

**Syllabus**  
**World Geography**  
**Grade 9**  
**Peninsula Catholic High School**  
**2009-2010**

**Course Title:** World Geography

**Prerequisites:** Required

**Course Goal:** To gain a working knowledge of our physical environment and its impact on our history and life styles, thus allowing us to better understand the nature of the world and the events that take place in it.

**Course**

**Objectives:** Demonstrate a basic knowledge of location, landforms and resources of cultural regions.

Develop skills in the use of maps, globes and other graphic tools to acquire and process geographic information.

Relate how geography has affected the economic, social and cultural development of cultural regions.

Analyze problems that challenge people from various cultural regions.

**Enabling**

**Objectives:** Will be specified in each class.

**Content/**

**Topics:** Topics of study:

1. The World
2. The United States and Canada
3. Latin America
4. Europe
5. Russia
6. North Africa, Southwest Asia and Central Asia
7. Africa South of the Sahara
8. South Asia
9. East Asia
10. Southeast Asia
11. Australia, Oceania and Antarctica

**Basic Text:** Boehm, Richard G. , World Geography. New York: Glencoe/McGraw Hill, 2003.

**Expectations:** Each student will need to keep pace with the required readings and assignments. Reading assignments and dates for coverage of specific chapters will be provided.

**Independent / Group Projects:** Students will complete a term research project on a country of their choice. A written report and oral presentation will be due the second half of the term. Students will receive a rubric in the third week covering specific requirements.

**Evaluation:** Evaluated areas are weighted as follows:

- Homework 10%
- Quizzes 20%
- Chapter/Unit Tests 40%
- Projects 25%
- Participation 5%
- Exams: Mid Term Exam 20% of 1<sup>st</sup> half Term average  
End of Term Exam 20% of 2<sup>nd</sup> half Term average

(The Final Exam will cover only material presented the second half of the term.)  
The final course grade will be the average of the two term grades.

**Grading:** Peninsula Catholic grade scale will apply

**Make-up work:**

The criteria in the Student-Parent Handbook will be enforced.

- Work assigned prior to student's absence will be due **when the student returns**.
- Work assigned during a student's absence will be due on a date agreed upon by the teacher and the student.
- Planned absences require the student to inform the teacher in advance and develop a plan for completing all work to be missed.
- Missed tests and quizzes will be made up on the **date of return** unless otherwise coordinated with the teacher.

**Late Work:** Students are expected to turn in all assignments on time. Late work for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will be assessed as follows:

Major assignments lose 20% the first day and an additional 10% the second day.

Assignments more than two days late will receive a grade of zero.

Minor assignments will lose 10% for each day late. After day 3, the grade will be 69%.

Any assignment not completed will receive a zero grade.

**Materials:** Blue/black ink pens

Loose leaf paper/notebook paper and a three ring binder (**no spiral notebooks**)

Flash drive for Social Studies subjects only [format in MS Word]

Color pencils

**Intellectual Honesty and Integrity:** Students are expected to abide by the highest ethical standards in the preparation and presentation of graded materials, and shall abide by the **PCHS Honor Code**. Such standards are founded on the basic concepts of honesty, integrity and respect. Any instances of plagiarism or cheating will not be tolerated.

**PCHS Honor Code** The PCHS honor code is based on the premise that PCHS students will not cheat, lie or steal, nor tolerate those who do. During the course the following will apply. On written assignments and tests the student will hand write "**I will abide by the Honor Code**" and sign their name. Any violation of the Honor Code will be referred to the Honor Council.

**Tests and Quizzes:** All work must be performed individually using only the resources specifically authorized by the teacher.

**Homework:** Students are expected to complete homework assignments individually as a means to enhance the learning and mastery of critical information. When answering "Main Ideas" and "Critical Thinking" questions students will use their own words. Homework is due at the beginning of the class period and will be considered late after that time.

**Research  
Assignments  
and Projects:**

All work must be original to the individual student and proper MLA internal documentation and works cited procedures must be followed. All research assignments are subject to review by utilizing [turnitin.com](http://turnitin.com) to insure that the work is original to the student with proper documentation.

**Honors Credit:**

Students may take this course for honors credit. Expectations in both the quantity and quality of work are higher as additional quality points will apply. Honors Students will:

- Complete **all** regular assignments and projects on time (**no late assignments allowed**) and in a quality manner.
- Complete additional Section questions in each chapter as assigned.
- Complete additional Critical Thinking questions on tests and as assigned.
- Complete research and “current events” reports as assigned.
- Complete “honors only” questions on tests and quizzes
- Maintain an 89% or higher average in every graded category (Homework, Tests, Quizzes, Class Work/ Projects, Participation), evaluated at the first Progress Report. Honors students are expected to continue to maintain an 89% or better average in all categories for the remainder of the course.

Students who meet these criteria will be allowed to continue pursuing World Geography for Honors credit.

In the event a student is unable to maintain the required 89% in all graded categories through the first progress report, the grades from work completed will stand and no honors credit will be given. The student will continue for regular credit.

**A COPY OF THIS SYLLABUS MUST BE KEPT IN YOUR WORLD GEOGRAPHY NOTEBOOK**

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**I have read and understand the World Geography syllabus**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student printed name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Initials \_\_\_\_\_