**Social Studies Syllabus – Mr. Jenkins**

**7th Grade Social Studies:**

**Southwest Asia (Middle East), Southeastern Asia and Africa**

**Murphey Middle School**

**Hello and Welcome to seventh-grade Social Studies. Seventh grade is the second year of a two-year World Area Studies course. Seventh-grade is the study of Africa and Asia. The goal of this two-year course 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 life. The government/civics domain focuses on selected types of government found in the various areas in order to help you 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 primarily on significant events in each region from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.**

**2021-2022 Academic Goals:**

**Goal for the year**: All students will score at least 85% on unit tests and will meet or exceed the standards for passing state exams.

**Daily goals**: Student will score at least 85% on daily assessments. Students will master academic standards

**Course Content:** This course is designed to expand students’ knowledge and perspective of the world. The Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) curriculum for 7th Grade Social Studies focuses on Southwest Asia (Middle East), Southern Asia and Africa. Students’ understanding of the world expands from local to international as they engage in lessons that reveal the dynamics of the geography, history, government and economics of Southwest Asia (Middle East), Southern Asia, and Africa.

**The Assignments:** All assignments are aligned with the GPS 7th Grade Social Studies curriculum and are created with students’ academic needs in-mind. Although student engagement is desired, the primary goal of lessons in Mr. Jenkins’s class is to prepare students for future academic success by exposing students to high-level academic practice. Some examples of assignments and tasks that students will engage during the second semester are:

**Homework**: Homework is assigned to reinforce important information and to provide students with opportunities to practices developing specific skills. For you to do well in this class, it is important to complete all of the assigned homework in a timely fashion. Homework will be assigned as needed, such as; for completion of class work and/or projects. Students will normally be given class time to begin work on an assignment with the expectation that they will finish it at home and return it to me on the due date.

**Maps:** It is important that students are familiar with the location of specific countries in Asia and Africa for two reasons: Students are more likely to understand geography concepts when they can identify the relationship between things such as location and resources, and geography. Therefore, students will be expected to draw, label, and color each location we discuss.

**Projects:** During the study of each unit students will be assigned projects that are designed to measure students’ ability to apply the information they learn to the creation of an item.

**Tests/Quizzes:** Tests and Quizzes are aligned with the GPS 7th grade Social Studies curriculum. The purpose of quizzes in Mr. Jenkins’s class is to measure students understanding of key information and to provide students with opportunities to practice asking questions relating to key information. Quizzes are given on Wednesdays and are bi-weekly. The purpose of tests is to measure students overall understanding of GPS for 7th grade Social Studies. Tests are given on Fridays or Mondays and are bi-weekly.

**Late Work:** Students are given ample time in which to complete their work and are expected to turn it in on time. Work is due at the beginning of the class period on the date an assignment is due. There are circumstances when late work is accepted: Students return from an excused absence  Students have effectively managed time, but is facing challenges with understanding or completing the assignment

**Materials:** In order for your child to have a successful year in school, he/she will need to have the following items with them daily in order to participate fully in my classroom:

1. Two pens (blue or black ink) 2. Two pencils 3. White lined notebook filler paper 4. A notebook dedicated to Social Studies 5. Colored pencils (for the many maps we will be creating)

**Grades:** Grades will be based on a point system. Grades will be given using the standard percentage scale issued according to Murphey Middle School.

* Homework-10%
* Classwork-15%
* Quiz-15%
* Assessments-20%
* Projects-15%
* Final Exam-25%

**Participation:** Your involvement in this class will make it more exciting and educational. Students are encouraged to raise their hand and speak up in class, work cooperatively in team projects, and help fellow students with their learning. Together, we can all succeed. Your active participation in this class will positively affect your grade.