

6th Grade Social Studies Course Syllabus

A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture, is like a tree without roots. -Marcus Garvey

Contact Information:	Tutoring Time:	Materials Needed:
Tish Miller latisha.miller@kerrvilleisd.net 830-257-2207 ext. 2869	Tuesday & Thursday 7:15-7:40 am	1. plastic pocket folder with brads 2. pencil or something to write with 3. a curiosity for the world around us
Conference Time: 7:45-8:30	By appointment other days	

Welcome to 6th Grade Social Studies! This will be my 6th year teaching at BT Wilson, and I'm cannot wait to learn about the world with my students this school year! My goal this year is to get my students interested in learning more about the world around them, beyond what we do in class. I want you to be curious about this amazing planet we live on! I'm here, because kids are awesome, and I love learning with them. For us to be successful together, communication is really important, please feel free to contact me with any concerns that you might have this year.

In 6th grade social studies, we will learn about history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, the influence of science and technology, and social studies skills. I'm so excited to have this opportunity to teach and challenge my students this year.

Course Description:

After completing this course, the student will:

1. Be able to identify and locate major world regions.
2. Be able to recognize the impact man has had on the environment and vice-versa.
3. Be able to use social studies skills in real-life situations.
4. Be able to use social studies terminology correctly.
5. Recognize how major events and significant historical figures have impacted our world.
6. Apply critical thinking skills to predict and determine solutions to problems in the world today.

Topics:

Unit 1 – A basic review and in-depth study of social studies skills, including maps, graphs and charts, human and physical geography

Unit 2 – A unit on Africa's geography, history, culture, and contemporary societies

Unit 3 – A unit on Europe's geography, history, culture, and contemporary societies

Unit 4 – A unit on Asia's geography, history, culture, and contemporary societies

Unit 5 – A unit on Australia's geography, history, culture, and contemporary societies

Unit 6 – A unit on North America's geography, history, culture, and contemporary societies

Unit 7 – A unit on South America's geography, history, culture, and contemporary societies

Grading System:

There are two categories for grades and each carries its own weight within the six-week average.

Minor Grades (in-class assignments, and homework) = 40% of the 6 week's average

Major Grades (projects, quizzes, tests, and exams) = 60% of the 6 week's average

The **Semester Exam** is **10%** of the overall semester average and it culminates the entire semester.

Late Work and Corrections Policy:

Work that is turned in late will have **20 points deducted**. I am able to accept late work up until the week before the end of the six weeks.

However, students that are missing work because of an absence will be given extra time to complete the work without penalty. The formula for the amount of time they have is, the amount of days they were absent times two. (for example: 2 days absent, equals 4 school days to turn in make-up work) I'm pretty lax with this though and usually give more time.

If a student fails any grade they will be allowed to correct the assignment and turn it in for the maximum grade of 80.

The BT Wilson school website is located at www.kerrvilleisd.net. Click on **Our Schools**, and then **B.T. Wilson 6th Grade**. Finally, click on the **menu** in the top left corner and then **Teacher Websites**. Lastly, you click on my name, **Latisha Miller**.

Name: _____ Class Period: # ____ House: _____

Classroom Expectations:

1. Be respectful
 - Respect yourself, others, and property
2. Be responsible
 - Take responsibility for your actions and your classwork
 - Bring your folder to class every day and something to write with
3. Make good life choices
 - Make choices that ensure safety for yourself and others
 - Make decisions that keep you heading in the direction you want to go
4. Communicate
 - Advocate (be a supporter) for yourself and others
 - Listen and share
5. Be ethical
 - Work that has been copied or plagiarized will not be accepted.
 - **Cheating on tests or quizzes will result in a zero for that assessment.**
6. Comply with all the school rules, regulations, and policies

Consequences:

You make your own choices and just as there are many rewards for correct choices, there are also punishments for choices outside the rules. Listed below are both positive and negative consequences.

Positive:

- Earn tallies on your "Caught in Expectations Tally Sheet"
- Quench your curious mind with knowledge
- Advance your academic career
- Learn something
- Connect the present to the past
- Become an archeologist, geologist, or historian
- Discover a new way to think about the world

Negative:

- Eye contact/verbal warning
- Teacher/student conference
- Parent contact/detention
- Parent/teacher conference
- Parent/teacher/admin conference
- Office referral

SEVERE CLAUSE

Students and parents should be aware that **blatant** disregard of the expectations will result in the student being sent to the principal's office with a referral.

Behavior Contract

I have read the handout entitled "6th Grade Social Studies Course Syllabus" and understand that students are responsible for their behavior choices and that consequences are sometimes necessary. The student will need to **meet the teacher's expectations, and work to their potential to make this year go smoothly**. Parents understand that the teacher is available for conferences by appointment, and that the teacher will return an email or a phone call as soon as possible.

Student's signature

date

Parent's signature