Robert Kohnert and Mr. Saxhaug

MYP/AP

Human Geography

Room E102

Preferred method of contact:

robert.kohnert@mpls.k12.mn.us

saxhaugj@augsburg.edu

Course Description/Purpose

Human Geography: This course is designed to help students learn how to use the tools of geography to better understand and appreciate the place where we live and regions around the world along with the interconnections among them. The topics we explore in this class tie in directly to other disciplines such as Sociology, Economics, Government, and History.

The course will be based upon the following themes: Population Geography, Political Geography, Cultural Geography, Urban Geography, Economic/Agricultural Geography, and Environmental Geography.

1st Quarter: Intro to Geography, Population, and Agricultural Geography

Textbook chapters: 1, 2, 3, 10

Projects:

Topics: Latitude/Longitude, population pyramids, population density, migration, popular culture

2nd Quarter: Development and Economic Geography and Political Geography

Textbook chapters: 8, 9, 11

Projects: Cultural research paper, Redrawing Africa, Political Conflicts of the World

Topics: Elections, languages, religion, shape of states, types of government, borders, conflicts, supranational organizations

3rd Quarter: Cultural Geography, Urban Geography

Textbook chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, 12

Projects:, Map Your Breakfast

Topics: agricultural revolution, industrialization, land use conflict, resource consumption, supply chains

4th Quarter: Urban Geography, AP test review, End of year project

Textbook chapters: 12, 13

Projects: Neighborhood Study

Topics: growth of cities, suburbanization, urbanization, land use

9th Grade Academy Mission Statement:

***The 9th-grade Academy serves to foster Student Involvement, Academic Skills, Healthy Relationships, and Good Citizenship, so that all SWHS 9th graders have a successful year.***

**9th Grade Academy Expectations**

1. Be on time

2. Come prepared

3. Be respectful

4. Sit in your assigned seat

5. Be nice!

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Students will be using teamisles.weebly.com to access course material. Other Team courses will be listed here so you can take advantage of things being in one location. This includes a calendar, which should be updated on a regular basis.

This site does not require a login so parents can always see what we are doing in class.

Accessing the Course

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• Introduction to Geography: What tools do geographers use?

• Population/Migration: Why do people migrate and what impact does it have on their home and host country?

• Political Geography: How does colonialism affect the political and cultural systems of the indigenous people?

• Cultural Geography: What cultures do I identify with and how do cultures diffuse?

• Urban Geography: Where are cities located and how do they function?

• Economic/Agricultural Geography: How do people use resources?

• Environmental Geography: What impact do humans have on the environment?

Course Goals/

Learning Objectives

**Responsible Use Policy** - Electronic items, including headphones, radio/CD players, cell phones, handheld systems etc… are only allowed to be used in the classroom with the explicit permission and under the guidance of the teacher.

Technology Use

Internet Access (access before and after school in room E102, and before/after/during lunch in Media Center)

Notebook

Writing utensil

Required Textbooks/Equipment

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The classroom is a learning environment. Be an active participant in the learning. Don’t disrupt the learning of yourself and others.

Be on time to class

No food, gum, or drink in class (plain water is okay). Students will be asked to throw away any food or drink brought into the classroom that is open.

**Be respectful of others and their opinions, as we will be having many classroom discussions**

Class attendance is required and students are encouraged to contribute to class discussion.

Class participation provides the opportunity to practice speaking and persuasive skills, as well as the ability to listen.

What matters is the quality of one's contributions to the class discussion, not the number of times one speaks.

Ways to participate in class include answering homework questions orally or at the board, volunteering to answer questions asked by your teacher or classmates, and listening to your teacher and classmates when they are speaking.

Classroom Procedures

/Policies

**Team Procedures/Policies**

1. Electronics and hats need to be off and hidden (Responsible use of electronics permitted at teachers discretion)

2. Absolutely no food or drink in the classroom

3. Use of daily planners is expected in each class

4. You are expected to stay in your seat until the bell rings. (No crowding around the door!)

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All students are expected to adhere to the Southwest High School and Minneapolis District Citywide Discipline Policy, designed to promote a safe and respectful learning environment. For more information about your rights and responsibilities consult your Southwest Student/Parent Handbook

Student Code of Conduct

It is expected that members of this class will observe strict policies of academic honesty and will be respectful of each other. Any instances in which cheating, including plagiarism and unauthorized use of copyrighted materials, computer accounts, or someone else’s work is determined, will be referred to Student Services and will be investigated to its full extent.

Consider providing a definition of plagiarism and examples if desired or referring students to page 10 of the Southwest Handbook

Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism/Consequences

Assignments

There will be frequent assignments in this course that are designed to build research and writing skills. Each quarter there will be two or three assigned projects. You will also have weekly readings, usually from the textbook that will be assessed. In addition to these assignments, you will have in class notes, vocabulary and map tests to study for, and unit tests that span 2 days. **Falling behind will make this course very difficult.**

Please type all class work when directed to do so. It should be double spaced, 12-point font, regular margins. There are computer labs available in the school if you need access to type your papers. **Students must print their papers before coming to class.** They cannot print assignments during class time. It is a good idea to print assignments the night before an assignment is due, in case of technical difficulties.

Whose paper is this? On each assignment, put in the upper right corner a complete heading, which includes your name, period, date, Mr. Kohnert. Failure to write your name or a full heading on your work will result in a 1-2 point reduction.

For assignments that are completed in class, please try to be as neat as possible as you fill in the hand-outs that you receive. Please note that if I cannot read your answers, then I cannot assign points for your work. Also, unless otherwise specified, these in-class assignments are to be handed in at the end of the class period.

**Late Work: Work is expected to be turned in on the due date. You will have one additional school day to turn in any assignment before it turns to a zero.** If an assignment is due on Friday, you will have until the start of class on Monday to turn in the assignment. After this point, it will be a **ZERO**. **You are responsible for the work you do or do not do**. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to ask for make-up assignments, and to arrange to make up quizzes, tests, or projects. **\*\*Please note that if you are gone the day of a test, you will be expected to take it the day that you come back.**

and

Assessments

Know how you will earn your grade; Your quarterly grade is based on (approximately):

Category A: Knowledge and Understanding Category B: Investigating

Category C: Communicating Category D: Thinking Critically

**PLEASE IGNORE PERCENTAGES in gradebook! For example, a score of 4 is NOT 50% or an F; it is a C!! For each assignment, you will receive a score 1-8.**

**GRADE SCALE**

* A Majority 8s, no grades under 6.
* A- Majority 7s, no grades under 5.
* B Majority 6s, no grades under 4. No missing summative assessment
* B- Majority 5s, no grades under 3. No missing summative assessment
* C Majority 4s, no grades under 2.
* C- Majority 3s, no grades under 2.
* D Majority 2s.
* F Majority 1s or Incompletes

**PLEASE IGNORE PERCENTAGES in gradebook! For example, a score of 4 is NOT 50% or an F; it is a C!!** Just look at your number scores and find the mode. That will show your grade.

**The above criteria will be used to report grades earned. For each assignment, you will receive a score 1-8.**

**GRADE SCALE**

* A Majority 8s, no grades under 6.
* A- Majority 7s, no grades under 5.
* B Majority 6s, no grades under 4. No missing summative assessment
* B- Majority 5s, no grades under 3. No missing summative assessment
* C Majority 4s, no grades under 2.
* C- Majority 3s, no grades under 2.
* D Majority 2s.
* F Majority 1s or Incompletes

Grades

Note For Parents:

Parent Portal can greatly increase your student’s success! For many freshmen, high school is a new experience with long lasting implications. Not completing work has consequences. Although I try to track who is not doing well in class and have conversations with them, you being able to access their grades will mean less surprises when conferences or the end of quarters come.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding the course or your student’s performance.

I have read and I understand how the above guidelines will help me to succeed in Geography Class.

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(PRINT student name here)

(**Student** signature)

Parents/Guardians: I have read the class expectations and I will support my son/daughter’s effort in Geography class.

\*\*\*\*(Parent/Guardian signature)

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*Parents: **Please sign up for the parent portal**, I communicate via email through the parent portal.