



---

World Geography  
Course Syllabus 2021-2022  
Mr. Simpson [Jason.Simpson@hcps.org](mailto:Jason.Simpson@hcps.org)

---

### **Course Description**

The social studies program deals with many phases of human relationships. The selection of content for World Geography has been made through careful analysis of the National Standards for the Teaching of High School Geography established by the National Council for Geographic Education. There is a need to incorporate, in skill development, an understanding of specialized methods of discovery and inquiry employed by scholars in arriving at their knowledge. Much emphasis must be given to critical thinking, problem solving, and social development. Integration of social studies content into reading and writing is essential for student mastery of the standards.

### **Goals for Student Learning**

#### **Goal 1 Political Systems**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the historical development and current status of principles, institutions, and processes of political systems.

#### **Goal 2 Peoples of the Nation and World**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the history, diversity, and commonality of the peoples of the nation and world, the reality of human interdependence, and the need for global cooperation, through a perspective that is both historical and multicultural.

#### **Goal 3 Geography**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of geographic concepts and processes to examine the role of culture, technology, and the environment in the location and distribution of human activities throughout history.

#### **Goal 4 Economics**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the historical development and current status of economic principles, institutions, and processes needed to be citizens, consumers, and workers.

### **Enduring Understandings**

- Spatial context can be used to explain and describe relationships between people, places, and environments.
- Studying regions is a way of comparing and contrasting the inter-relationships of people and places.
- Knowledge of the physical processes that shape the Earth's surface can help people adapt to an ever-changing environment.
- Humans alter the Earth's physical systems through processes such as settlement, migration, and development.
- Knowledge of geography allows people to interpret the past and the present, and to plan for the future.
- The study of geography involves the understanding and analysis of historical, economic, political, cultural, and scientific data.

### **Textbook and Materials**

**Glencoe World Geography and Cultures.** For home use, students may use the online version of the textbook **OR** check out a book to keep at home.

## Course Outline

Unit 1 How Geographers Look at the World Unit	6 Middle East
Unit 2 The Physical World Unit	7 Europe
Unit 3 Climates of the Earth Unit	8 Africa
Unit 4 The Human World Unit	9 Asia
Unit 5 The U.S. and Canada Unit	10 Oceania

## HCPS Grading Policy

<b>Examples of Product, Process, and Practice</b>		
<b>PRODUCT (50%)</b> <i>Culminating Demonstration of Knowledge</i>	<b>PROCESS (30%)</b> <i>Addressing Specific Short-Term Learning Outcomes</i>	<b>PRACTICE (20%)</b> <i>Building Attitudes, Habits, and Skills</i>
Does it measure how well students achieved specific learning goals, standards, and/or competencies?	Does it provide feedback to students regarding growth towards the attainment of specific learning goals, standards and competencies?	Does it allow students to practice skills and/or reinforce content learning?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primarily completed in presence of teacher</li> <li>Rubric aligned to standards</li> <li>Accuracy graded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Primarily completed in presence of teacher</li> <li>Rubric aligned to standards</li> <li>Accuracy graded</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graded for completion and participation</li> </ul>

\*\*Extra credit will not be given for non-academic purposes\*\*

## Absent Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time. Students will be given the number of class periods equal to the number of lawful class periods absent to turn in completed make up assignments without penalty. If a student is unlawfully absent, work will be accepted with a penalty of one letter grade off the assessed value. All missed assignments must be turned in prior to the end of the unit in which it was assigned OR the end of the current quarter, whichever occurs first.

## Late Work Policy

All assignments should be submitted on time. If a student submits an assignment late (past the due date) within the timeframe noted, the assignment will be accepted and will receive a letter grade penalty off the assessed value. Late work must be turned in prior to the end of the unit in which it was assigned OR the end of the current quarter, whichever occurs first.

Grading Window	Designated HAC Update	Late Work Due Date
September 8- September 24	September 24	September 29
September 27- October 13	October 13	October 20
October 14- October 29	October 29	November 5 (Friday)
November 8- November 19	November 19	November 24
November 22- December 10	December 10	December 15
December 13- January 13	January 13	January 21 (Friday)
January 24- February 11	February 11	February 16
February 14- February 25	February 25	March 2
February 28- March 11	March 11	March 16
March 14- March 25	March 25	March 31 (Thursday)
April 1- April 22	April 22	April 27
April 25- May 6	May 6	May 11
May 11- May 20	May 20	May 25

## **Academic Integrity**

Academic integrity is taking responsibility for the quality and completion of one's own work. Academic dishonesty is taking someone else's work and claiming it as one's own. Students at Bel Air High School are responsible for knowing what is considered to be Academic Dishonesty and the subsequent consequences. More information can be found in the BAHS Student Planner.

Violations of the BAHS Academic Integrity Policy include, but are not limited to:

- Copying of homework
- Plagiarism of published works (including Internet resources)
- Multiple submission of work previously turned in for a grade by another student.
- Giving answers to a test or homework
- Discussion of test materials with others
- Using electronic devices to communicate content of homework, tests or quizzes
- Using electronic devices without teacher permission to acquire information during Tests, quizzes, or other assignments

## **Cell Phone Policy**

- Students will place their cellphones in a teacher designated area as they enter each classroom. Teachers will review with students the specific location for each room. The phones will remain in the teacher designated area unless teachers explicitly tell students to take out the phones for instructional use.
- Cellphones will remain in the teacher designated area during bathroom visits, assemblies and trips to the nurse/counseling office/main office.
- Cellphones will be retrieved from the teacher designated area at the end of class at the direction of the teacher.
- School-appropriate cellphone use is permitted during class changes and lunch. Students are not permitted to make phone calls during school hours.
- If the cell phone policy is violated, it is a referable offense.



## Bel Air High School Digital Teaching and Learning (DTL) Virtual Learning Expectations and Norms

It is important to remember that the virtual classroom, while different from a face-to-face classroom setting, remains a classroom; subsequently, standards of professional behavior and expectations for polite interactions still exist.

“Good netiquette means conducting yourself in an online class with the same respect, politeness and professionalism that you would exhibit in a real-life classroom.” – Erin Lynch, Senior Educator at Test Innovators

All BAHS students are expected to adhere to the following expectations during online instruction.

### Expectations for How to Communicate during Online Instruction

Remember: Human beings are on the other side of your written communication.

- ✓ **When communicating electronically, whether in the “chat,” through email, as part of a discussion post, in a shared document, or by some other method, your written words are read by real people, all deserving of respectful communication.**
  - Before you press "send" or "submit," pause and ask yourself, "Would I be okay with this if someone else had written it?" or “Would I be okay if someone said this to or about me?”
  - If your teacher incorporates a discussion board into a lesson, be cautious about attempts to use humor. Do not write anything that could be perceived as angry or sarcastic; without hearing the tone of your voice or being able to see your facial expressions, your peers might not realize you are joking.
  - Keep your posts appropriate to the assignment, polite, and kind.
  - Avoid posting anything in the “chat” during a Teams meeting unless directed to do so by your teacher.
  
- ✓ **Represent yourself professionally when communicating “verbally” (i.e. discussion boards, electronic chat, Socratic discussions, etc.).**
  - Know what you are talking about and state it clearly.
  - Be pleasant and polite.
  - Do not “YELL!!!” by using all caps or multiple exclamation marks, even if you disagree with what someone has written.
  - Be mindful of your use of emojis.
  - Check for spelling and grammar errors.
  
- ✓ **Present yourself professionally when communicating electronically.**
  - Make sure you are appropriately clothed.
    - Remember: Even though you are at home when participating online, you are still involved in a classroom setting and should therefore wear clothing appropriate for a school environment.
      - For example, it would be inappropriate for you to be on camera in a bathing suit, even if you happen to be sitting outside at a pool.
        - Rule of thumb: If what you are wearing is not something that would be appropriate for you to have on while interacting with your teacher during a normal school day, do not wear it while on camera.
    - Be mindful of messaging on clothing, hats, or headwear.
      - We will adhere to HCPS specifications and BAHS expectations in this matter. Displaying language, images, symbols, or messaging that does not follow HCPS guidelines or meet BAHS’s standards of professionalism as specified in our *Habits of Success* will not be allowed.
  
- ✓ **Be aware of your physical surroundings (i.e. your environment) when communicating electronically.**

- Think about what is on your walls and/or in your background. Displaying language, images, symbols, or messaging that does not follow HCPS guidelines will not be allowed.
- Let other people in the household know when you are online and communicating with your camera and/or mic on. You do not want to inadvertently catch someone off guard.
- Eliminate environmental distractions.
  - Turn off or mute your cell phone.
  - Turn off the TV and/or radio to minimize background noise.
  - Clear the room of noisy pets.
- Keep your mic muted unless directed by your teacher to participate verbally.
- Try to find a space such as a kitchen table, a countertop, or a desk from which to work; avoid having your camera on while lying in bed.

### Expectations to Meet when Submitting Work Electronically

- ✓ **Teachers will be evaluating and assessing many pieces of students' work, so be sure to adhere to the submission guidelines set by each of your teachers, including**
  - where completed work should be submitted.
    - Ex. If a teacher directs you to submit an assignment via Itslearning, do not send it as an attachment in an email.
  - the type of document to submit.
    - Ex. If a teacher asks for a power-point, do not submit a word document.
  - the naming conventions as specified in the assignment.
    - Ex. If a teacher directs you to name an assignment "DBQ #1," do not submit an assignment saved as "My Work."
      - Work that does not follow submission guidelines may require resubmission to meet the assignment's specifications, which can cause a delay in assessing, grading, and providing feedback.

### Expectations to Meet when Communicating Electronically with School Personnel (teachers, counselors, support staff, administrators)

- ✓ **Use HCPS Student Email Only**
  - When it is necessary to send an email, email directly through your HCPS-student account. Students should not initiate communication with teachers via personal emails.
- ✓ **Include Course/Period (Ex: English 10/2A) in the subject line of the message.**
  - Failing to use your HCPS account and/or include **Course/Period** in the subject line may delay or prevent a response.
- ✓ **Adhere to the following writing standards**
  - Begin all email correspondence with an appropriate greeting/salutation.
    - Ex: *Hi, Ms. Jones,*
      - Tone is easily misunderstood in electronic exchanges; skipping this step can make your email sound unintentionally rude.
  - Provide some context for the purpose of your email.
    - Ex: *I'm emailing you because I can't remember how to submit my assignment on Itslearning.*
      - Teachers will need this context to provide you a specific response.
  - Make sure that your questions are direct but politely worded.
    - Ex: *Can you please remind me where I can find these directions?*
      - If your questions are too vague, your teacher will not be able to determine how to help you.
  - End your email with an appropriate closing.
    - Ex: *Thank you for your help.*
      - Skipping this step can make your email sound too curt or demanding.
  - Include your name after the closing.
    - Ex: *John Doe*
      - Proofread and spell check before you hit "send."

Sending an email with multiple typos is unprofessional and can interfere with the clarity of your message, as can use of abbreviations and slang. Email communication with school personnel is not synonymous with posts on social media such as Twitter or Snapchat. Punctuation matters. Capitalization matters. Formal language matters. Use these writing conventions consistently and purposefully, just as if you were communicating with your boss in a workplace setting.

### **Reminders about Your Digital Footprint**

- ✓ Remember: Your account can be traced back to you easily, even if you post under an alias or a made-up handle. You leave data footprints whenever you are online. HCPS's Office of Technology can identify when you log on and off, when you access or open a folder or document, and when you submit an item. This data is all stored and can be retrieved.

### **Reminder about Academic Integrity**

- ✓ Academic integrity is of the upmost importance whether you are learning in a traditional face-to-face environment or learning virtually. Please see the full BAHS student handbook for our academic integrity policy.