



# Liberty Middle School

281 Dock Murphy Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758

## 7th Grade Geography

Mr. Casey Smith

<b>Teacher Contact Information</b>	<b>Email:</b> cmsmith@madisoncity.k12.al.us <b>Phone:</b> 256-430-0001
<b>Classroom Digital Platforms</b>	<b>Schoology Link:</b> Can be accessed through MCS account <b>Parent Communication:</b> I will utilize messaging via ParentSquare, so please make sure your contact information is updated in the PowerSchool system, as the information there is synced to your ParentSquare application, and I will be using the platform for general communication as well as test/ quiz/ project reminders.
<b>Textbook Information</b>	<i>National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography</i>  <i>Parents and guardians can access other instructional materials through the Schoology platform.</i>
<b>Course Description</b>	9 Weeks Course In this course students will increase their knowledge about the physical and human nature of the world and about relationships between people and their environments. Students will study Earth as a physical object, and a place in which humans live. Students also study geography in the context of economics, civics and politics, history, and culture.
<b>Course Objectives</b>	During this course students will describe the world in spatial terms using maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies. Students will determine how regions are used to describe the organization of the Earth's surface. Students will compare geographic patterns of Earth's physical, cultural, and economic systems. Students will be able to organize geographic information using the five themes and six essential elements. Students will be able to respectfully engage critically and constructively in a dialogue of ideas through class discussion, small group assignments, and project based learning.
<b>Course Outline</b>	<b>Unit 1:</b> The World in Spatial Terms <b>Unit 2:</b> Physical Systems <b>Unit 3:</b> Human Systems <b>Unit 4:</b> Places and Regions <b>Unit 5:</b> Environment and Society <b>Unit 6:</b> Uses of Geography <i>*Subject to change</i>
<b>Classroom Expectations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cell phones must be powered down and in a backpack from 8:15 am - 3:20 pm.</li> <li>2. Be seated and ready for class when the bell rings. Students tardy to class will receive a detention per LMS policy.</li> <li>3. Come prepared for class. Bring all necessary supplies.</li> <li>4. Respect your teacher, your classmates, and yourself.</li> <li>5. If it's not yours, don't touch it. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.</li> </ol> <p>All students must follow the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct.</p>
<b>Progressive Discipline</b> <i>(LMS Policy)</i>	<b>Liberty Middle School Classroom Management Plan:</b> <b>Step 1:</b> Verbal warning <b>Step 2:</b> Student/teacher conference with parent notification <b>Step 3:</b> Parent contact/conference <b>Step 4:</b> Detention <b>Step 5:</b> Referral to administration for repeat Class I violations and initial Class II and Class III <b>offenses</b>

	<b>(Madison City Schools Code of Conduct)</b> <b>All students must follow the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct.</b>
<b>Grading Policy</b> <i>(MCS Policy)</i>	<b>60%</b> = Assessments (Tests, Essays, Projects) <b>40%</b> = Daily Grades (Quizzes, Homework, Classwork, and Participation) <b>Testing days</b> = Tuesday/Thursday
<b>Late Work Policy</b>	Late work will be accepted until the end of the unit. After the unit ends, late work will not be accepted and students will receive a 0 for the assignment. Students need to talk to Mr. Smith about determining a new due date if necessary.
<b>Make-up Work/Test Policy</b>	Students with excused absences will be allowed to make-up all work within three days of returning to school. It is the student's responsibility to ask for make-up work. Students can get with a classmate or ask the teacher for help. Work that is not made up will become a zero (including quizzes/tests). Many times, missed quizzes and tests can be made up during school.
<b>Technology</b>	<p>Effective July 1, 2025, the use, operation, or possession of Wireless Communications Devices including but not limited to cellular telephones, tablet computers, laptop computers, pagers, gaming devices, smart watches, earphones or headphones in school buildings or on school grounds during the Instructional Day, is prohibited. Violation of Board policy with respect to such use, operation, or possession of Wireless Communication Devices will constitute a Class II violation. Madison City Schools has outlined an Electronic/Wireless Device Policy (Policy 6.20) on page 137 of the MCS Policy Manual.</p> <p>Students should bring their MCS chromebooks and chargers to class each day. Teachers monitor student activity and participation; however, students are responsible for their activity on school-issued devices and using their MCS accounts.</p>
<b>Materials &amp; Supplies</b>	MCS Device and Charger Spiral Notebook OR 3-Ring Binder Colored Pencils/Markers Assorted Highlighters Sticky Notes Index Cards Pencils/Pens Individual Headphones (no wireless; must be used with auxiliary port)
<b>Homework</b>	Students are allotted time in class to complete assignments. In the event that a student is absent or does not finish during class time, they will need to complete the assignment for homework.
<b>Parent &amp; Student Acknowledgment Form</b>	<i>Please sign and return the syllabus acknowledgement form to Coach Smith no later than three days after the beginning of the term.</i>

***This syllabus is subject to change.***

# **Parent/Guardian/Student Syllabus Signature Sheet**

## **Geography**

Please complete the following and return by Tuesday, August 6th. The syllabus can be located on Coach Smith's website or by scanning the QR code below.



### **Parent/Guardian Signature**

**I have read the class syllabus and understand its contents. I acknowledge that I and my child are responsible for abiding by the conditions listed.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Student Signature**

**I have received and read a copy of the class syllabus and understand its contents. I acknowledge I am responsible for abiding by the conditions listed.**

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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***Additional Comments:***