World Cultures I & Geography

Mr. Callahan:    wcallahan@hanoverarea.net

Course Description
The course is designed to instruct students on the importance of interrelations between the world cultures of today and yesterday. It will examine the beginnings of Human Society, Ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. Special emphasis will be placed on the foundations of geography as students focus on the basic tools and concepts of geography.


Course Format
Instruction will be based on lecture/discussion, small group work and individual presentations. Student are expected participate in daily discussions and will be required to complete homework, on average, three times per week.

Attendance
If a student is absent, they are required to talk with the teacher upon returning to class and plan a time as to when work will be made up.

Assessment/Evaluation
Students will be assessed each marking period through tests, quizzes, projects (if applicable) and homework. There is NO extra credit available. The grading policy is listed below.

Classroom Rules and Grading Policy

1. Follow directions the first time they are given.
2. **DO NOT BE LATE TO CLASS.** Be in your seat and ready to go when the bell rings. If you are late to class 3 times in a quarter you will be given an after school detention.
3. Raise your hand and wait to be called on before answering/asking any questions.
4. Bring **ALL APPROPRIATE** materials to class everyday. (writing utensil, notebook, textbook).
5. Keep your hands on your own personal/school belongings. Do not bother with a classmates personal/school belongings.

Failure to follow these rules will result in the following CONSEQUENCES:
1. Warning
2. Lunch Detention
3. Call home to parents
4. After school detention
5. Discipline referral.

In cases 4-5 a call home to parents and a meeting with them will necessary.

**GRADING POLICY**

The grading policy for the year is quite simple. Your grade will consists of marks earned on quizzes, projects, homework and tests. Everything will be assigned a point value. At the end of the marking period I will total up the points you have earned and divide that total by the total amount of points which could have been earned. That will give us a percentage and that percentage will be your grade. *Homework is critical in my class- it can help you or it can hurt you. Each marking period you can earn 100 points for homework. Points will be deducted for homework that is late or incomplete. (The value of EACH homework assignment will be determined by the amount of assignments given over the course of a marking period.) If all you homework is completed you will earn the 100 points.

Below is an example of a typical breakdown of a grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter 1 Quiz</th>
<th>10/15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 1 Test</td>
<td>45/50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2 Quiz</td>
<td>20/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2 project</td>
<td>15/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2 Test</td>
<td>30/50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>100/100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

220/265

This person would have earned 220 points out of a possible 265; which averages out to an 83%
To give you an example of how homework can hurt you, look at this example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 1 Quiz</td>
<td>10/15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 1 Test</td>
<td>45/50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2 Quiz</td>
<td>20/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2 project</td>
<td>15/25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter 2 Test</td>
<td>30/50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homework</td>
<td>70/100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

190/265

Average here is a 71%

If there are any questions regarding the grading policy please ask. With regards to the classroom rules—if you think you should not do something, you probably shouldn’t!!! Ask first.

**Chapters covered in this course include:**

Marking Period 1
- Chapter 1 – The World of Geography
- Chapter 2- Earth’s Physical Geography
- Chapter 1 – The Beginnings of Human Society

Marking Period 2
- Chapter 2 – The Fertile Crescent
- Chapter 3 – Ancient Egypt & Nubia
- Chapter 4 – Ancient India

Marking Period 3
- Chapter 5 - Ancient China
- Chapter 6- The Rise of Ancient Greece

Marking Period 4
- Chapter 7 – The Glory of Ancient Greece
- Chapter 8- The Rise of Ancient Rome
- Chapter 9- The Fate of Ancient Rome
- Chapter 10- Byzantine & Muslim Civilizations