

CLASS WEBSITE: [Http://geographymhs.wordpress.com](http://geographymhs.wordpress.com)

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You **MUST** sign up to **follow the blog** on the website by the end of next week.

Your **textbook** will ONLY be available on the course website in digital form

Course Objective:: World Cultural Geography presents an overview of the discipline by introducing students to key themes and concepts in the discipline of geography through a study world regions, a desire to dig deeper, and better understand why the spatial patterns and unique features we find in the world exist and how they interact and change. This core focus enables students to draw connections between regions and to better understand the interconnectedness of our world

This course is divided into different culture regions around the world

Units of Study in the Order They Will Be Covered:

Unit	Content	Chapters	Unit Assessments	Semester Covered
1	Basics of Geography	1-4	Unit Test 1-3 Chapter 4 Quiz	Semester 1
2	US and Canada	5-7	Map Test <u>and</u> Content Unit Test	Semester 1
3	Europe	11-13	Map Test <u>and</u> Content Unit Test	Semester 1 Units 1-4 on Midterm
4	Russia	14-16	Content Unit Test Combined with Unit 5 and 6	Semester 2
5	North Africa and SW Asia (Middle East)	17-19	Map Quiz <u>and</u> Content Unit Test (Unit 5 and 6)	Semester 2
6	Sub-Saharan Africa	20-22	Map Quiz <u>and</u> Content Unit Test	Semester 2
7-10	South/East/Southeast Asia	23-31	Map Quiz <u>and</u> Content Unit Test	Semester 2
11	Oceania and Antarctica	32-34	Map Quiz <u>and</u> Content Unit Test	Semester 2 Units 1-11 on Final Exam
12	Latin America	8-10	Map Test <u>and</u> Content Unit Test	Semester 2

Grading and Teaching Methodology for the Course

- 1. Beginnng of class:** At the beginning of each class, students are **required** to watch and take notes on a video (CNN Student News). Afterwards, students and teacher will discuss the issued presented in the video. Quizzes will be given on CNN as well. (more on how this works later). Students will also be given a guideline on how the notes should be taken on each topic.
- 2. Maps:** Maps will be given at the beginning of each Unit of study. Directions will be provided on how to fill label and shade them in.
- 3. Lectures:** will be given for each unit of study. Students are required to take notes from the lecture. **Students are NOT permitted to take pictures of the slides.** *Students are expected to know how to take notes (not copying every word on every slide). Some time will be spent in the first week teaching this skill.*
- 4. Grades:** All assignments are graded on a points system. Each assignment will be worth certain amount of points – tests being worth the most points.
- 5. Assignments** will be given based off the lecture/topic/unit of study each day. All assignments are graded on a points basis. Assignments can include, but are not limited to: Maps, Vocabulary, Outlines, Organizers, Research assignments, etc...
- 6. Homework:** Any assignment not completed in class is considered homework. Any homework assigned must be turned in on the due date at the beginning of class. If it is turned in late (5 minutes after I collect it), you will get late credit.
- 7. Due Dates:** Will always be posted on the board and may also be posted to the class website.
- 8. Late work:** I accept work that is one day late and will be worth 50% of the original grade.
- 9. Unit Tests:** For each unit, you will be given **2 tests**: One based off the information from the lectures, and one is a map test (in which you label the countries). Any student who gets an “A” on the unit map quiz will be given a **Free Homework Pass** to use. There are no test retakes in this class.
- 10. Extra Credit:** There will be a few opportunities throughout the course for extra credit. They will be announced ahead of time.

Suggested Materials for a Successful Year

✓ 3-ring Binder (with pockets is preferred)	✓ Dividers (with pockets is preferred)	✓ Pens/Pencils
✓ Colored Pencils (Required)/crayons/markers	✓ Ruler	✓ Highlighters
✓ Spiral Notebook (optional)	✓ Paper (College-Ruled is preferred)	✓ Internet Access for the Website

Required Course Textbook: Glencoe: World Geography and Cultures (main textbook)

Supplementary Materials: Glenco: Geography Skills Workbook and Study Guide

Course Website <http://geographymhs.wordpress.com>

Map Websites: <https://www.seterra.com/>

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/Geography.htm>

<https://lizardpoint.com/geography/>

Course Expectations and Teaching Methodology

Following classroom rules and procedures, as well as knowing what is expected of you as an honors student, will help guide you towards success in this class. If you feel you have been academically misplaced, make sure you speak with your guidance counselor now

Classroom Policies

- ➔ You are **NOT** permitted to line up at the door. **Do not OPEN the door for ANYONE.**
- ➔ Respect yourself, the teacher, and your classmates. Be polite to everyone - students, teachers, administrators
- ➔ Be in the room and in your seat before the tardy bell rings.
- ➔ **NO PERSONAL HYGENE PRODUCTS ARE TO BE USED IN THE CLASSROOM (especially SCENTED)**
- ➔ Remain seated until the dismissal bell rings. I will dismiss you.
- ➔ Electronics, games, phones, head-sets, etc. will not be used in class and should NOT be on your desk, unless otherwise directed. They will be taken away if seen.
- ➔ There will be no bathroom passes the first and last ten minutes of class, during lectures, presentations, or exams.
- ➔ Cheating/copying on any assignment, quiz, or exam will not be tolerated and will result in a zero for ALL parties involved.
- ➔ **All backpacks/bags/purses MUST be on the floor during class (not on your lap!)**
- ➔ **Restroom Passes:** If you need to use the restroom, sign out on the pass. Do not go anywhere else except the restroom, and be back in 5 minutes. If you abuse the pass – the privilege will be taken away from you.

Example Daily Classroom Routine:

Daily (in class): Students are to be in class before the tardy bell. Phones are to be put away and on silent.

- 1) Students read the Daily Agenda located on the board. This will be on the left side of the board each and every day. You may write it down in a planner.
- 2) All personal items are to be placed on the floor UNDER your desk (including backpacks and purses)
- 3) CNN Student news will be the first assigned task each day in class. Students will watch and take notes during the first 10 minutes of each class.
- 4) Discussion of events from student news and relation to geography
- 5) Begin daily Lecture/assignment/project/Video
- 6) Turn in any assignments if any are due at the end of class. There will always be a box to turn in your assignments to.
- 7) Return books to their shelf, binders should be put away, and your desk and surrounding area should clean

Honors Student Responsibilities and Expectations

The HONORS label on this class carries with it an extra point on your weighted GPA. With that, you will be exposed to a more rigorous curriculum, above average expectations regarding the quality of work turned in and the level of professionalism in which they conduct themselves.

The list provided is a general outline of actions that may result in possible consequences such as: conferences, discipline notations in pinnacle, and phone calls home. Repeat offenses may result in administrative or guidance referrals for students who choose not to exhibit respectful behavior in an honors classroom environment. If you feel that you have been misplaced, please see your guidance counselor or speak with the teacher as soon as possible.:

- Being disruptive
- Not completing assigned work
- Using inappropriate language
- Throwing ANYTHING in the classroom
- Cheating (of any kind)
- Being disrespectful to anyone
- Using electronic Devices
- Mistreating classroom materials
- Excessive unexcused Tardis
- Touching any items that do not belong to you
- Lack of interest in participating
- Excessive absences

CNN STUDENT NEWS Daily Assignment AND Quiz

Directions: Each day, during the first ten minutes of class, CNN Student News will be played. Students will be responsible for watching the broadcast and taking detailed notes on each of the stories that are presented. Each day of notes should contain the date of the show. After CNN is over, the teacher will go over some of the main topics presented that day, in order to help fill in any gaps in your notes. We will also hold polite discussions regarding the news presented daily.

Purpose: The purpose of this assignment is to not only expose students to current world affairs and practice applying the concepts that are learned in class, but to also learn and practice the invaluable skill of taking notes! Current events also help students relate to the culture regions that will be learned about in class.

How to take notes for CNN: Either in the first section of your binder, or in a separate spiral notebook, put your name at the top of the paper and, the date of the CNN that will be watched that day. There can be multiple CNNs on one page.. As CNN Student News plays, listen to each of the stories being presented and take down notes on the important points in each story. The notes can be bullet points, they do not need to be complete sentences, spelling will not count, and they do not need to be the most beautiful notes (however, they should be legible!). Notes should be in order in which the stories are presented, and in order of dates shown. There will usually be 5 CNN shows presented before notes are collected and the quiz is taken.

After the class meets for 5 class periods (though this may vary a bit), there will be a CNN Quiz given. I will be asking 1 question for each date that CNN was shown for in the given time period. If we met 5 times, there will be a total of 5 questions.

You will only be given 5 minutes to take the quiz, and you may use your notes. You will write the answers on any space left on your CNN notes, or a separate page, it is up to you. After time is called, you must staple (if needed) your CNN notes to your answers, and turn them in.

MOST IMPORTANT PART TO REMEMBER!!!!

***** IN ORDER TO EARN CREDIT ON THE CNN CURRENT EVENT QUIZ, YOU MUST HAVE YOUR OWN HANDWRITTEN NOTES as well as your answers., IF THERE ARE NO NOTES PRESENT....YOU WILL NOT EARN ANY CREDIT FOR CORRECT ANSWERS ON THE QUIZ.**

ABSENT AND MISS A DAY OF CNN? YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR WATCHING CNN STUDENT NEWS, AND TAKING NOTES, EVEN IF YOU WERE ABSENT! How do you do that? ,Go to this website <https://www.cnn.com/cnn10> and find the date you were absent. Watch the video and/or read the transcript, and take notes!

Binder/Notebook Setup

You will be given two options for your student binder/notebook. If you find that another one works best for you, just come see me to approve it.

In order to be successful in this class, you will need to have an organized binder with you each day. Your binder may be graded on neatness, organization, and completeness. Each assignment should be headed with your name, period, date, and assignment title in order to aid in organization and easy access to all assignments. All work that is turned in and handed back should be placed in your binder.

***Notebook Quizzes** may be given randomly throughout the year. Binders can also be collected at any time. Do not put any other work from other classes in your Geography binder. **DO NOT THROW AWAY ANY WORK THAT IS HANDED BACK TO YOU!!!!!!**

Suggestion: Use a 1 or 1.5 inch binder.

This binder is ONLY to be used for THIS class

Option A:

Use dividers to create the following **UNIT** tabs *Bolted terms are suggested titles for the dividers.

Divider	Title of Divider	Contents/Divider
CE**	Current Events	Daily CNN Log
1	Unit 1	Chapters 1-4
2	Unit 2 or US and Canada	Chapters 5-7
3	Unit 4 or Europe	Chapters 11-13
4	Unit 5 or Russia	Chapters 14-16
5	Unit 6 or N. Africa/Mideast	Chapters 17-19
6	Unit 7 Sub-Saharan Africa	Chapters 20-22
7	Unit 8, 9, 10 South, East, Southeast Asia	Chapters 23-31
8	Unit 11 Oceania	Chapters 32-34
9	Unit 3 or Latin America	Chapters 8-10

Current Events will always be your first tabbed unit. You may do these in a spiral notebook or on regular lined paper. You will keep a daily log of the stories on CNN each day. If you are absent you need to watch the 10 minute show online. The link to the website is <https://www.cnn.com/cnn10>. You also are to keep all CNNs that have been graded and given back – until the end of each quarter. **Within each Tabbed Unit**, you may want to add separate labels for Physical and Political maps, vocabulary, Lecture Notes, classwork, Msc. That is up to you.

Option B:

Use dividers to create the following tabs for **content** completed in class, but these are not separated by unit

Divider	Title	Contents
CE **	Current Events	Daily CNN log
1	Maps	Physical and political maps from each unit
2	Vocabulary	Vocabulary from each Unit
3	Lecture Notes	Lecture notes given by the teacher
4	Classwork	All work assigned in class and homework
5	Miscellaneous	Any other items

Dividers: Within each of the following dividers, make sure ALL work is kept IN ORDER done AND in order of our units.

Current Events will always be in the front of your binder. See above.

Maps- For each unit, you will get a physical map and political map. Place the political map first, then the physical

Vocabulary- The format for your vocabulary is the same as listed on the previous page. The setup for this section will be in chapter and unit order. For example: vocabulary for chapter 1 will be first, then vocabulary for chapter 2....etc

Lecture Notes – Lectures for each unit should be in order.

Class Work- Keep all work assigned during class, in this section. Such as: handouts, bookwork. This should also be kept in the order of dates assigned and kept with the chapters/units it corresponds with.

Miscellaneous Any other items such as projects, research, homework, etc...

Return THIS PAGE ONLY to Ms. Albahae no later than Wednesday (8/21) Thursday (8/22).

Student name (print) _____ Date: _____ Class Period _____

Again, this is an honors course. The level of expectations placed on each student is much higher than those not in honors courses in order to give merit to the extra point added on your weighted GPA. Students must present themselves (and their coursework) with a high-level of integrity, dignity, and maturity.

Please sign the following page acknowledging that you have read over and understand the information that was presented to you in this packet.

Keep the rest of the syllabus in your binder throughout the entire year.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) and Students,

My email is michelle.albahae@browardschools.com

Congratulations on enrolling in an honors core curriculum course at Monarch High School. Success in this course will not only give you a thorough understanding in geography, but will also provide an overview of current and historical world events that will prepare you for future social science courses.

If you are willing to put in the effort required in high school honors courses, you also will have the chance to improve your weighted core GPA! Earning an A or B in this course will add an extra point to your weighted cumulative GPA!

Example: Instead of an A being worth 4 points when averaged in, it will be added in as 5 points, giving you a competitive advantage over your peers.

Straight A's is a 4.0 GPA. If you take all honors courses, with Straight As, you would have a 5.0 GPA

Following classroom rules and procedures, as well as knowing what is expected of you will help to guide you towards a successful class experience.

Do not hesitate to contact me with questions, comments or concerns. Let us begin a successful year at Monarch High School together!

PARENTS: PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE CLASS WEBSITE TO RECEIVE IMPORTANT UPDATES (such as homework, due dates, tests, etc...) AT:

[HTTP://GEOGRAPHYMHS.WORDPRESS.COM](http://GEOGRAPHYMHS.WORDPRESS.COM)

(Click the "follow" button, and enter your email address in the box provided).

I have read and understand what is expected in World Cultural Geography HONORS with Ms. Albahae

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent (legal guardian) Signature: _____

Date: _____

*****Optional information*****: Parent/guardian preferred method of contact (circle one) Email Phone

If email is your preferred method, please fill out the information below:

If phone is your preferred method, please fill out the information below

Email address: _____

and/or

Phone number(s): _____

