

Sanborn Regional School District
Middle School Course Syllabus and Competencies

Course Title: <i>Social Studies - Cultural Geography</i>		Grade: 7	
Course Description: A culturally geographic study of: ⇨ The Middle East and North Africa, Africa south of the Sahara, Russia and central Asia, The Indian subcontinent ⇨ China and Mongolia, Japan, North and South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and Oceania ⇨ Focusing on the 5 themes of geography, current events, and the enriching of skills associated with the social studies			
Text/Major Resources: <i>World Studies: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Foundations of Geography.</i> Prentice Hall, 2005. Supplemented by materials accompanying text. <i>The Eastern Hemisphere.</i> Silver Burdett Ginn, Inc., 1997. Supplemented by materials accompanying text. Periodicals: <i>Junior Scholastic, Kids Discover, National Geographic, Faces</i>			
Essential Questions: • How do the 5 themes of geography impact environments and their inhabitants? • How can maps, graphs, and charts enhance our understanding of the physical features and political structures of the earth? • What are our connections to the current problems and events of other world regions and how do they have an impact on us?			
Course Competencies: 1. Compare , evaluate and use maps, globes and other graphic tools and technologies to acquire, process, report and analyze geographic information 2. Make connections to the current problems and events of other world regions and evaluate how they have an impact on us 3. Illustrate the importance of countries working together to resolve problems 4. Analyze environmental, economic and technological developments and their impact on society 5. Identify and explain the impact on trade of government policies 6. Recognize the role of economics in international diplomacy and war 7. Understand the connections among regions 8. Understand how culture, technology and experience affect perceptions of places and regions 9. Describe how places and regions preserve culture 10. Understand the effects of movement on the characteristics of places 11. Recognize the demographic structure of population and its underlying causes 12. Analyze the extent to which democratic ideals, economic motives and empire building have influenced United States foreign policy in events and policies 13. Understand how economic interactions have occurred on an increasingly global scale 14. Analyze the influence of religious groups on political systems 15. Explain the impact of ethnic and religious groups on the development and stability of empires and nation-states			
<u>Instructional Practices</u>		<u>Assessment Strategies</u>	
✓ Writing Across the Curriculum/Differentiated Instruction ✓ Key 3 Reading/6+ Writing Traits/Essential Questions ✓ Class discussions/Academic challenges		✓ Student Writing Portfolio ✓ NWEA ,NECAP, Common assessments ✓ BIG 6 Research , Projects	
SRMS Mission and Expectations The faculty and staff of the Sanborn Regional Middle School have a commitment to recognize and nurture each student’s abilities within the context of the educational setting. Through reflection, reinforcement and challenge we anchor within the student a sense of his/her ability, success, and dignity. We believe this goal is best served when a holistic approach is used.			
Students Recognize student ability Nurture student ability Help students recognize their strengths and needs Help students recognize their success Help students behave with dignity	Classroom Lessons and Activities Ask students to reflect on their learning Create experiences that reinforce skills Offer opportunities for students to be challenged	Classroom Climate Create a safe classroom climate Develop clear and coherent expectations Provide a consistent system for expectations, behavior, and assessment	Communications Develop partnerships with community Develop partnerships with parents
GRADEQUICK: Parents and students may access grades and course information on EDLINE: https://www.edline.net/index.page All student grades are updated every two weeks.			