

**World Cultures**  
**Mr. Joseph Malecki**  
Google Class Code: **e4dwy**



**Course Outline**

World Cultures is a required one year long course that can be taken during a student's freshmen or sophomore year. The course actively connects students to geography from around the world using a case study approach. Students take a closer look at specific regions around the world, and learn concepts by exploring the data in a hands-on format. Additionally, students will take the concepts they've learned and apply them to a global setting. This class is NCAA approved.

Social Studies Department Critical Outcomes:

- Recognize and critically analyze primary, secondary, and tertiary sources.
- Identify, comprehend, and develop the ability to utilize high frequency vocabulary words in social studies.
- Identify cause and effect trends across the social science disciplines
- Compare and contrast trends and historical patterns.
- Demonstrate an ability to write concisely with a focus on evidence and support.
- Formulate an opinion grounded in an objective critical consideration of available evidence.

Unit	Major Topics
1 Introduction	Five Themes of Geography Evaluating Sources
2 Human/Cultural Geography	Elements of Culture Major Belief Systems
3 Canada and the United States	Consumption Patterns Human Migration
4 Latin America	Spatial Inequality Indigenous Cultures
5 Europe and Russia	Supranational Cooperation Population Dilemmas
6 Africa	Women and Micro-Entrepreneurship Resources and Power
7 Southwest and Central Asia	How Oil Shaped a Region Primate Cities
8 Monsoon Asia	Tech Workers and Time Zones Global Trade/Production

Additional Topics: Global Drug Trade, Genocide, Health and Wellness, Arab-Israeli Conflict, Education

**Textbook**

Students will NOT be given physical copies of the text. We have a classroom set that will be used at school. Students will have access to the text online by signing-in at [https://student.teachtci.com/student/sign\\_in](https://student.teachtci.com/student/sign_in). Students will create their accounts the first week of class.

**Assessment/Parent Portal**

Your semester grade (without including the final exam) will be based on the following assessments:

- ▶ **Summative (Exams) (32%)** – Approximately every 3-4 weeks, students will take an in-class exam.
- ▶ **Formative (Quizzes) (24%)** – To assess the acquisition of content knowledge, quizzes will be given frequently. Quiz questions may be multiple-choice, true or false, short answer, or in essay formats.
- ▶ **Practice (24%)** – Daily work may consist of reading assignments, primary source analyses, creation of graphic organizers, projects, journal entries, etc.
- ▶ **Final Exam (20%)**

## Grading Scale:

A+ = 98-100%	A = 93-97	A- = 90-92
B+ = 87-89%	B = 83-86	B- = 80-82
C+ = 77-79%	C = 73-76	C- = 70-72
D+ = 67-69%	D = 63-66	D- = 60-62
F = lower than 60%		

Parents/students may check grades at any time by accessing the “Parent Portal” on the district website. Every effort will be made to update grades on a weekly basis. Please understand that it may take a while to enter project grades or longer assignments.

### Classroom Management

This class will follow the stated school policy regarding tardiness, absences, and disciplinary measures. Please read those sections in the student handbook for further explanation.

### Late Work

All assignments need to be completed and turned in on their due date. These assignments are used to introduce or reinforce the activities that we do in class and to prepare students’ for their assessments. If a student fails to meet this requirement, they have 24 hours to get it turned in for half credit. Afterwards, students can still turn it in but will receive further point deductions the longer it is postponed by the student.

### Absences

Excused absences will be allowed the standard make-up time as stated in the student handbook. Any unexcused absence will result in a zero for any missed assignment. Test dates will be posted in advance. Students are encouraged to begin studying for the test at that time. If a student is absent the day before the test, **they are still responsible** for taking that test the following day.

### Retake Policy

Students have the option of retaking formative assessments (quizzes) and are encouraged to if they have failed them. They must go through an intervention process prior to the retake and the scores will be averaged. Quizzes must be taken within the 2 week intervention cycle.

### General Rules

- Be PROMPT: Take your seat quietly when the bell rings. If you are not by your seat when the bell sounds, you will be marked tardy.
- Be PREPARED: Bring all necessary materials to class every day. You will not be allowed to go to your locker once the bell has rung. Each student is granted 5 passes per semester to use the restroom or see the nurse.
- Be POLITE: Treat other students and your teacher with respect. Inappropriate behavior will be dealt with in accordance with the school discipline code.
- Follow PROCEDURES: Follow all classroom procedures. This is World Cultures class. If you are working on something other than World Cultures during class time, it may be taken away from you. Food is not permitted.
- PARTICIPATE: Use class time positively. Debate and discussion are regular activities in any social studies class. Students should be able to engage in these activities without being obnoxious or offensive.

### Technology and Computer/Network Acceptable Use Policy

All technological devices may only be used during permitted times in class. Technology should only be used for educational purpose during class time. Technology used inappropriately during assessments may result in a zero on the assessment. Failure to adhere to these expectations may lead to disciplinary results via the Student Handbook. Earbuds/headphones must be put away.