



DOMINICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Grade 7: Social Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

GRADE LEVEL: 7

SCHOOL YEAR: 2024 - 2025

TEACHER: Mr. Springer

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This Social Studies course is designed to ensure the students understand the significant events and histories of the regions of the eastern hemisphere. After taking this course students will be able to read, understand, and identify through primary and secondary sources the histories of East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East. Additionally, this course will focus on the relevant events and challenges that define the region today.

In order to succeed in this class students will need to be able to perform the necessary readings in advance and come to class prepared to discuss the events discussed. The instructor will provide necessary context and activities in order to facilitate this discussion, but much of this conversation will occur between students, in both small group and whole class discussions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions.
- Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies
- Describe how a text presents information
- Distinguish among fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.
- Read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
- Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

ASSESSMENT:

There will be a combination of formative and summative examinations for this course. These will include but not be limited to; standardized tests, daily coursework, in-class discussion, written reports, presentations. The quarterly grade will be awarded for all student work based on the following criteria:

- Class Participation, Graded Recitation, Quizzes and Tests- 30% of quarterly grade
- Major Projects and Assignments- 30% of quarterly grade
- Quarterly Exams- 30% of quarterly grade
- Department- 10% of quarterly grade

PRIMARY TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCES

- Chu, G.H. & Holtgrieve, D. (2018). *World Geography: Eastern Hemisphere*. Pearson.
- As many of the quizzes/tests will be done through Google Classroom, **students must come to class with a laptop or tablet on a daily basis.** Additionally, students must be familiar with logging into their DIS Google accounts. Being able to access their Google accounts is necessary for students to be able to participate in the daily activities that will be assigned to them in the Google Classroom.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Behavioral Expectations

- Be on punctual and be prepared: Everyone is expected to be physically and mentally present. Participation is mandatory
- Be respectful at all times to all individuals. This includes speaking when granted permission to do so. All communication is required to be respectful. Bullying in any shape or form will not be tolerated.
- Usage of electronic devices is prohibited unless allowed. Electronic devices are only to be used for school work.
- For other discipline inquiries, please refer to the Dominican International School Student Handbook. Discipline will be instituted in accordance with the regulations of the handbook.

Homework and Assignment Policy

- Late Homework or Assignments will be marked late and deducted 10 % for each day the assignment is late (up to a maximum of fifty percent).
- Quizzes, Exams, and major presentations are subjected to the same policy above.

Plagiarism Policy: Any form of plagiarism will be considered a violation of academic integrity and will result in a 0.

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment.

1st QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 12 to 16 <i>12 - First Day / Orientation Day</i> <i>15 - Induction of Class/Student</i> <i>Council Officers, NJHS/DYM</i>	Orientation: Syllabus overview, Class rules Topic 9: Introduction/Connect East Asia Topic 9: Lesson 1 Early Civilizations of East Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading
Week 2 Aug 19 to 23	Topic 9: Lesson 1 Early Civilizations of East Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Did the Government Emerge in China? • The First Chinese Empire • The Han Dynasty • Life in Ancient China • Early Korean/Japanese Civilizations Topic 9: Lesson 2 Chinese Religions and Philosophy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spiritual Traditions • The Teachings of Confucious • What are the beliefs of Daoism • Chinese Buddhism
Week 3 Aug 26 to 30 <i>26 - St. Dominic Feast Day</i> <i>Celebration</i>	Topic 9: Lesson 3 Later History of East Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tand and Song Dynasties • A Mongol Empire • The Ming and Manchus • Chinese Achievements • Korean/Japanese Civilizations • The Age of Imperialism • Cold War in East Asia • New Challenges for East Asia Topic 9: Lesson 4 Living in East Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where do East Asians Live? • Religion in East Asia • Ethnic Diversity
Week 4 Sep 2 to 6	Topic 9: Lesson 5 East Asia at Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governments of East Asia • Economies of East Asia • Trade in East Asia Topic 9: Lesson 6 Challenges Facing East Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic, Political, and Environmental Challenges
Week 5 Sep 9 - 13 <i>9 - Holy Mass & VIP Induction &</i> <i>Birthday of Mother Mary/Nativity</i> <i>of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	Topic 9 Test Project: Debate Nuclear Power for Japan
Week 6 Sep 16 - 20 <i>17 - Moon Festival (No Classes)</i> <i>18 - 20 - Teacher Conference(No</i> <i>Classes)</i>	Introduction to Research Essay
Week 7 Sep 23 - 27 <i>24 - 26 - Pre-Exam Days</i>	Research Paper: Costs and Benefits of Technology in East Asia

Week 8 Sep 30 - Oct 4	Exam Review
Week 9 Oct 7 - 11 <i>7 - Launching of Rosary Month</i> <i>8 -9 - First Quarter Exams (Half Days)</i> <i>10 - Double Ten Day (No Classes)</i> <i>11 - Record Day (No Classes)</i>	1st Quarter Exam

2nd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

<i>(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)</i>	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 14 - 18	<p>Topic 6: Introduction/Connect Southwest Asia Through Time</p> <p>Topic 6: Lesson 1 Origins of Civilization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Neolithic Revolution ● Mesopotamia ● How was civilization born in Sumer? <p>Topic 6: Lesson 2 Ancient Empires of Southwest Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Babylonian Empire ● The Hittites ● The Phoenicians ● Assyrian, Neo-Babylonian, Persian Empires
Week 2 (11) Oct 21 - 25	<p>Topic 6: Lesson 3 Origins and Beliefs of Judaism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Ancient Israelites ● The Exodus ● The Ten Commandments ● The Importance of Law and Learning <p>Topic 6: Lesson 4 Origins and Beliefs of Christianity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What do Christians Believe? ● The Spread of Christianity ● Christianity in Southwest Asia
Week 3 (12) Oct 28 - Nov 1 <i>1 - All Saints Day Mass</i>	<p>Topic 6: Lesson 5 Origins and Beliefs of Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arabia Before Islam ● How Did Islam Begin? ● What Do Muslims Believe? <p>Topic 6: Lesson 6 Muslim Empires and the Crusades</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Spread of Islam ● The Caliphs ● Crusaders and Mongols ● Non-Arab Muslim Empires
Week 4 (13) Nov 4 - 8	<p>Topic 6: Lesson 7 Building Modern Nations in Southwest Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● European Colonialism ● New Nation-States ● How Did Conflict Develop in Israel? ● The Iranian Revolution ● Conflicts Between Iraq and the West ● Civil War in Lebanon <p>Topic 6 Test</p>

Week 5 (14) Nov 11 - 15	<p>Topic 7: Introduction/Connect Southwest Asia Today</p> <p>Topic 7: Lesson 1 Cultural Diversity in Southwest Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Region of Many Faiths • A Region of Many Peoples • How Has Modern Life Affected the Region? <p>Topic 7: Lesson 2 Where People Live and Work in Southwest Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How Does Geography Shape Where People Live? • Economies of Southwest Asia
Week 6 (15) Nov 18 - 22	<p>Topic 7: Lesson 3 Governments in Southwest Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What Kind of Democracies Exist in Southwest Asia? • Monarchies • A Theocracy and Failed States <p>Topic 7: Lesson 4 Conflicts in Southwest Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Conflict in Iraq • The Conflict in Syria • The Conflict in Yemen
Week 7 (16) Nov 25 - 29 <i>25 - Thanksgiving Mass</i> <i>26 - 28 - Pre-Exam Days</i> <i>28 - House Family Fun Run</i>	<p>Topic 7 Test</p> <p>Research Paper: Roots of Conflict in Southwest Asia</p>
Week 8 (17) Dec 2 - 6 <i>6 - Foundation Day Mass & Christmas Program (Half Day)</i>	<p>Essay continued</p> <p>Exam Review</p>
Week 9 (18) Dec 9 - 13 <i>12 - 13 - Second Quarter Exams (Half Days)</i>	<p>Exam Review continued</p> <p>2nd Quarter Exam</p>
Dec 16 - Jan 3	Christmas Holiday

3rd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

<i>(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)</i>	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (19) Jan 6 - 10 <i>6 - Record Day (No Classes)</i> <i>10 - New Year Mass</i>	<p>Topic 8: Introduction/Connect South Asia</p> <p>Topic 8: Lesson 1 Early Civilizations of South Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who Were the Indo-Aryans? • The Maurya Empire • The Gupta Empire
Week 2 (20) Jan 13 - 17	<p>Topic 8: Lesson 2 Origins and Beliefs of Hinduism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What Are the Roots of Hinduism? • Hindu Beliefs About God • Hindu Beliefs About Life • What Was the Impact of Hinduism? <p>Topic 8: Lesson 3 Origins and Beliefs of Buddhism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who Was the Buddha? • What are Key Buddhist Beliefs? • The Spread of Buddhism

<p>Week 3 (21) Jan 20 - 24 <i>20 - Feast Day of St. Thomas</i></p>	<p>Topic 8: Lesson 4 Later History of South Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Asia After the Guptas • How Did Islam Arrive in South Asia? • The Mughal Period • European Colonialism • South Asia After Independence <p>Topic 8: Lesson 5 Living in South Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where Do South Asians Live? • Religion in South Asia • Ethnic Diversity
<p>Jan 27 - 31</p>	<p>CNY Holiday</p>
<p>Week 4 (22) Feb 3 - 7 <i>3 - Catholic Week Activity</i></p>	<p>Topic 8: Lesson 6 South Asia at Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governments of South Asia • Economies of South Asia • Trade in South Asia <p>Topic 8: Lesson 7 Challenges Facing South Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What Economic Challenges Does South Asia Face? • Social and Political Challenges • Environmental Challenges
<p>Week 5 (23) Feb 10 - 14 <i>10 - Catholic Week Activity</i></p>	<p>Topic 8 Test</p> <p>Project: Comparing Economic Development in South Asia</p>
<p>Week 6 (24) Feb 17 - 21 <i>17 - Catholic Week Activity</i></p>	<p>Project continued...</p> <p>Topic 10: Introduction/Connect Southeast Asia</p> <p>Topic 10: Lesson 1 Early History of Southeast Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The First Civilizations of Southeast Asia • Buddhist and Muslim Monarchies • How Did Westerners Affect the Region?
<p>Week 7 (25) Feb 24 - 28 <i>25 - 27 - Pre-Exam Days</i> <i>28 - Memorial Day (No Classes)</i></p>	<p>Topic 10: Lesson 2 Independent Southeast Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWII and Independence • Vietnam War • Authoritarian Government or Democracy? <p>Topic 10: Lesson 3 Living in Southeast Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where people live in Southeast Asia • Cultural Diversity in Southeast Asia
<p>Week 8 (26) Mar 3 - 7 <i>5 - Ash Wednesday Mass</i></p>	<p>Topic 10: Lesson 4 Southeast Asia at Work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governments of Southeast Asia • Economies of Southeast Asia • The Region's Role in the World Economy <p>Topic 10: Lesson 5 Challenges Facing Southeast Asia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Challenges • Political and Economic Challenges <p>Topic 10 Test</p>
<p>Week 9 (27) March 10 - 14 <i>14 - Third Quarter Exam (Half Day)</i></p>	<p>Exam Review</p> <p>3rd Quarter Exam</p>

4th QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (28) March 17 - 21 <i>17 - Third Quarter Exam (Half Day)</i> <i>19 - Lectio Divina</i>	3rd Quarter Exam Topic 11: Lesson 1 Introduction/Connect Australia and the Pacific Topic 11: Lesson 1 Early Cultures of Australia and the Pacific <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australia’s First Peoples • Early Cultures of Melanesia and Micronesia • Polynesia’s Great Navigations
Week 2 (29) March 24 - 28	Topic 11: Lesson 2 Modern History of Australia and the Pacific <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Exploration of the Pacific • British Settlement of Australia and New Zealand • Colonialism in the Pacific Topic 11: Lesson 3 Living in Australia and the Pacific <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where Do People Live? • Cultures of Australia and New Zealand • Cultures of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia
Week 3 (30) Mar 31 - Apr 4 <i>4 - Tomb Sweeping/Children’s Day</i> <i>(No Classes)</i>	Topic 11: Lesson 4 Australia and the Pacific at Work <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government in Australia and New Zealand • Government in the Pacific Islands • Economies of Australia and New Zealand • Economies of the Pacific Islands Topic 11: Lesson 5 Challenges Facing Australia and the Pacific <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Threat of Rising Sea Levels • Other Environmental Challenges
Week 4 (31) Apr 7 - 11	Topic 11: Lesson 6 Antarctica <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antarctica’s Physical Geography • Exploration and Research in Antarctica Topic 11 Test
Apr 14 - 18	Easter Holiday
Week 5 (32) Apr 21 - 25 <i>21 - 25 Laudati Si Week/Earth Week/Cultural Awareness Week/Spirit Week</i>	Project: Petition to Encourage Environmental Action
Week 6 (33) Apr 28 - May 2 <i>29 - 1 - Pre-Exam Days</i>	Research Paper: How has geography affected people’s lives in Australia and the Pacific?
Week 7 (34) May 5 - 9	Exam Review
Week 8 (35) May 12 - 16 <i>14 - 15 - Fourth Quarter Exams (Half Days)</i> <i>16 - Record Day (No Classes)</i>	4th Quarter Exams
Week 9 (36)	Activities To Be Determined -----

<p>May 19 - 23 <i>19 - Baccalaureate Mass for Graduating Classes</i> <i>21 - House Culminating Activity</i> <i>22 - Lower School Sports Day</i></p>	
<p>Week 10 (37) May 26 - 30 <i>28 - Non-Graduating Classes Recognition</i> <i>28 - Class Party</i> <i>29 - Last Day of School, Report Card Distribution, & Class Party (Half Day)</i></p>	<p>Activities To Be Determined -----</p>