**Contemporary Global Issues (CGI) Syllabus and Welcome Letter**

Academic Support Checklist

□Encourage your student to talk to their teachers weekly in order to stay current with school work and get extra help if needed.

□ Check your student’s grades and communicate with teachers using the Synergy/School Messenger app or website.

□ Contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

□Designate a time and quiet space at home/library/other area for your student to work on school assignments.

□ Set aside a specific time for daily independent reading or discussion of current events using reliable news sources.

Dear Students and Family Members,

I am pleased to have you as a member of the Raisbeck Aviation High School learning community. I am dedicated to creating a learning community engaging in real world issues and empowering students to become active citizens. To this end we will be engaging with material beyond the classroom walls: issues of social justice, politics, development and expression of nuanced perspectives on modern issues. I highly encourage you to discuss issues you think are important with your student as well as discuss with your student issues we deal with in class.

I want to encourage communication between home and school. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone, email or classroom visit. Se habla Español.

**Contact Information**

**Email: Rose.Johnson@highlineschools.org**

**Phone: (206) 631-7245**

**Room :# 3160**

If you would like to receive class information, reminders and other teacher communication for your student, please download the Synergy Parent Vue School Messenger app

I highly value community input in school and I encourage and invite you to contact me if you have a project or idea for learning opportunities within the community.

I am available after school Wednesdays until 4:00pm for you or your student to see me with questions, concerns or just to say hi!

Sincerely,

Frances Rose Johnson

Students will work both independently and collaboratively to read, understand and evaluate texts as well as develop personal and academic writing. Our work will be focused around Project-Based Learning, this requires students to propose solutions to authentic issues, conflicts and problems in the modern global context.

**Student Expectations:**

I work hard to create a meaningful and engaging classroom, but students are required to be highly involved in their educational experience and take responsibility for their learning. The best learning happens when students are active, not passive, have solid goals and are internally motivated. Talk with your student to identify why education is important to them and you. I expect students to work hard, actively participate in class discussions and projects as well as work collaboratively with other students, community members and teachers.

**Essential Questions and Course Content:**

In each unit, we will select a particular focus question. The overarching question we will explore in class content is “How can we use our understanding of people, history and context to propose effective and humane solutions to problems in the world today?”

Course content: as each unit is developed, students will receive a unit overview with assignments, due dates and learning goals.

**Course Components:**

We will be using the Common Core State Standards to develop and build the skills necessary to read, write and communicate effectively for college, career and life. Students will learn about both fiction and nonfiction texts, creative and informational writing and communication in a variety of mediums including web and multimedia. To learn more about the History/Social Studies Common Core State Standards please visit the following website:

<http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/11-12>

**Homework & Canvas**:

Typically, homework consists of work not completed in class or work that needs to be done to keep with project deadlines. All assignments and resources are posted on Canvas. Ask your student to log on so you can see current and past work there.

If your student does not have classwork to finish at home, they should spend time learning about current events. There are several ways to engage with current events such as podcasts, radio broadcasts, television news (I recommend PBS News Hour), reputable online news outlets and others. Reading social media feeds, while a good source for links, is not a good substitute for sustained engagement with a particular current event. Please exercise caution if your student is using YouTube to learn about current events. Avoid the recommended videos and conduct your own search for the topic you want to learn about. If you or your student need recommendations of news sources, please let me know and I will help find a good match. Having a discussion about events of interest is also a great method for students to learn about current events.

**Grading:** Grades will be given using the standards based grading model. Each grade reflects a student’s mastery of skills. You can expect student grades to be lower at the beginning of the semester and increase as they gain 10th grade skills.

Grading Scale:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Range** | **Letter Grade** | **Details** |
| **3.4-4.0****Exceeding Standards** | **A** | Student has demonstrated mastery of the skill and has exceeded standard.   |
| **2.7-3.39****Meeting Standards** | **B** | Student has met the standard and has shown they are ready to move forward. |
| **1.6-2.69****Approaching Standards** | **C** | While student has not met or exceeded standard, they have shown some basic understanding of the knowledge of skill.  Reassessment is encouraged to demonstrate meeting standard.   |
| **Below 1.59** | **NC** | Insufficient work submitted for evaluation, no credit.   |

Students will be given the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in the following means:

Daily Work, Projects and Assessments (tests) and Participation. Effort is a significant component of standards based grading. If a student does not met standards, they can put forth the effort to revise work until they can demonstrate mastery.

Cheating will not be tolerated. If a student is caught cheating or plagiarizing work in any way, they will receive, at a minimum, a zero for the assignment with no opportunity to make up the work. Repeat or egregious offenses will be reported to administration for further action.

**Cheating includes:**

* copying or allowing to be copied assignments that will be turned in as one’s own work.
* writing or accessing unauthorized notes.
* texting or otherwise communicating during individual testing.
* turning in material written or designed by someone else without giving credit (source citation).

**Late, missing or revised work policy:**

Late or missing work can be made up with no penalty. Work will only be accepted within the same grading period in which it was assigned. Occasionally there will be assignments with a strict due date. If the work is not turned in on time, there will be a maximum possible grade for work in this category of 3.

Most work (except participation and some interactive assignments) can be revised for a higher grade. Any revised work must be accompanied by the original work as well as an explanation of changes made. Resubmitted work without documentation will not be regraded.

It is the student’s responsibility to request missing work outside of regular classroom hours (before or after school). If your student will be missing days and you would like work for them, please email or call me and I will send it to you or leave in office for pickup.

Each student will receive a calendar for each unit. The calendar includes specific standards addressed and major assignments including due dates. Ask your student to see it on a regular basis to support their high grades.

**Classroom Code of Conduct:**

Generally students, teachers and visitors are expected to conduct themselves in ways that does not interfere with instruction or with others’ ability to learn. The following classroom rules are designed to create a positive learning environment filled with empowered citizens.

**Always Try.**

**Do your best.**

**Cooperate and actively help others.**

**Treat others with respect.**

**Manage yourself.**

**Respect the property and Rights of others.**

Discipline Plan: Any behavior that interferes with a safe environment and a student’s ability to learn or mine to teach will be subject to consequences.

* 1st problem: verbal warning
* 2nd time: consequence (5 min detention, move seat, etc)
* 3rd time/refusal of consequence: referral and call home

Severe/repeated disruptions: immediately leave room, student reflection OR to main office.

Excessive tardiness. Students are expected to be in the classroom on time and ready to learn. Excessive tardiness may require the student to make up missing class work after school. I will be available Wednesdays afterschool every week to allow for students to make up missed work.

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**Signature Sheet to turn in!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

 Please read this syllabus with your parent/guardian. You and they will sign below. Your signature indicates you have read the syllabus and understand every part of it. You agree to the code of conduct and will strive to exceed each expectation therein.

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Student printed name Student signature

Parents/Guardians:

What are your goals for your student this year in Contemporary Global Issues? Is there anything you would like me to know about your student? Please leave me a note here or call/email me. Thank You!

Please read the syllabus with your student and sign below to indicate you have read and understood the information. Please also provide contact information so that I can give you updates on your student’s progress.

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Parent or Guardian’s name Parent or Guardian’s signature

Parent/Guardian’s contact information:

(phone): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (email) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I prefer teachers contact me by (circle one): phone email text no preference

Interpreter needed? Yes/No Language(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_