

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

**Sixth Grade Geography and World Cultures
Social Studies Guide 2009-2010
Mr. Lovera**

Class Rules:

1. **BE RESPONSIBLE** - Get to class on time and ready to learn.
2. **BE PREPARED** - Students must be fully prepared every day with their Portfolios/Agenda Book, Social Studies notebook, pencils, pens, eraser, colored pencils, ruler, calculator, and paper. Other items such as glue, scissors, etc., will be used frequently.
3. **BE RESPECTFUL** - Students are expected to follow all GMS and HCPSS rules at all times. Matters of classroom procedures such as bathroom breaks, sharpening pencils, and other matters will be established in the classroom. Students are expected to respect themselves, others, and physical property at all times.

Grading Procedures:

1. **POINTS** - Every activity will be assigned a point total; your grade will be determined by dividing the number of points earned versus total possible points. There are no weighted grades. Every point is important!
2. **GRADE RECORD SHEETS** - Students are expected to maintain their own Grade Record Sheets in the Social Studies section of their Portfolio/Agenda Book. These will be updated daily as assignments are passed back and a class copy will be kept on the board at all times. Students are responsible for maintaining their own Grade Record Sheets; however, these will be audited periodically for a grade. Parents are encouraged to follow their child's progress both on their individual sheet and their TeacherEase account.
3. **TEACHER EASE** - I use the TeacherEase program. Students and parents are encouraged to check these daily and provide feedback or ask questions when appropriate.
4. **ABSENCES/MISSING WORK** - Students are required to make up missing work due to any absences. **Students** are expected to see their teacher on the first day back in order to make arrangements for missing assignments, homework or tests/quizzes.
5. **GMS SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT LATE POLICY:**
 - a. **6th Grade** - Late assignments will be accepted, but 50 percent will be deducted from the assignment's grade. Late work will be accepted up until a set date before the end of each marking period.
 - b. **7th Grade** - Late assignments will be accepted one class day late, but 50 percent will be deducted from the assignment's grade. Assignments will also be accepted two class days late, but 75 percent will be deducted from the assignment's grade.
 - c. **8th Grade** - Late assignments will be accepted one class day late, but 50 percent will be deducted from the assignment's grade. Assignments more than one class day late will not earn credit - and will be scored as zero.
6. **LATENESS DEFINED** - Assignments are due when the teacher collects the assignment. Assignments submitted after the teacher has collected the work, even on the same day, are considered late.

7. **GRADING RUBRIC** - I will make every effort to include students in the evaluation process of their work. However, all Interim and Report Card grades will follow the Grading Rubric listed below:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| a. 100 to 89.5 percent of total possible points | = A (Excellent) |
| b. 89 to 79.5 percent of total possible points | = B (Above Average) |
| c. 79 to 69.5 percent of total possible points | = C (Average) |
| d. 69 to 59.5 percent of total possible points | = D (Below Average) |
| e. 59.4 percent or below | = E (Failing) |

Agenda Book:

1. **HOMEWORK** - Students will copy homework down in class (including due dates). Parents are encouraged to follow their child's assignments in both their Agenda Book and on Mr. Lovera's website.

Communication:

1. **E-MAIL** - Both TeacherEase and my website have links to e-mail my Howard County address; please drop me a note at any time if you have any questions about your child.
2. **STUDENT PROGRESS** - Students should keep up-to-date records that can be checked at any time, including their Agenda Book and Grade Record Sheet. I strongly encourage you to check your TeacherEase account and my website daily.

Media:

1. Because of the nature of our instruction and its emphasis on student-centered multi-media projects, your student's photo and/or voice and/or examples of their work may be posted on our website for valid instructional purposes. Students will never be identified by last name. If you are unwilling to have your student or their work used on our website, please let us know in writing by September 29, 2009, or we will assume that we have your approval to use your student or their work.

2. **IMPORTANT LINKS:**

- a. **Mr. Lovera's Website:**
www.mrlovera.com
- b. **TeacherEase:**
<http://www.teacherease.com>

Signatures:

I have read and understand the Social Studies Guide.

_____ (Student) _____ (Date)

_____ (Parent/Guardian) _____ (Date)

⇒ Please sign this form and return it to your teacher; a copy of this form is available for download from our website for your records.