**Welcome to 6th Grade Social Studies!**



**2015 - 2016**

**Mrs. Katie Chester**

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**Objective/Purpose**: throughout the course of the school year, the students will study four major world regions: Europe, Latin America, Canada, and Australia. Students will learn about the geography, history, government, and economics of each of these world regions.

**Evaluation and Grading**: every student’s grade will be based on set percentages for each assignment category.

* **Summative Assignments 60%**

(Unit Tests, End of Course Tests, Projects, etc.)

* **Formative Assignments 40%**

(Daily Work, Quizzes, Extended Learning, Class work, etc.)

**Testing Policy**: along with other assignments and projects, tests will be given at the end of each unit. Pre- and Post-Tests will also be given based on school policy.

* Test Make-Ups: students are allowed to make-up a test when absent, but are expected to complete the test the day they return to school.
* Test Retakes: if a student would like to retake a test, they must schedule a time outside of school to complete it and complete the Re-Test Form. All re-tests must be finished within 5 school days after getting the test back.

**Homework**: students are not given homework every day, but they should take each assignment seriously and try their hardest!

**Absences and Make-Up Work**: when a student is absent from school, they are responsible for making up all work done while they were gone. It is the student’s responsibility to ask Mrs. Chester for the assignments.

* Students are given the same number of days to make up an assignment as they were absent from class
* School Activities: if a student misses class for a school activity, they are responsible for getting the assignment before their absence.

**Additional Help:** Mrs. Chester is available to meet with students for additional help, but students must set up a time beforehand. Ms. Chandler is available every day after school by appointment from 3:35 to 4:30. Students must have a ride home.

**Course Resources:** students have been provided with a variety of resources to help them with the class throughout the school year.

1. PowerSchool: online gradebook available to both parents and students. The site will show missing work, late work, and all grades.
2. Google Classroom: online website for parents and students that includes a calendar with due dates and various projects/assignments for all classes

**Classroom Rules and Expectations:**

1. Follow class procedures and listen to Mrs. Chester.
2. Always be respectful of yourself, others, and others’ property.
3. Try your hardest on every assignment every day.
4. Be ready to ask questions and participate, but….raise your hand and do not speak while others are speaking.
5. No food or drinks in the classroom.
6. Follow all GMS rules, expectations, and dress code.

**Mrs. Chester’s Pet Peeves:**

1. Always be organized, neat, and prepared!
2. Do not do work for another class unless told otherwise
3. Do not eat in the classroom
4. Face forward and sit flat in your chair

**Behavior Procedures:** all students are expected to follow both Mrs. Chester’s and Gainesville Middle School’s rules and expectations. All classroom rules are posted and reviewed at the beginning of the year. School rules are provided in the student agenda. If rules are broken, students face the following consequences:

1. Verbal Warning (students are given 3 chances before facing consequences)
2. Student-Teacher Conference
3. Silent Lunch + Discipline Card (to be signed by parents)
4. Parent Conference
5. Team Isolation
6. Administrative Referral

Use of Electronic Devices: any electronic device being used during school without permission will be taken up by Ms. Chandler.

1. First Offense: returned at the end of class
2. Second Offense: returned at the end of the school day
3. Third Offense: Parents must collect the phone/device

**Classroom/School Procedures:**

1. Fire Drills/Emergency Drills: students are expected to quickly and quietly follow all drill procedures. These drills are performed to help students in case of an emergency and are not effective if students do not cooperate.
2. Hallways: students should walk quietly and in a line whenever walking throughout the hallway. Outside of the classroom, they represent themselves, the class, and the entire team.
3. **Mrs. Chester’s Daily Procedures:**
   * Line up quietly outside the room until Mrs. Chester lets you in
   * Come in quickly and work on your warm-up independently/quietly
   * Follow all classroom rules and directions
   * Clean up at the end of class and wait to be dismissed

**Required Supplies**: students should always come to class *prepared*!

1. Pens and pencils
2. Notebook with section for Social Studies or separate notebook
3. **Spiral Notebook (for Social Studies only!)**

*\* In Mrs. Chester’s class this year, students will use an Interactive Notebook. They will use the spiral notebook to hold all assignments/complete notes and the notebook will be taken up for a grade before each test.*

By signing below, it shows that both the students and parent (or guardian) has thoroughly read the syllabus and understands it. Both students and parents/guardians need to understand the rules, expectations, consequences, and procedures in Mrs. Chester’s classroom.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I **DO** give permission to you to include my child’s image on video recording or take pictures as he/she participates in a class conducted at Gainesville Middle School by Mrs. Chester and/or to use/display materials that my child may produce as part of the classroom activities.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I **DO NOT** give permission to video record/take pictures for school display of my child or to use materials that my child may produce as part of classroom activities.