

PreAP Geography Syllabus

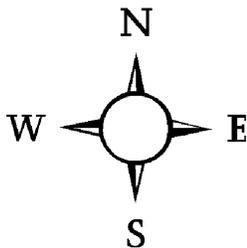
Contact Information

- Room 171
- (512) 841-1947
- www.geogriffith.weebly.com
- nicole.griffith@austinisd.org

Supplies Needed:

Blue or Black Pen
Pencil
Colored Pencils
Glue Stick
8 1/2 x 11 Notebook

Community Supplies:



Course Requirements

1. Students must maintain a geography **interactive notebook** as old study maps and tests will be very important in preparing for the final exam. Students must bring this to class with them every day.
2. Students must maintain a **calendar** of class activities. Students may use their own assignment notebook. These are updated weekly.
3. In order to receive full credit, some assignments must be **typed**. Computers are available for student use.
4. Frequent **class notes** will be given. Students are expected to take complete and accurate notes and to copy notes due to absence from another student.
5. **Maps** must be printed in **blue or black ink**, colored with map pencils, and neatly done with dots showing the exact location of cities beside their names. The heading should be in the top right corner of the political side of the map.
6. Some **group work** may be required outside of class. On such occasions, students are to take the responsibility for making necessary arrangements. The classroom will be available for group use every day before and after school.
7. All students will read **one book in the fall and one book in the spring**. More information regarding related assignments and due dates will be provided.
8. Students will have one level map test each 6 weeks. Before a level map test, students will receive a study map. Students should keep the study maps in their Interactive Notebook and use them to study for the final exam. Word banks will not be provided and spelling errors count 1 point off.
9. Before a unit test, students will receive a study sheet listing what will be covered on the test.
10. When test dates are placed on the calendar, a make-up day will also be listed. **Tests must be made up within five school days.**
11. At least **one major research project** will be assigned during the semester. Smaller research projects may also be assigned. Computer research will be necessary.
12. Students are expected to follow all school rules and guidelines. **Cell phones and Mp3 players** are to remain turned off. If a student has a cell phone or Mp3 player out for any reason, **it will be taken up and turned in to an Assistant Principal.**

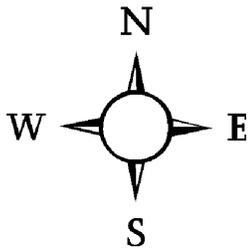
Please sign below and have your parent sign. This paper will be returned for your notebook.

Student Signature:

Parent Signature:

PreAP Geography

Syllabus



A grade of A requires thorough, consistent preparation with supplementary work performed on the student's own initiative.



GRADING AND COMMUNICATION:

1. Six weeks grades will be based on a weighted grading system with **tests and major projects valued at 50% and daily, homework, and notebook grades at 50%**. When absent, students must assume responsibility for requesting work missed and completing it promptly. Make-up tests are held before or after school. Late buses are available at 6:00 p.m. to take students to the East Side and Oak Hill.

2. **Grading criteria** will be provided for all major assignments and should be used by the student in preparing the assignment. Students should complete a self-check before turning in any major assignment.

3. PreAP classes will have **outside readings**— one in the fall and one in the spring.

4. **Website:** The syllabus, an updated calendar and resources are available on the class website. (<http://www.geogriffith.weebly.com>)

5. **Late Daily Assignments:** Work that is turned in one day late will receive a maximum of 80%. Work turned in two days late will receive a maximum of 70%. Work turned in three days late will receive a maximum of 60%. Work turned in more than three days late will receive a maximum of 60% until a week

before the end of the current grading period.

6. **Late Major Projects:** Projects that are turned in one day late will receive a maximum of 80%. Projects turned in two days late will receive a maximum of 70%. On the third day, students will receive a call home and projects must be turned in as soon as possible.

7. **Tests:** Unit Tests are officially called "*Intellectual Parties*." All students, regardless of the grade they received, will have the opportunity to do test corrections to earn back half the points they missed. Students must do this within the scheduled test corrections days posted in the classroom.

8. **Absences:** Students who miss class are required to turn in missing work the day they return. Students who miss for an official school function are responsible for completing work prior to departure. Students who are absent on the day an assignment is given will not receive extra time to complete.

9. **APPEAL POLICY:** Grades on major assignments may be appealed in the following way: A student must wait at least 24 hours (but no longer than 48 hours) and then submit a written appeal attached to the paper in ques-

tion. This appeal should be as specific as possible. I will re-grade the paper as soon as possible and answer the appeal in writing. Grades are occasionally changed, however, the grade is never lowered.

10. **ALL STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE A COMPUTERIZED PROGRESS REPORT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FOURTH WEEK OF EACH GRADING PERIOD. PLEASE PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR AND LOOK FOR IT.** Generally each student will receive three computerized grade reports each six weeks in addition to failing and near failing reports send in the mail.

11. In an average six weeks students will have three test grades. They usually include one map test, one unit test and one project or report. At least seven daily grades can be expected in a typical six weeks, one of which is dropped. Semester grades will consist of three six weeks and the final exam counted equally. Year long averaging is available for all students.