Integrated Social Studies Syllabus

Mrs. Witt

2016-2017

**Intro to the Class**

What is Integrated Social Studies (ISS)? Unlike other classes, ISS is a course that includes three subjects: civics, economics, and geography. First we will study government: what is it, why people have it, and how it works in the real world. Then we will study economics: choices people and societies make with regard to how goods and services people need should be distributed. Lastly we explore world geography: countries, climates, people, cultures, and maps. In essence, this class will help you better understand how your world, its governments, and economic systems function and your role in it as a global citizen.

**First Semester**

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| --- | --- |
| Unit 1 | Introduction to Forms of Government |
| Unit 2 | American Government |
| Unit 3 | Rights and Responsibilities of American Citizens |
| Unit 4 | Economic Systems |
| Review | Comprehensive Semester Final |

**Second Semester**

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| --- | --- |
| Unit 5 | Production, Distribution, and Consumption |
| Unit 6 | Making Economic Choices |
| Unit 7 | North America |
| Unit 8 | Latin America |
| Unit 9 | Europe and Russia |
| Unit 10 | Africa |
| Unit 11 | Asia |
| Review | Comprehensive Semester Final |

**Class Calendar**

I have given you a general breakdown of our calendar for the year. This calendar is meant to give you an idea of what topics, readings, tests, and projects will be assigned throughout the year. This calendar is not set in stone; assignments are subject to revision.

**Intro to the Class**

Expect to keep a busy schedule in this class. The first part of the course will be focused on the study of civics. We will begin by addressing the following questions:

* What is government?
* What kind of government do we have?
* How did we get this government?
* How does our government work?
* What’s in it for me?

The study of economics and geography will come later in the year. However, you can expect to make connections to both these subjects even when we are studying civics. This is why the course is called *Integrated* Social Studies.

**EXPECTATIONS**

**Classroom Goals:**

Over the course of the school year, I hope to foster a classroom environment built on mutual respect and trust. Students will work effectively with others as well as independently to explore various social studies concepts in order to better understand the world we live in today. By the end of the school year, students will develop critical thinking skills and will demonstrate their ability to analyze and explain topics crucial to understanding the modern world.

**Tates Creek believes that We Are:**

**Connected**

**Responsible**

**Engaged**

**Exceptional**

**Kind**

**Tates Creek Mission Statement:**

The mission of Tates Creek High School is to prepare all Commodores for college and career success and to serve as informed and active citizens.

* Assignments/homework turned in on time (to the correct tray) and completed/**printed out** prior to class. Homework will be assigned every class!
* You are responsible for makeup work when you are absent. Website and/or the Makeup Work bin.
* Work cooperatively when asked to do group assignments. If you goof off, you won’t be allowed to work in groups.
* Remain quiet and respectful when the teacher or other students address the class.
* Stay on task, and don’t distract others.
* Follow instructions and make sure you answer all questions! Always use complete sentences.
* Always do your best and complete all assignments. Zeros are terrible for your grade!
* Remember the golden rule and if you don’t have anything nice to say, don’t say it.

**Materials:**

* Textbooks (class set)
* Pen/Pencil
* Paper/Spiral Notebook
* Binder

\*It is not required, but I highly suggest purchasing a planner. You are responsible for remembering important due dates once I have informed the class.

**Grades (Scale and Value):**

* Fayette County Public Schools Grading Scale will be used.

Your grade will be averaged as follows:

* + Category I: **Formative** **50%**
    - Includes daily in-class work, homework, and quizzes. Daily assignments and homework will be given a value out of 100 points.
  + Category II: **Summative** **35%**
    - Includes tests, projects, and openers.
  + Category III: **End of Course Exam (EOC)** **15%**
    - Includes Final Multiple Choice Exam or End of the Semester Project

**Cheating**

* Tates Creek High School has a strict honor policy and takes cheating/plagiarism very seriously. If a student is found cheating they will receive a referral.
* If you copy another student’s work, then you and the student’s paper you are copying will receive a “0.”
* Plagiarizing: copying and pasting others words into your essay or project = you will receive a “0” and not putting direct quotations in quotation marks = you will receive a “0”.
* Receiving answers from other sources = you will receive a “0.”

**Turning in Assignments:**

* All assignments must be turned in on the specified due date. Each class has a “turn in” tray located in the back of the room.
* Late work is accepted with 50% penalty after the time it is originally due until the unit is over (once the exam has been given). It will no longer be accepted after the Unit Exam is given.
* Homework assignments are considered late if they are not turned into the tray the first 5- 10 minutes of class.

**Finding out Grade Status:**

* Refer often to Infinite Campus for your grade status. Make sure your parents have a login and password (if they do not, they can email parent.portal@fayette.kyschools.us).
* I will give you an “individual” grade printout before every exam or approximately every three weeks the first semester.
* If you still have a question about your grade, you can see me **before** or **after** school but **NOT** during class.

**After an Absence:**

* It is your responsibility to follow up on what work was missed due to an absence. However, this should ONLY be done before/after school **or** before/after class on the first day returning to school.
* On the day you are absent, you can call the school at 381-3620 and request that your teachers provide your assignments to the counseling office. Your parent/guardian can then pick it up after school.
* In class work will also be placed in your class’s folder located on the table in the back of the room **and** on the class website: http://tchswitt.weebly.com/
* Please write “absent work” and the date you were absent on the top of your paper (otherwise it will be graded as late work). Return the assignment in your class’s homework turn-in tray.
* In the event of a major assignment or exam, whether it be excused or unexcused, your work is still due when you return to school.

**Example:** If you are absent the class period before an exam, you must take that exam when you return.

**Consequences for Rule Violations:**

Depending on the violation, the consequence could be a teacher/student conference, and/or referral, and/or parent/teacher conference. Typically the following guidelines will apply:

1st offense (Tier 1) - verbal warning

2nd offense (Tier 2) - verbal warning, discussion with teacher in the hallway, phone call home to parents

3rd offense (Tier 3) – Administrative involvement (referral)

**Communication with Families:**

* Email is the easiest way to communicate. My email is [lauren.witt@fayette.kyschools.us](mailto:lauren.witt@fayette.kyschools.us).
* I am also available for phone calls during my planning period or before/after school hours. My phone number is 381-3620 ext 1513.
* I will be sending a letter home if there is a significant letter grade change or failing grade.

**Mrs. Witt’s Class Schedule**

A1: Honors Global Econ 8:25-9:55

A2: Planning 10:00-11:30

A3: Honors Global Econ 11:35-1:40

A4: Int. Soc. Studies 1:45-3:15

B1: Planning 8:25-9:55

B2: Criminal Justice 10:00-11:30

B3: Honors Global Econ 11:35-1:40

B4: Honors Global Econ 1:45-3:15