***Human Geography***

Flagstaff Arts & Leadership Academy

2018 – 2019 Couse Syllabus

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**Course Scope:**

This course aims to examine the role of Geography in the global Human experience. Topics include; the role of Geography in influencing culture, politics, and human conflict, issues of sustainability in light of exponential human growth and globalization, and a general understanding of climate, cultural, political, and economic regions within the world.

**Course Academic Goals:**

**-** Practical use of maps (topographic, political, resource ect.)

- The ability to analyze the influence of multiple factors upon a region or current event

- Establishing a familiarity with the political and physical landscape of the Earth

- Analyzing connections between cultural place, physical features, resources and human identity

**Course Character Goals:**

Throughout the duration of this course, our classroom community will be approaching a wide breadth of topics, of which, there may be differences of opinion, and some heated debate. Students are expected at all times to maintain respect for fellow students and their opinions, as well as maintaining the FALA standards of behavior outlined in the student handbook. Our classroom should be a secure, tolerant, and encouraging environment for all students. In order to maintain this, all students will be expected to speak in turn, refrain from holding side conversations, maintain a constructive attitude toward the learning process, and follow directions promptly. Other class guidelines will be selected by the classroom as a whole to better your learning environment as the group sees fit. We will focus in this course on developing FALA’s habit of 1) The Common Good, by creating a safe, welcoming learning community in our classroom; 2) Connection and Collaboration through approaching a wide array of topics from past events, to current issues to understand underlying patterns, cause and effect, and ultimately develop a more cohesive understanding of your local and global community; 5) Critical Inquiry by approaching new material and previously held ideas with healthy skepticism, an open-mind, and an analytical focus on new material.

**Textbooks:**

Contemporary Human Geography By: James Rubenstein

**Student Supplies:**

Students are expected to maintain the following supplies:

Writing Utensils

Notebook or Binder dedicated to this course

Colored Pencils (Optional but recommended)

**Attendance/Tardy Policy:**

**See Student Handbook PG 16 – 22 for more detailed information including but not limited to, Loss of Credit, Performance attendance expectations, absences and tardiness.**

**FALA Attendance and Tardy Policy**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Short-term consequences****(Quarterly)** | **Long-term consequences** **(Per Semester)** |
| **FALA Excused Absences** | None | None |
| **Excused Absences** | No initial consequences | **5 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - Warning Letter & Counselor meeting**8 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - Warning Letter & must attend tutoring if grades are affected. |
| **Unexcused Absences** | Detention, in-school suspension | **10 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - Warning Letter & Parent/Dean Meeting**11 cumulative absences** (excused or unexcused) in any given class - loss of credit |
| **FALA Excused Tardiness** | None | None |
| **Excused Tardiness** | 1st and 2nd tardy: Warning3rd tardy: Letter sent home4th tardy: Lunch Detention & Parent Notification5th tardy: Lunch Detention & Parent Meeting6th tardy: Lunch Detention7th tardy: Suspension (in-school)8th tardy: Considered Habitually Tardy. Further  disciplinary action. | Potential loss of credit due to inadequate Instructional seat minutesaccording to the State of Arizona. |
| **Unexcused Tardiness** |  |

**Grading Points and Scale:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Letter Grade** | **Numerical Average** | **Grade Point Value** |
| A+ | 99-100 | 4.0 |
| A | 93-98 | 4.0 |
| A- | 90-92 | 3.67 |
| B+ | 87-89 | 3.33 |
| B | 83-86 | 3.0 |
| B- | 80-82 | 2.67 |
| C+ | 77-79 | 2.33 |
| C | 73-76 | 2.0 |
| C- | 70-72 | 1.67 |
| D+ | 67-69 | 1.33 |
| D | 63-66 | 1.00 |
| D- | 60-62 | 0.67 |
| F | Less than 60 | 0.0 |

**Description of Grading Practices:**

**Examples of Formal and Informal Assessments**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Formal Assessment – 60% or more** | **Informal Assessments – 40% or less** |
| Final exams and midtermsStandards-based tests and quizzesCulminating projects Essays (all types)Lab reportsPresentationsPerformancesOther demonstrations of proficiency | Small projects (formative)Practice tests/quizzesChecking for understanding activitiesHomeworkDraftsPractice workClassworkStudent involvement/participationClass activitiesJournalsWarm-ups |

\*Semester grades will be weighted evenly (50/50). Final exam and/or benchmarks will be included in the formal assessments category.

**Participation Criteria:**

Your in-class participations in discussions, active listening, and group work is pivotal to your success in our classroom. In class discussions will be a major part of this class. Be prepared each class with at least 1 question and comment on the material in readings or the previous class. This will help you to not feel nervous participating, and will give you time to really consider the material and take away meaningful information and experiences from each class.

**Make-up Work Policy:**

Unexcused Absence- No Makeup work accepted

**If you have an Excused or FALA Excused Absence it is your responsibility to get the makeup work from me on your first day back to class.** You will then have till the following class period (a total of 2 class periods after the absence) to submit make up work for full credit.

**Redo’s/Retakes Policy:**

* Formal Assessments: Retakes must be arranged within one week of having received your grade for a formal assignment. In order to arrange a retake, you must first set up a time to meet with me and discuss your assignment. You will then be given a due date/ retake appointment within that week timeframe. The retake assignment or test WILL differ from the original. If you miss your retake deadline, no retake will be accepted. There will be no extension of retake deadlines. **Exceptions: If your formal assignment is initially late, you lose your opportunity for a retake.**
* Informal Assessments: No Retakes

**Social Studies Department Work Submission and Late Work Policies:**

All class resources and assignments will be posted on Google Classroom and will be submitted through Classroom when completed. DO NOT email me a completed assignment, it will not be graded. Please utilize the Classroom reminders and notification settings, it will help you to stay on top of your classwork.

**Late Work:**

Informal Assignments: No late work will be accepted.

Formal Assignments: You may submit a Formal assignment up to 1 week late. 10 percentage points will be deducted for each day late **INCLUDING WEEKEND DAYS AND DAYS WE DO NOT HAVE CLASS.**

**Social Studies Department Cell Phone Policy:**

**Cell phones:** Cellphones are a very powerful tool. However, they are also a huge distraction in the classroom, which both hurts student performance and limits the discussion, and engagement, which is necessary to a successful, and engaging social studies classroom. Furthermore, when up to 50% of teens feel, “addicted to their phone” (see CNN article below) it is hard to get students off their device. I hope to balance between phones as a tool and phones as a distraction with the following policy

* Students may have their phones out for the first five minutes of class until I finish going over assignment due date. This is so you can take down due dates in your phone, check my website or your grade, and is you absolutely must text your parents or friends do it now. At the end of the five minute period, your phone must be zipped in your bag.
* If your phone is visible at any point during the rest of class, even if you are not using it, it will be confiscated.
* At my discretion during group work or independent work, I may allow you to retrieve your phones. Please be respectful of your peers and stay engaged . I reserve the right to ask you to store your phone if you abuse this privilege.
* For more information on this issue I encourage you to read the following:
	+ <http://www.cnn.com/2016/05/03/health/teens-cell-phone-addiction-parents/>
	+ <http://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2016/04/do-smartphones-have-a-place-in-the-classroom/480231/?utm_source=SFFB>

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism will not be accepted and will be punished in accordance with the FALA student handbook. Any assignment that is found to be plagiarized is an automatic zero with no opportunity for a retake. If you have ANY questions about what plagiarism entails (direct copying, using the uncredited ideas of others, shifting words around in someone else’s writing and submitting it as your own, not citing sources, etc.) please come see me so we can rectify this before it becomes an issue.