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**Ms. Owen**

**Course Syllabus 2025-2026**

**Course Description and Objectives**

This is the first year of a two-year World Area Studies course. In this course, you will study Latin America, Canada, Europe, and Australia. The goal is to acquaint you with the world in which you live. The geography domain includes both physical and human geography. The intent of the geography domain is for you to begin to grasp the importance geography plays in your everyday lives. The government/civics domain focuses on selected types of government found in the various areas so that you can begin to understand the variety of governments in the world. The economics domain focus shifts from the United States to how other countries answer the basic questions of economics. The history domain focuses on major events in each region during the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.

**Textbook**

Sixth Grade GA Social Studies by Gallopade.

**Unit/Concept Names**

Unit 0 Think Like a Historian

Unit 1 Europe

Unit 2 Australia

Unit 3 Latin America

Unit 4 Canada

Unit 5 Your Financial Future

**Richmond County Board of Education Grading Policy**

* + Minor Grades 60% (Quizzes, Class work, Graded Writing Assignments, Group Work, etc.)
  + **Minimum number** of minor grades per 6-week progress report period = **5**
  + Major Grades 40% (Unit & Chapter Test, Projects, Tasks)
  + **Minimum number** of major grades per 6-week progress report period = **2**

**Academic Grading Scale**

A (90-100) B (80-89) C (75-79) D (70-74) F (below 70)

* Parents are encouraged to monitor their child’s grades using the district Infinite Campus Parent Portal.
* Please contact the front office at 706-737-7288 for information to gain access to Infinite Campus.

**Academic Dishonesty**

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty will be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher and a supervising administrator, taking into consideration any written materials, observation, or information from witnesses. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. Additionally, the task may be entered as “incomplete” and the student required to redo the assignment or retake the assessment.

**Late Work**

Late work is defined as assignments that are submitted after the specified deadline. This does not apply to work submitted late due to absence from school. Students are expected to submit assignments on time. Multiple incidents of late work may result in teacher-student-parent conferences to examine and correct the student’s work habits through a behavior an academic contract. Students in grades 6-12 may have their scores reduced by 5% per school day for a 25% maximum reduction (five school days). Late work submitted after the fifth school day will only be accepted at the teacher’s discretion. Completing work in a timely manner during the learning unit is essential for academic success. If the score is reduced for late work, the teacher must make a notation in the Infinite Campus comment section of the gradebook to reflect the reduction for late work. Students and parents should refer to the teacher’s course syllabus for specific late work procedures.

**Make-up Work**

Students are expected to make-up assignments and assessments that were missed due to absence from school. Students are responsible for asking teachers for the make-up work upon returning to class. Make-up work should be completed by the student within the time specified by the teacher. Teachers should provide reasonable timelines for completing make-up work. Generally, such work should be completed within 5 days of returning to school. A student should not be required to take a quiz or test on their first day back at school if the assessment was first announced during their absence. Graded assignments should be scored to accurately reflect the level of mastery of standards.

**Homework**

Homework will only be assigned for students who have not completed their classwork. Students will always have time in class to complete their homework.

**Relearn & Reassess (R&R Procedures)**

For grades 4-12, after any major assessment, students should have the opportunity to submit a relearning plan for parent and teacher approval. Upon satisfactory completion of the plan, as determined by the teacher, students should be given a minimum of one opportunity to be reassessed. Students scoring below 70 on a major assessment should be expected to complete a relearning plan unless exempted with parent approval.

**AI Guidance**

The Student Code of Conduct, Rule 1(A)(t), states that no student shall cheat, alter records, plagiarize, receive unauthorized assistance, or assist another in any type of academic dishonesty. The unauthorized or improper use of an artificial intelligence (AI) program constitutes academic dishonesty.

Teachers have discretion to determine if R&R opportunities will be given for any **minor assessment**.

**Cell phones** are not permitted in class, per school policy, and should not be seen nor heard. Students should turn cell phones off and place them in their bookbags.

**Classroom Procedures & Expectations**

The overarching expectation in this class is RESPECT: respect for yourself, respect for other students, respect for the teacher/or any individual in authority, and respect for any guests that may enter our class. Although this encompasses all other expectations, I will outline several others for the sake of clarity. 1. Always Try YOUR BEST!!! Students are encouraged to ask questions. I will not settle for anything but your best!! Have the “I can do it” attitude! Stick To It and Don’t Give Up! 2. Remain SEATED and PREPARED at all times. 3. Bring ALL materials to class DAILY. 4. All written assignments must be completed in pencil or erasable pen. 5. Students are expected to use their agendas daily to record assignments and assessments. 6. Every student is responsible for helping to maintain a clean, safe learning environment. Your area must remain CLEAN at all times. The floor should be clear of trash, paper, and personal belongings. 7. Adhere to all policies, rules, and regulations outlined in the student handbook, and Tutt Middle School’s Norms. Appropriate behavior is expected at all times.

**Course Materials**

\* 1 inch 3-ring Binder

\* Pencils

\* Handheld pencil sharpener with holder for shavings

\* Loose Leaf Paper

\* Coloring Utensils (coloring pencil and markers)

\* Pack of Dividers (8 Tabs)

\*Pencil Pouch

\*Glue Stick

\*Cap Erasers

\* Wired Ear Buds

**Please refer to the Student Code of Conduct for further guidance on Richmond County School System’s policies and procedures.**

**My contact information: Email:** [owende@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us](mailto:owende@boe.richmond.k12.ga.us)

**Tutt Middle School Phone Number:** 706-737-7288

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Please sign and return this portion of the syllabus to affirm that you have reviewed this document:

Student’s Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_