **Steps:**
 1. Parents register through website
 2. Create login credentials
 3. Schedule tutoring appointments or log in and wait for the next available tutor
 - Tutoring is available after school hours

Contact Information:

Mrs. Abts' school email address is: dabts@sbps.net

The school phone number is 635-6230.

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.