

Dear Families,

I have put together this overview in an effort to increase success and family involvement in the student's experience in PreAP Global Studies this year.



Course Description

Pre-AP Global Studies is a course designed to introduce and analyze people and places in the world. The course includes a study of the earth and its physical environment. After a quick review of basic geography is completed, the course then focuses on the cultural regions of the world and selected events in world history based on standards set forth by the state of Oregon. The first trimester includes on North America, Europe, Russia and the former Soviet republics, and Latin America, and the second trimester continues with Southwest Asia, Africa, South Asia, East Asia, and Southeast Asia and Oceania. In addition to geography, a survey of events from world history is included in many of the units, beginning with Europe. Throughout both trimesters, current events are continually examined through the use of numerous media resources and student research.

Textbooks

World Geography. Eds. Daniel D. Arreola, Marci Smith Deal, James F. Petersen and Rickie Sanders. McDougal Littell, 2005.

Modern World History: Patterns of Interaction. McDougall Littell, 2005.

Standards

- *Create and use maps, technology, imagery and other geographical representations to extrapolate and interpret geographic data [geographic tools/location]*
- *Analyze the interconnectedness of physical and human regional systems (e.g., a river valley and culture, water rights/use in regions, choice/impact of settlement locations) and their interconnectedness to global communities [place and region]*
- *Explain how migration, immigration and communication (cultural exchange, convergence and divergence) lead to cultural changes and make predictions and draw conclusions about the global impact of cultural diffusion [movement]*
- *Analyze distribution and characteristics of human settlement patterns [human/environment interaction]*

Grading Students are evaluated regularly on assessments (quizzes and tests) as well as assignments, including current events, homework for practice, and other projects and activities. Because many lessons include activities that cannot be repeated outside class, good attendance and active participation are required.

The following grading scale will be used:

97 -100%	A+	77 - 79.9%	C+
93 - 96.9%	A	73 – 76.9%	C
90 - 92.9%	A-	70 – 77.9%	C-
87 - 89.9%	B+	67 – 69.9%	D+
83 - 86.9%	B	63 – 66.9%	D
80 - 82.9%	B-	60 – 62.9%	D-

Homework for Practice Many assignments are given for practice or preparation for class and are graded as follows:

3 = assignment completed	2 = assignment mostly completed
1 = assignment fairly incomplete	0 = assignment not completed

Retake Opportunities In order to retake a test or quiz, you **must have completed assignments** (including homework for practice and current events) for that unit of study **on time**. Turning in homework and assignments late **will prevent you from earning** your opportunity to improve your scores on assessments for that unit.

All tests or quizzes may be retaken **except the final exam**.

Test retakes can be completed in the testing room after school on Wednesdays (early release/PLC days), on specific days as posted weekly, or by appointment. The **last day** to retake quizzes will be **the same day as the end of the unit of study** (i.e., the same day as the unit test), and the last day for test retakes will be one week after the unit test scores have been posted.

Assignment Policies

1. Work will be given at every class meeting, and you are expected to complete it **by the date/time it is due**.
2. If you have a **legitimate reason** for needing more time to complete an assignment, you must **communicate** with Ms. Pittenger **prior** to the due date **to arrange for an extension** (e.g., before school the day the assignment is due, after school the day before, by email, etc.). Failing to make arrangements before the due date may result in turning in work late and jeopardizing your opportunities for retakes.
3. When students are absent from school, students' parents should call or email the attendance office to excuse the absence.
4. **Missing/Makeup work** Students are responsible for getting missed work the day they return from an excused absence and completing it within the number of days they were gone from school. Work that is not completed and submitted within this time frame will be considered **late**. Missed assessments (tests and quizzes) must be taken as soon as possible if the absence was excused. Having an **unexcused absence** on the day when a graded assignment is due or an assessment is given means the student **will not be able to make it up, and a zero will be recorded**. (For more information, see the Student Planner, Attendance, pgs. 11-12; Make Up Work, pg. 21.)
5. All make-up and late work is due by the end of the unit.

Classroom Policies

Materials Needed

Students are expected to bring the following materials to class each day:

Paper and pen and/or pencil

Planner

Books and other materials needed for daily activities (textbook, homework, etc.)

Procedures

1. Hall passes are required and will be written and signed on a limited basis, so please plan ahead.
2. Food or beverages (in a container with a lid) are allowed in the classroom **only** if they do not cause disruptions to others.
3. Students are expected to be **seated and ready to work** when the bell rings.

Attendance and Tardiness Please see the Student Planner for specific details (Attendance, pgs. 11-12; Tardiness, pg. 25).

Cell Phones While students are permitted to carry cell phones and other electronic devices at school, these devices must remain out of sight during this class. However, in this technological age, there may be occasions when the use of these devices is appropriate to our lesson/activity; **these situations will be rare, and your use of technology will be at my direction. WHEN IN DOUBT – ASK!** The consequences as outlined in the student planner (Cell Phones, pg. 13; Electronic Devices, CD Players and Radios, pg. 17) will be followed.

Internet Use

Many assignments, such as current events and projects, will require students to research information and present it either orally or in writing. **Students are expected to present information in their own words and to cite the resources used when paraphrasing or quoting.** On these assignments, bibliographic information and citations are required; at OCHS, MLA Version 8 format is used. Policies and consequences regarding Internet use as well as cheating and plagiarism are listed in the Student Handbook (Acceptable Uses of the Internet, Pgs. 17-18; Cheating/Plagiarism, pg. 14).

Because I truly want students to be successful, I do need your help in knowing when and what questions and concerns you have, so please contact me to discuss them.

I am available for drop-in help after school on Wednesdays (2:00-2:15) and other days/times as posted weekly. Additional times can be set up by appointment. You may also contact me by email at sharon.pittenger@orecity.k12.or.us, via Remind (text @hd8d93 to 81010), or via Google Classroom (8k3t906).

My website is located at <http://staff.orecity.k12.or.us/sharon.pittenger/>.

I'm looking forward to a wonderful winter and spring!

Sincerely,

Sharon Pittenger

Ms. Sharon Pittenger, PreAP Global Studies Teacher

I have read and understood this course overview in class. I agree to ask if I have additional questions in the future.

Student – Print Name

Signature

I have read the course syllabus and discussed it with my son/daughter.

Parent/Guardian – Print Name

Signature