



## **Mr. Lips' Modern World Studies (Social Studies)**



Welcome to the Study of Modern World Cultures!! I'm Mr. Lips, and I'm excited to have you in my class.

### **Your book ...**

An Introduction to World Studies by Holt, Rinehart and Winston. You will bring the book to class every day unless specifically told to do otherwise. Throughout the year we will also use other materials that will remain in the classroom and be available when needed.

### **Your Objectives – Georgia Standards of Excellence**

Philosopher George Santanya said, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." We study the history of our state and nation to gain a better understanding of our place in the world and to learn about the mistakes of the past. During your study of World Cultures, you will learn about:

- Human and Physical Geography
- Historical Events
- Civics and Governments
- Economic Systems

You can look up the GSE standards for this class at [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org).

### **Class Procedures**

We will begin class with a smart start that covers a GSE standard. We will then have a mini-lesson where I teach and/or we read over the course material, a work session, and a closing that will review the GSE standards that we have covered during the mini-lesson and work session. The procedures will ALWAYS be on the board.

### **Georgia Standards of Excellence**

This year, all students in social studies will be expected to perform to Georgia's GSE standards in literacy and writing. This will increase the rigor for all social studies classes. It will incorporate critical thinking skills, and students will be expected to read to determine knowledge, and write to display depth of knowledge. Please contact me if you have any questions about the GSE and how this will affect the World Cultures classroom.

To read more about the GSE standards for literacy and writing, please visit the Georgia Department of Education's website at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/Georgia-Standards/Pages/Social-Studies.aspx>

### Class Procedures, c'td:



Smart Starts/Warm-Ups: You will need to record the questions from the smart board every day. The smart start/warm up- will be about the GPS Standards, as well as a few items about current events.

Quizzes: We will have pop and announced quizzes over the material covered in class. Pay attention and be prepared!

Tests: We will have a test over almost every unit. These usually include multiple choice questions, fill in the blanks, and matching. I will give you a study guide for each test, and sometimes we will have a review game. Please make sure to study!

And, finally....

Homework: You will rarely have homework in my class. If you do have homework, it will be the result of you not using your time in class wisely. Many students have suffered through long and hard nights because they wasted precious class time. Make sure you use your time in class to your advantage!

<b>Breakdown of Grades:</b>  Material will be broke up into two categories:  1. <b>Formative</b> Assessments (materials) – 36% of grade 2. <b>Summative</b> Assessments (Materials) – 65% of grade  A 90 and above B 80-89 C 70-79 F 69 and below* *By state rule any grade below 70 is failing.	<b>Make-up Work</b>  Make-up work is your responsibility, not mine. You will be assigned a study buddy in my class to help you find out what you missed. I will also place a make-up agenda in the back the room. Please make sure you complete your missing work and turn it in as soon as possible.  <b>Any and all late work will receive a penalty of 10 points daily. The last day you can turn in late work will depend on the assignment and my discretion (I am usually pretty flexible).</b>
<b>Exam Dates:</b> <b>TBA</b>	<b>Materials</b>  You will need pens or pencils, your books and paper. It would also help if you had colored pencils and other creative materials (see school supply list!). Your book is very important and you will need to bring it <b>every day</b> unless I tell you otherwise.
<b>Follow me on BRMS:</b> <b>Homework site</b>	<b>Academic Expectations</b>  I expect you to do your best, study hard, not waste time and give your best effort. <b>I will not give “extra credit,” because I believe it is your responsibility to keep up with class work.</b> Be responsible! (See the RESPECT acrostic for more help)

## Discipline

### Class rules

1. Respect me and other students
2. Be prepared
3. Be on Time
4. Follow the RESPECT acrostic

Follow this simple acrostic to learn the rules for this class:

### RESPECT

R- Be **RESPONSIBLE**. Do your own work and behave.  
E- **EXCEL** – be a good example to others and go past my expectations  
S – **STUDY** – World Cultures can be tough. Make sure you study for this class.  
P- **PREPARE** – students should come prepared for class at all times  
E- **ENGAGE** – Students should engage in their learning activities  
C -**COOPERATE** – students should cooperate with one another  
T- **TRY** – don't complain until you try!

Failure to follow the **RESPECT** model will result in a strike. All strikes will result in a step on the discipline program. Under the step system, this is what will happen to you if you fail to obey the rules:

- Step 1 – warning (may contact parents)
- Step 2 – parent contact
- Step 3 – Parent Conference (may be by phone)
- Step 4 – Referred to counselor
- Step 5 – Referred to office
- Step 6 – Friday/Saturday School

(I have the right to refer you to the office if I deem this necessary.)

These are a few of the offensives that will earn you a step:

1. Failure to bring materials to class (book and notebook)
2. Horseplay of any kind (hitting someone playfully, running around the room, etc.)
3. Inappropriate language
4. Throwing things (paper, pens, books, desks, etc...)
5. Getting up during instructional time. **Please make sure to sharpen your pencils and throw your trash away BEFORE class. You will not be allowed to get up without permission unless working on a group project.**
6. Talking while the teacher is talking, or talking when you have been instructed not to talk

7. Talking in the hallway on the way to lunch/library.
8. Being off-task (especially during sponge time!).
9. Passing or writing notes
10. Any other minor offence that may not have been mentioned (use common sense!).

Behavior that will result in an instant office referral includes: fighting, profanity, disrespect/defiance (which means being extremely rude to a teacher/adult), vandalism, stealing or bringing something inappropriate to school. You should know how to behave by now, right? (I mean, you *are* almost in high school.)

Now that you know the rules, all you have to do is follow them. 😊

Classes that behave well as a whole will be rewarded for good behavior. I will try my hardest to come up with a creative and fun treat!

I need for you as a student to sign the syllabus:

I have read this syllabus. I understand what the rules are, and I will behave in Mr. Lips' classroom. I also understand what is expected of me over the course of this year, and will be on task, do my best to complete assignments, and give my best effort.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of student)

Now, I need you to find a study buddy. Get this person to sign and give you their phone number.

I promise to be your study buddy. When you are absent, I promise to let you know about what you missed in Georgia History. If necessary, I will help you prepare for a test or any other assignment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of study buddy)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Phone # of study buddy)

Now, I need your parent/guardian to sign:

I, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ have also read this syllabus. I understand that I can contact the teacher at any time at the e-mail address on the first page, or by calling the school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of parent/guardian)