GLOBAL ISSUES

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# Overview

This semester course is aimed to help students increase their knowledge of the world’s complex and interrelated problems. Interdependence, peace and conflict, the global economy and human rights are major topics considered

# Goals

* Students will be able to critically evaluate media presentations of current events.
* Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the basic background the history of problems in the news.
* Students will demonstrate problem solving, decision-making, and critical thinking.

# Requirements

An attitude of mutual respect is essential to the discussion of complex and polemical issues.

**Written Assignments**

* Position Paper (either formal or informal) these short papers (1-2 pages) will be a way for students to express and articulate his/her opinion based on the topic studied.
* Documentary Response: Student will receive points for watching a short documentary and writing a response based on their observations, opinions and further questions afterwards.
* Current Events: Students will weekly bring in a current event news story they find interesting to share with the class.

**Class Participation**- many activities for this class will be IN class activities and therefore student participation and attendance is critical. Such activities may include: debates, philosophical chairs, simulations and discussions, and notes. Your notes will be graded mainly on effort and organization. Being absent does not excuse you from getting the notes taken while you were gone.

**Presentations-** students will present in small groups on subtopics for each unit. Students will focus on research, presentation skills such as speaking and preparation, as well as articulating information to peers. The final presentation will be based on a topic of your choice.

# Evaluation

10%- Current Events

20%- Assessments/Quizzes

25%- Presentations

45%-Participation/Notes/Assignments

A = 90% - 100%

B = 80% - 89.99%

C = 70% - 79.99%

D = 60% - 69.99%

F = 59.99% & below

# Policies

**Daily Assignments/Late & Make-up Work**

All assignments should be turned in at the on the due date to the black file located by my desk labeled with your period number. Students who turn their work in **ON TIME** are eligible to earn full credit. Students will lose points for late assignments. (One day late = 10% point deduction, two days late = 20% off, etc.). Late work will be accepted for reduced credit during the 6-week grading period that the assignment is part of. After the 6-week grading period is over, assignments from that period will no longer be accepted. This means that assignments given immediately before the end of the grading period must be turned in on time in order to receive any credit. Exceptions may be made for arranged/excused absences.

**Absences**

* The day you return with an absence, check with me for any assignments.
* Even if you are absent, you are expected to keep up with the assigned reading and be prepared to complete any and all assignments when you return.
* If you are absent on a due date – the assignment is due the day you return.
* If you are absent on the day something is assigned, you have 1 day for every day that you were absent to turn the assignment in.
* Your parent/guardian must notify the school of any absence within 48 hours in order for that absence to be excused.

**Tardies** – You are considered “on-time” to class if you are inside of the classroom door by the time the tardy bell finishes ringing. 1st) Verbal Warning, 2nd) Verbal Warning, 3rd) Home Contact, 4th on School Policy

**Attendance Bonus**

* Perfect attendance in any week earns 1 bonus points for each day of the week.
* School related required activities are the only exceptions.

**Hall Passes/Destination Passes** - Hall passes/Destination passes will generally not be issued the first or last ten minutes of class. Please bring your materials to class, use the restroom before coming to class. A hall pass will only be issued when the class is not receiving direct instruction AND at my discretion. If you receive a pass to run a specific errand, you are to go directly to that destination and come immediately back to class. If you do not return to class in a prompt manner, you risk being assigned a detention. *IN ORDER TO BE ISSUED A HALL PASS, YOU MUST BE WEARING YOUR LANYARD, HAVE YOUR IDENTIFICATION CARD* and have your planner. You may not be on your cell phone while out of class on a pass; stated policy will be enforced.

**Food and Drink**- You may have food and drinks in the classroom. However, if the food and drinks are creating disruptions or problems, I reserve the right to change this rule for an individual or entire class. CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF! I reserve the right to change this rule for an individual or entire class.

**Student**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best way to contact: phone/email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_