



# Journey Middle School

217 Celtic Drive, Madison, Alabama 35758

Geography, 7th Grade

Ms. Carpenter

Teacher Contact Information	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:cmcarpenter@madisoncity.k12.al.us">cmcarpenter@madisoncity.k12.al.us</a> <b>Classroom Phone:</b> 256-774-4695
Classroom Digital Platforms	<b>Webpage Link:</b> <a href="https://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us/Domain/2828">https://www.madisoncity.k12.al.us/Domain/2828</a> <b>Parent Communication:</b> I will utilize emails in Powerschools so please make sure your contact information is updated in the system. <b>Classroom Communication:</b> A link to a live weekly agenda will be posted in schoology and provided to parents early in the semester for you to be able to check what we are doing in class. Please note that this could change abruptly given changes in schedule at school etc.
Textbook Information	National Geographic: World Cultures and Geography <i>Textbooks will be used as a supplemental resource in the classroom and will not be checked out to students.</i>
Writing Projects	Any writing assignment will be created in the student's Madison City Schools Google Drive using the Google Platform, which includes Google Docs, Google Slides, and Google Sheets.
Course Description	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.
Course Objectives	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.
Course Outline	9 Weeks Course: Unit 1: The World in Spatial Terms Unit 2: North America and South America Unit 3: Europe Unit 4: Asia Unit 5: Africa Final Project  *This is subject to change.
Classroom Expectations	1. Be seated and ready for class when the bell rings. Students tardy to class will receive a detention per JMS policy. 2. Come prepared for class. Bring all necessary supplies, including homework. 3. Respect your teacher, your classmates, and yourself. 4. Listen and follow directions. 5. If it's not yours, don't touch it. Keep your hands and feet to yourself. If you break something of mine, be prepared to replace it. This also applies to school technology.

	<p>6. Follow all school rules.</p> <p>7. The teacher dismisses the class, not the bell.</p>
<p><b>Progressive Discipline Procedures</b></p>	<p><b>All progressive discipline will correspond with the Madison City Schools Code of Conduct regarding Class I and II offenses. Some Class II and all Class III offenses are a direct office referral.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warning</li> <li>• Conference with student with parent notification</li> <li>• Parent Contact</li> <li>• Detention</li> <li>• Referral to administration for repeat Class I violations and initial Class II and III offenses---Consequences determined to be reasonable and appropriate by the school administration.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Grading Policy (MCS Policy)</b></p>	<p><b>60%</b> = Assessments (Tests, Essays, Projects)</p> <p><b>40%</b> = Daily Grades (Quizzes, Homework, Classwork, and Participation)</p>
<p><b>Electronic Communication Device Policy</b></p>	<p>Wireless Communication Devices</p> <p>A. Definitions</p> <p>1. Instructional Day –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When school is open and in session:</li> <li>• During class time, lunch, transitions between classes, and any non-instructional periods;</li> <li>• Any time that students are required to store their Wireless Communication Devices under the Student Code of Conduct, or other school rules; or</li> <li>• Any other time, students are instructed to store their devices by school staff.</li> </ul> <p>2. Wireless Communication Devices – Any portable electronic device that has the capability of exchanging voice, messaging, or other data communication with another electronic device, including, without limitation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cellular telephones</li> <li>• tablet computers</li> <li>• laptop computers</li> <li>• pagers</li> <li>• gaming devices</li> <li>• smart watches</li> <li>• earphones or headphones (Air Pods, ear buds, over the ear headphones, etc., whether wireless or not)</li> </ul> <p>B. Possession of Wireless Communication Devices – Students are prohibited from bringing Wireless Communication Devices into school buildings and onto school grounds, except in compliance with this policy. The Board is not responsible for the theft, loss, or damage to any Wireless Communication Device brought onto campus by a student.</p> <p>C. Storage of Devices– At all times during the Instructional Day, students who possess a Wireless Communication Device on any campus or in any school must turn the device off and store the Wireless Communication Device off their person in a locker, car, backpack, purse, gym bag, or other storage location approved by school administrators. This storage requirement is subject to the exceptions set out in subsection D below.</p> <p>D. Prohibition on Use; Exceptions – Students are prohibited from using, operating, or possessing a Wireless Communication Device during the Instructional Day, except under the following limited circumstances:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use, operation, and/or possession of the device is specifically included in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or an Individualized Health Plan;</li> <li>• The use, operation, and/or possession of the device is for educational or learning purposes under the supervision of school personnel; and</li> <li>• The use, operation, and/or possession occur during an emergency threatening the life or safety of the student or another person.</li> </ul> <p>The Superintendent or designee is authorized to develop additional guidelines for implementation of these exceptions.</p> <p>E. Searches – School officials may read, examine, or inspect the contents of any wireless communication device upon reasonable suspicion that the device contains evidence of a violation of Board policy, the Code of Conduct, or other school rules, provided that the nature and extent of such reading, examination, and inspection shall be reasonably related and limited to the suspected violation.</p> <p>F. Disciplinary Action – Any violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct.</p> <p>G. Additional Procedures Authorized – The Superintendent or designee is authorized to develop any additional rules necessary to carry out this policy.</p>
<b>Late Work Procedures</b>	<p>Students present in class on the day of instruction are expected to turn in all in-class and out-of-class assignments on time. Late work will be accepted for up to three school days after the original due date, with a deduction of one letter grade per day. Late work will not be accepted after three days. Students must complete the <a href="#">Late Assignment Google Form</a> before any late work will be graded or entered into PowerSchool. Students are responsible for speaking with the teacher about any late work and, if needed, agreeing on a new due date.</p>
<b>Make-up Work/Test Policy</b>	<p>Students are permitted to make up work, tests, and other assignments, activities, etc., when absences are excused. Under normal circumstances, it is expected that students will submit previously assigned work upon return to school after an excused absence. All work missed on the day(s) of excused absence(s) must be made up within three school days after returning to school. However, for extended excused absences when homebound services are not necessary, the teacher may grant additional time, but not to extend beyond two weeks past the return to school. It is the joint responsibility of student and parent to ensure a student makes up work following excused absences. Teachers may alter assignments, tests, work, activities, etc., as necessary to ensure an accurate evaluation of the student's performance after an excused absence.</p> <p>Students will not receive credit for and will not be allowed to make up any assignments, tests, work, activities, etc., missed during unexcused absences.</p>
<b>Technology</b>	<p>Student laptops should not be hard-wired to the network or have print capabilities. Discs, flash drives, jump drives, or other USB devices are not allowed on Madison City computers. Neither the teacher nor the school is responsible for broken, stolen, or lost laptops. Laptops and other electronic devices will be used at the teacher's individual discretion.</p>
<b>Cheating/Plagiarism</b>	<p>A student who cheats will not receive credit for the work in question. If any other student has cooperated in cheating, that student is also considered to have cheated and will not receive credit. Cheating students will also be subject to disciplinary consequences in Section XXII of this CSC. Cheating is defined to include, but is not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) copying someone else's work in or out of class and identifying and submitting it as your own</li> <li>(b) failing to quote and/or list appropriate citations for material derived from</li> </ol>

	<p>published sources (including the Internet) and identifying and submitting it as your own</p> <p>(c) the use of unauthorized notes, other materials, or assistance during the accomplishment of graded work in or out of class</p> <p>(d) any other situation in which the student attempts to or accepts credit for work not his or her own.</p>
<b>Artificial Intelligence Acceptable Use Policy</b> <b>(MCS Policy)</b>	<p>Madison City Schools acknowledges that technology is ever-changing and has a tremendous impact on our global society, local community, and classrooms. Artificial intelligence (AI), including generative forms of AI, is becoming more a part of our everyday lives. It is our responsibility to educate and train students to utilize AI in an ethical and educational way. Therefore, Madison City Schools is not banning the student or teacher use of AI, but each student will need to be aware of the limitations and guidelines of its usage:</p> <p>a. Madison City Schools student email accounts and Chromebook access to specific open AI software, such as ChatGPT, are blocked due to data and security concerns.</p> <p>b. Any misuse of AI tools and applications, such as hacking or altering data, is strictly prohibited.</p> <p>c. Teachers may allow the use of AI for curriculum purposes. Access to specific websites will be granted on an as-needed basis, adhering to specific data and privacy guidelines regarding age restrictions and usage.</p> <p>d. College Board and Dual Enrollment college and university classes may have additional restrictions and limitations regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence.</p> <p>e. Students who use AI software with a personal device and/or personal credentials should do so at their own risk, acknowledging that each platform is collecting various forms of data.</p> <p>f. Students must acknowledge the use of AI in any capacity related to their schoolwork, including text, images, multimedia, etc. The use of AI could be subject to the Academic Dishonesty Policy.</p> <p>h. Students should acknowledge that AI is not always factually accurate, nor seen as a credible source, and should be able to provide evidence to support its claims.</p>
<b>Materials &amp; Supplies</b>	<p>Students will need to bring these items to class each day. We may not need them every day, but students need to be prepared with them each day in case they are needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Binder</li> <li>● MCS Device and Charger</li> <li>● Headphones / Earbuds with auxiliary jack cord (no wireless)</li> <li>● Glue Sticks</li> <li>● Assorted Highlighters</li> <li>● Pencils / Pens</li> </ul>
<b>Homework</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Parent &amp; Student Acknowledgment Form</b>	<p><b><i>Please complete the attached syllabus signature sheet and send it back to school with your student by <u>Friday, August 8</u>. This signature sheet ensures that you have read and understand the expectations and procedures of the class. Please contact me with any questions.</i></b></p>

## Parent/Guardian/Student Syllabus Signature Sheet

Please complete the following and return by Friday, August 8th. Please keep your copy of the syllabus at home. If an additional copy is needed, it can be located on Ms. Carpenter's website, Schoology, and ParentSquare.

### 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:* \_\_\_\_\_

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