



South Texas ISD

**Science  
Academy**

GRADES 9-12 | MERCEDES

900 Med High Dr. Mercedes, TX  
956-565-4620

<b>Credits per Semester</b>	<b>.5 credit per semester</b>
<b>Instructor</b>	<p>Instructor: Armando Reyes Conference Period: 1A and 4B Email: armando.reyes@stisd.net</p>
<b>Course Description/Objectives</b>	<p>In World Geography, students examine people, places, and environments at local, regional, national, and international scales from the spatial and ecological perspectives of geography. Students describe the influence of geography on events of the past and present. The physical processes that shape patterns in the physical environment; the characteristics of major land forms, climates, and ecosystems and their interrelationships; the political, economic, and social processes that shape cultural patterns of regions; types and patterns of settlement; the distribution and movement of world population; relationships among people, places, and environments; and the concept of region are among the topics of study. Students analyze how location affects economic activities in different economic systems throughout the world. Students identify the processes that influence political divisions of the planet and analyze how different points of view affect the development of public policies. Students compare how components of culture shape the characteristics of regions, and students analyze the impact of technology and human modifications on the physical environment.</p>
<b>Required Instructional Materials</b>	<p>World Geography Online Textbook: <a href="https://bit.ly/30HTLaB">https://bit.ly/30HTLaB</a></p>
<b>Instructional Methods</b>	<p>Lectures, multimedia elements, class discussions, projects, individual assignments, cooperative learning, etc.</p>
<b>Grading Procedures</b>	<p>The academic year is divided into four quarters or nine-week periods. The weight for each nine-week period will be 37.5 percent and the semester exam will weigh 25 percent.</p> <p>There will be a minimum of 3 grades per student during each three weeks progress report grading period, as per district guidelines.</p> <p>This course will be comprised of 3 grading categories: Major Assessments 50%, Minor Assessments 30%, and Daily Work 20%.</p> <p>What constitutes major, minor, and daily work is determined per course. [Examples: major assessments= test, project; minor assessments=quiz, engineering notebook; and daily work= notes, maps, homework]</p>
<b>Cell Phone and Technology Policy</b>	<p>Students are allowed to bring their own technology devices (laptops, iPads, tablets, etc.) to school. Use of these devices in the classroom is at the discretion of the teacher. Science Academy is not responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen devices.</p>



<b>Assessments</b>	<p>Frequently during the year, formative assessments will be given. These will be in the form of homework, written or oral quiz, readings and discussion, student writing, or tests. Feedback will be given on all formative assessments.</p> <p>The formative assessments are critical to learning because they provide feedback as to what essential learning we will focus on next. They will help influence and shape the process of learning while we still have time to improve before test or grades are given.</p>
<b>Retesting Procedures</b>	<p>Retests will be available to students upon receiving a failing grade. There may be prerequisites set by the teacher. The time and date for all retests is determined by the teacher. Any retesting assignment must be completed within one week of an excused absence.</p>
<b>Homework &amp; Late Assignments</b>	<p>All assignments are due at the designated time. Homework is due at the beginning of the class hour.</p> <p><b>Late assignments due to absences:</b> If a student is absent the day an assignment is due, the student shall receive a due date for the next class meeting. Assignments submitted electronically are due before the beginning of class time on the scheduled due date. Students who are absent on the day an assignment is given will need to turn in the assignment within the same time frame originally set by the teacher. Work turned in during this time shall receive full credit.</p> <p><b>Late assignments not due to absences:</b> Late assignments should be turned in within a one-week period, but a deduction of 10 points will be applied per day (not class period).</p>

**\*All district guidelines/policies supersede campus guidelines/procedures/systems.**