Contemporary World Affairs Student (Short) Syllabus

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**Reference Materials:**  
- The World Today, 7th Ed. By Henry Brun. ISBN: 978-1-56765-648-0 (provided in class as needed)  
- Other relevant documents, magazine articles, book excerpts, audio and film  
**Suggested Materials:**  
- Spiral Notebook or notebook paper for daily class notes  
- Blue or black ink pens, colored pencils, highlighters, pencils, glue stick  
- Flash-drive for any computer work storage and transport  
**CWA Class Goals and Objectives:**  
Contemporary World Affairs (CWA) is a challenging semester course designed to increase student knowledge, understanding and appreciation of current world affairs and prepare the student for the future by developing the skills necessary for high level performance at GHS and beyond. It focuses on the post-WW2 social, political, religious, intellectual, technological and economic developments that fundamentally shaped today's world.  These developments are studied from multiple perspectives with the intent of providing a balanced view of current affairs and the history that created them.  The student will develop:  
- An ability to analyze historical evidence  
- A knowledge base of the post-WW2 era  
- Skills for success in the high school environment and beyond  
- A deeper global understanding to become a more active and effective citizen.  
  
**Basic Course Units of Study & Calendar:**  
**Units will include basic global geography, world religions and the analysis of global events and their consequences, with the intention of developing solutions to problems and taking civic action. Units of study vary from semester to semester, based on current events. Units will include readings, case studies, articles, controversial issues debates, simulations and written responses.**  
  
Week 1: Being Successful in Today’s World

Week 2 & 3: Case Study 1 – The World: Geography & Current Events Basics

Week 4 & 5: Case Study 2 – US Domestic Affairs (Civil Rights, Inequality & Justice)

Week 6: Case Study 3 – Tackling Controversial Issues Round 1

Week 7 & 8: Case Study 4 – US Foreign Affairs Engagement (area TBA)

Week 9 & 10: Case Study 5 – Genocide & the International Response

SPRING BREAK

Week 11 & 12: Case Study 6 – Climate Change & Its Impact

Week 13 & 14: Case Study 7 – Global Refugee Crisis & the US Response

Week 15: Case Study 8 – Tackling Controversial Issues Round 2

Week 16 & 17: Case Study 9 – TBA based on Current Events

Week 18, 19 & 20: Case Study 10 – Taking Civic Action in Your Community

Week 21: Final Exams

**Student Assessment:**  
Assessments & Projects (ASP) =                   40% of course grade  
Required Assignments (RQA) =                      30% of course grade  
- In-class & HomeworkDiligence, effort and participation (DEP) =      30% of course grade  
- Student displayed attitude, enthusiasm, active attendance and work ethic  
  
**Grading System:**  
Class grading scale is as follows:

94 – 100%   = A  
90 -    93%   = A-  
87 -    89%   = B+  
83 -    86%   = B  
80 -    82 %  = B-  
77 -    79%   = C+  
73 -    76%   = C  
69 -    72%   = C-  
67 -    68%   = D+  
63 -    66%   = D  
59 -    62%   = D-  
Less than 59% is not considered passing.

Please note that **GRADES ARE NOT** **ROUNDED UP**.  THERE IS MINMAL EXTRA CREDIT AVAILABLE, SO GRADES MUST BE EARNED BASED ON EXISTING ASSIGNMENTS. CHEATING ON ANYTHING RELATED TO THIS CLASS IS NOT TOLERATED AND WILL BE DEALT WITH ACCORDING TO GHS / GUSD GUIDLEINES.