

Contemporary World Issues Syllabus

This elective course will emphasize the present and future world. It will be as relevant as today's events. As issues emerge, the historical, geological, political, and economic context of the area and issue involved will be studied. Thus, this course should provide an excellent vehicle for further development and application of geographic knowledge and skills. Also, through reading and reference skills, students will be required to understand how a country, such as the US, is organized to respond to world issues and events, making citizenship in an interdependent world a major focus.

Course Requirements:

READING: In order for students to enjoy and contribute to class, it is essential that students read the news. As events and issues emerge, the class will respond to these events through discussion and further study.

TEAMWORK: Throughout the semester students will be asked to present a variety of material through group presentations and discussions. Teamwork is a course requirement and it is expected that all students will positively contribute to the team effort.

GRADING:

75% - Major grades (Essays & projects)

25% - Daily grades (Current event analysis; discussions, small presentations, etc.)

Country Infographic/Presentations:

During the first week of the semester students will be assigned a specific country to research, create an infographic, and give a 10 minute presentation on their assigned country.

Current Event Assignment:

Throughout the semester students will read the publication *The Week* and respond to different articles. Students will be expected to summarize the article and present their thoughts on the topic.

Civic Participation:

Students will explore how they can participate in the democratic process and appropriately voice their concerns.

COMMUNICATION: Assignments will be posted to Google Classroom. Students will be expected to join and occasionally submit assignments through the Google Classroom.

Google Classroom Code: `ufk70sc`

The best way to communicate with the teacher outside of class is email: Kelly.Stallings@pisd.edu

MAKE-UPS & TUTORIALS: Make-ups & tutorials are available by appointment in room A202.

MATERIALS: It is suggested but not required that you purchase a spiral notebook for note taking purposes.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: All students will be held to the highest standards of academic integrity. Students who violate the Honor Code or fail to uphold these standards will be subject to punishment, including, but not limited to, loss of credit on any assignment affected by the violation.