



Class Disclosure Statement

Course Title: Geography for life 9th Grade

Instructor: Mrs. Harris

Email addresses: **Mrs. Harris -teresa.harris@washk12.org**

Introduction: It is an honor to be your teacher. I look forward to making this our most rewarding year ever. You will be expected to participate, be on time, be prepared, and be an active contributing student of the class. **I expect assignments to be completed and done to the best of each student's ability, while at the same time challenging you to improve each day.**

Geography is the study of physical and human characteristics of the Earth's people, places, and environments. Students will develop geographic thinking skills by studying the why of where as they examine the interactions, interconnections, and implications of forces shaping our world today. They will apply geographic knowledge and geo-literacy skills to identify, locate, interpret, analyze, and evaluate geographic patterns and processes. These standards emphasize both human geography and physical geography, and students will explore the interconnections between the two

Supplies for class:

- Just bring something to write with.
- We will occasionally be doing projects in which colored pencils and markers will be used. These supplies are provided in my class; however, due to the large classroom sizes, students will have to share. So, having your own set might make this a little easier.

Grade Scale:

A	93-100 (Mastery)	C	73-76 (Partial mastery)
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86 (Proficient)	D	63-66 (Minimal mastery)
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	59 or below

Electronics in the Classroom: The goal of our classrooms is to allow students to receive the best education possible without any distractions or disruptions. Electronics such as cell phones and headphones are not permitted during class instruction and activities.

Be on time for class: You are expected to **be in your seat and ready for work when the bell rings.** Those who are not in their seats will be marked as tardy.

Students are expected to follow directions when they are given:

1. You are expected to sit in assigned seats.
2. Raise your hand to speak or participate in classroom discussions.
3. Be respectful of others.
4. No talking while the teacher or student(s) have the floor.
5. No bathroom breaks for the first 15 minutes of direct instruction time and the last 15 minutes of class.

Hall passes: Hall passes are permitted on our Smart Pass system. DMS gives students two passes a day. Utilize your break time and lunch time as needed. In short, please prepare before coming to class so that the hall pass is a once-in-a-while need and not a daily activity/distraction. Being in class is imperative to a positive and successful learning environment.

Coursework: All classwork will be done in class using both traditional paper assignments and technology. There will be at least one test per unit. Tests will be either online, written, or project based. Retakes are available after a student has demonstrated to me their preparation.

Teamwork: Students will have the opportunity to work in teams. Many assignments will be completed individually. Some assignments will be completed as a team. Please do all you can to help build your team by becoming a true team player.

Homework: Our classes do not require homework, as time will be given in class to complete the assigned tasks. However, if the student does not make proper use of the time or is absent, then those tasks will become homework.

Classroom Expectations

1. **Produce Quality Work:** You are expected to give your best effort each day in this class. Each day, based on your participation, performance, and willingness. Utilize the rubrics to assist you in providing quality work. Provide the necessary content, make it legible so I can read it, (put your first and at last your last initial on all work), try your hardest. I am here to facilitate your learning.
2. **Support a Learning Environment:** Your actions, intentions, participation, etc, are to support your learning and the learning of others in this classroom. If you do anything that endangers or diminishes your learning or the learning of others, it will be addressed immediately.
3. **Succeed:** When you give your best, no doubt you will succeed in passing the class.
4. **Respect the classroom- Restroom Policy-** For you to get the most instruction possible, use the bathroom in between class periods. Students can use the bathroom within the first 5 minutes of class and the last 5 minutes of class if allowed by the teacher. If a student has an accommodation or IEP that allows bathroom use throughout the class, it will be respected and followed. Cell phones will be taken during class time if a student is using them without permission.
5. *No cell phone use during class time! Do not text. Put it away or it will be taken away! Cell phones are just too distracting for students while at school. Questions? – Refer to the student handbook for more about cell phone use.

Classroom Procedures- Each day I will earn my grade by:

1. **Be working on Objective Builder/Essential understandings/GOALS before tardy bell rings-** Each day when I come to class, there will be a question or activity on the board and I am expected to quietly work on this Objective Builder until Ms. Harris opens a discussion with the class.
2. **Completing the activities that are required for that day-** To help me understand required core principles of this class, activities are structured to help me improve my understanding of science. I will complete labs, peer assignments, and individual work that needs to be completed each day that I come to class. .
3. **Make up what I miss-** If you are absent it is your responsibility to find out what is required. Always refer to canvas daily. Ask your neighbor before you ask the teacher.
4. **Cheating** will receive a zero.
6. **Set Goals and Reach them:** I expect to earn a _____ grade in class because:

List here the reasons why: _____

Discipline Procedures: Should a student choose not to follow the classroom policies, a series of steps will take place.

1. Verbal warning.
2. Discussion outside of class, phone call or email home, **Student Action Plan implemented. Part I**
3. Conference with parent **Student Action Plan implemented. Part II**
4. If continuation of a problem occurs, grade will be suspended parent/principal/student/ teacher mtg.

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date