



ISS Course Syllabus

Teacher: George Casey
Course Title: Social Studies

Grade: 8th
HS Credit Value:

Course Description:

We are going to begin our class building geography skills to ensure a better understanding of how ancient cultures survived. We will later investigate the different ancient worlds of the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe, and early America. During our discoveries we will use physical and political maps and analyzed them to construct more meaning for each civilization. This course is also integrated as much as possible with the Language Arts Curriculum. A variety of activities such as oral presentations, making African masks, a castle project, internet research, and in-depth written assignments are utilized throughout the year to keep learning evocative and appealing.

Course Contents:

- Unit 1 Geography Skills
- Unit 2 Byzantine and Muslim Civilizations
- Unit 3 Civilizations of Africa
- Unit 5 Asian Civilizations
- Unit 5 European Middle Ages
- Unit 4 Classical American Civilizations

Resources:

- Across the Centuries, Houghton Mifflin Co., 1999
- The Secret of the Andes, Ann Nolan Clark, Viking Press, 1952
- The African Mask, Janet E. Rupert, Blackprint Co. 1994
- **Internet Activities**
- **Library**
- **Maps**

Evaluation System:

- 1. The students will have formal tests in the spring mandated by the government.**
- 2. Students will be informally assessed in the following ways:**
 - a. Weekly or by unit, informal teacher generated tests and quizzes.**
 - b. Daily, this includes class work, participation, and behavior.**
 - c. Homework assignments**

Test/Quizzes	25%
Classwork	25%
Homework	25%
Participation/Behavior	25%
Total	100%