

## Special Topics in Social Sciences

# COURSE SYLLABUS

2016-2017

SPECIALIST: Dr. Kandace Chapman

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OFFICE:	Rm. 122
OFFICE HOURS:	Tutorials on Thursday at 4:00 or by appointment; tutorials by appointment, testing Monday/Tuesday
OFFICE PHONE:	878-4780 ext. 22606
E-MAIL ADDRESS:	<a href="mailto:kandace.chapman@ccisd.us">kandace.chapman@ccisd.us</a>
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### A. DESCRIPTION

This course is a research based course in which the students will survey various topics around the world. The focus will be on more current issues while looking at them through a historical context.

### B. ORGANIZATION

This is a lecture-lab course in which topics are presented by the specialist, associates participate in discussions, and individual/group projects are completed by associates both during and outside of class. Written and oral objective quizzes are given, and there is a comprehensive mid-term exam and a final exam.

### C. COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. The students will understand the importance of a thematic approach to the study of history and geography.
2. Students will understand their role in society.
3. The students will be more articulate with regards to researching issues and writing and speaking their opinions about those issues.

### D. TEXT AND REQUIRED SUPPLIES

1. Supplies: as requested by specialist on an as needed basis
2. Online course readings as assigned.

### E. GRADING PLAN

Coursework will be weighted as follows:

Major 60%

Exams (will be scheduled on Wed/Thurs)

Projects

Minor 40%

Daily Writing

Presentations

Daily Assignments

#### GENERAL:

Your recorded grades will be available for your review at any convenient time. Do remember to *keep all assignments returned to you* so that any discrepancies can be easily and fairly straightened out. Except in cases of actual error, final grades are permanent.

Late work will be allowed in accordance with CCISD guidelines.

#### **F. CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS**

- Food and beverages are not permitted in the classroom. This includes plate lunches, drinks, candy, etc. whether opened or not. Bottle water only will be permitted during class time.
- Class lab time is expected to be spent in lab work. Lab time is not free time. Concerted work on assignments is required. Work at home will be required *in addition to* work during lab times (work at home should not *substitute for* work during lab periods).

#### **G. YOUR IDEAS, EVALUATIONS, ETC.**

In general, your ideas, comments, suggestions, questions, grade challenges, etc. are welcome. Your discretion in these matters is expected, however. No part of your grade will be based on anything other than your coursework.

You are encouraged to take advantage of specialist office hours and tutorials for help with coursework or anything else connected with the course and your progress.

#### **H.SUGGESTIONS FOR SUCCESS**

For most associates this will not be a "difficult" course. However, there will probably be some associates who do struggle simply because they refuse to participate and/or submit the work assigned. The concepts and discussions are most important in this course; therefore, your attendance is imperative. This course is significantly different from most standard courses. So do not think that if you are a "B" associate you will probably get a "B" in this course. You should get an "A" with relative ease . . . or a "C" with difficulty, the outcome is completely in the hands of the associate.

### **Course Schedule**

- I. Introductory project surveying various aspects of geography by utilizing career goals
- II. Overview of geographic themes
- III. Social Structures
- IV. Cultural Interactions
- V. Political Structures
- VI. Human Environment Interaction
- VII. Culminating Project