Social Studies 7th Grade
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Course Description:
In 7th grade Social Studies students will focus on the four main disciplines within the Social Sciences- Geography, History, Economics, and Civics. Students will receive scores for each of these disciplines throughout the year. There will be individual units for each. This will be reflected in the gradebook with some competencies having less scores earlier in the year. By the end of the year students will be able to apply all of the Social Sciences to our different units of study.

Within the first week, students will be completing activities to discover how they learn best. The goal this year is to target how each student learns best. Knowing that, I can make their learning more personalized. I will also be pushing students to be more involved in their journey throughout Social Studies. Students will be keeping track of their progress and growth within each of the disciplines. The hope is that students will know exactly where they can push themselves and where they may need more support. Please ask your student about their progress in each of the Social Sciences throughout the year. They should be able to tell you!

Grading:
Students will receive two types of grades: academic and work habits. Academic grades will be given to show where students are in terms of mastery of each of the four Social Sciences. At the beginning of a unit students may have lower scores because they are still mastering that discipline. By the end of the unit 3s and 4s are what students should be aiming for to show mastery.

Work habits grades are different from academic grades. These grades will be based on the following categories: collaboration, communication, creative problem solving, and self advocacy. Students can earn work habits grades on assignments. Students may be given work habits grades based on participation in group work. Students also may evaluate their work habits and give themselves scores.

My late work policy varies based on the type of grade. For academic grades I will always accept late work/ redone work. I want to know the true picture of a student, so if they think they can do better and want to redo work, I will always accept that. If the grade is a work habits grade, those are in the moment and based on the day, so those grades cannot be redone or turned in late for full credit.

Homework:
Students may have homework because they need more time, they may not be using their time wisely in class, or missing work needs to be completed. Parents may ask their student to see google classroom. This is where all of their assignments will be. Google classroom will tell you if an assignment is late and has not been turned in.

7th Grade Social Studies Competencies:
This Social Studies course is designed through the following graduation competencies. Each competency has 2 Performance Indicators that will be represented in the gradebook. For further information, please visit Thompsonschools.org:

- **Graduation Competency (History):** SSH.1: I can analyze key historical periods, patterns of change over time within and across nations and cultures, and how people view, construct, and interpret history.
- **Graduation Competency (Geography):** SSG.1: I can examine places and regions and the connections among them to develop spatial understanding, perspectives, and personal connections to the world.
- **Graduation Competency (Civics):** SSC.1: I can analyze and practice rights, roles, and responsibilities of citizens and the structure and function of governments.
- **Graduation Competency (Economics):** SSE.1: I can acquire the knowledge and economic reasoning skills to make sound financial decisions and understand the allocation of scarce resources in societies through the analysis of individual choices, market interaction, and public policy.

**iPad Usage:**
We are very excited to have 1:1 technology. We will be using ipads every day. The hope is to limit the use of paper as much as possible (Mrs. Munoz hates killing so many trees). We will be using google classroom for a majority of the assignments given. This will hopefully eliminate the lockers full of random papers! **Google classroom will be a great way for students to see what they are missing if they are home sick.** Assignment grades will be posted on google classroom and infinite campus. Students will receive emails whenever anything has been graded or an assignment has been posted.

**Materials Used:**
- Pencils (lots, because they will magically disappear)
- Other supplies may be determined by student projects, but **nothing is required.**

**Fall Semester Schedule:**

**Week 1:** Welcome activities/class set-up

**Weeks 2:** Best way to learn activities

**Weeks 3-7:** Geography Unit
- 3: 5 Themes of Geography
- 4: Push and Pull Factors
- 5: Map Analysis activities
- 6-7: Reading about Refugee Crisis/ Writing Newspaper article (using the previous weeks activities)

**Weeks 8-11:** History Unit
- 8: Primary and Secondary sources/ Introduction to credibility
- 9: Credibility activities
10-11: Museum Project

Weeks 12-13: Political Science Unit
  12: Roles and responsibilities of citizens
  13: Types of Governments

Weeks 14-15: Economics Unit
  14: Personal Finance
  15: Entrepreneur Project

Weeks 16-18: Social Sciences Fun!
  Final Project Incorporating all of the Social Sciences.