

Social Studies 7th Grade Course Outline

Tokyo International Progressive School

Room: 24

Teacher: Mr. Jeffrey Visser

Course Description

This course is designed to develop students' understanding of the world and the connections between different regions and societies. Students will explore how geography, history, government, economics, and culture have shaped different parts of the world and their roles in the modern global community.

Throughout the course, students will examine the historical development of different societies and investigate how geographic location, political systems, economic conditions, and cultural traditions influence the way people live.

Emphasis will be placed on developing **historical thinking, geographical awareness, critical thinking, and global citizenship**. Students will be encouraged to consider different perspectives, learn about cultures and ideas that may be different from their own, and develop an understanding and respect for cultural diversity.

The course follows **myWorld Interactive Grade 7**.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to arrive to class prepared to learn and participate. Students should bring the following materials to every class:

- Pencil case
- Water bottle
- Computer
- Notebook
- Course folder

Students may have **water or tea** during class. Other food and beverages are not permitted unless special permission has been provided.

Upon entering the classroom, students are expected to follow the instructions provided by the teacher, begin the assigned work promptly, and participate appropriately in class discussions and activities.

Students are expected to listen respectfully to the opinions and perspectives of others, particularly when discussing historical events, cultures, political systems, and social issues.

Textbooks and Course Materials

Students will receive worksheets and other learning materials either in printed form or through Google Classroom. Students will also be provided with a social studies textbook.

Students are responsible for collecting their textbook from the designated classroom storage area at the beginning of class and returning it to the correct location at the end of class.

Textbooks must be kept in good condition. If a textbook is lost or returned in a condition that prevents it from being used by another student, the student's family may be responsible for the cost of a replacement textbook.

Assignments and Deadlines

Students are expected to submit all assignments by the stated due date.

If an assignment is not submitted by the deadline, a **0** will initially be recorded for the assignment, and the student may be required to attend WIN to complete the missing work.

If a student requires additional time to complete an assignment or assessment, it is the student's responsibility to communicate with the teacher **before the due date** and provide a valid reason for the extension request. If the teacher determines that the reason is legitimate, a new due date will be established.

If the assignment is not submitted by the agreed-upon extended deadline, the assignment will receive a **0**.

Earning Your Grade

Students' final grades will be determined using the following categories:

Category	Weight	Description
6 P's	10%	Students are expected to be Positive, Pleasant, Polite, Prepared, Punctual, and Productive in class.
Daily Work	25%	Includes daily classwork, activities, assignments, note-taking, and participation in class discussions.
Quizzes	20%	Short assessments, generally consisting of approximately 5–10 questions, designed to assess students' understanding of recently covered material.
Progress Tests	20%	Summative assessments given at the end of each unit and covering the material studied throughout that unit.
Projects	25%	Formal social studies projects completed throughout the year. Projects may include research, writing, presentations, group work, historical analysis, and/or other activities that allow students to demonstrate their understanding of the course material.

The 6 P's

Students are expected to demonstrate the following behaviors consistently:

1. **Positive** – Maintain a constructive attitude toward learning.
2. **Pleasant** – Treat classmates and staff in a friendly and respectful manner.
3. **Polite** – Demonstrate appropriate manners and respect for others.
4. **Prepared** – Arrive with the required materials and be ready to learn.
5. **Punctual** – Arrive to class and submit work on time.
6. **Productive** – Use class time effectively and make a consistent effort.

Projects

A formal social studies project will generally be assigned at the end of each unit. Projects may require several lessons to complete and will provide students with opportunities to apply their historical, geographical, analytical, and communication skills.

Projects may include:

- Historical or geographical research
- Written reports and essays
- Presentations
- Analysis of primary and secondary sources
- Group projects
- Maps, timelines, or other visual representations
- Comparisons of different cultures, societies, or historical events

Students are expected to demonstrate grade-appropriate vocabulary, organization, research skills, and understanding of the concepts being assessed. Some projects may require students to complete work outside of class.

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage
A+	98–100
A	93–97
B+	90–92
B	85–89
C+	82–84
C	77–81
D+	74–76
D	70–73
F	69 or below

Assessment Schedule

Please note that the assessment schedule is tentative and may be adjusted according to student needs, instructional progress, and the school calendar.

Students can generally expect:

- **Quizzes:** Approximately every two weeks
- **Progress Tests and/or Projects:** Approximately once per month
- **Extended Projects:** Longer research, writing, and/or presentation projects may be assigned throughout the year
- **Quarterly Projects:** At least one extended project will generally be completed each quarter

Students will be informed of major assessments and project deadlines in advance.

Course Goals

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Identify and explain important historical and geographical concepts.
- Describe how geography influences societies and human development.
- Explain how different political and economic systems operate.
- Analyze historical events using evidence from a variety of sources.
- Recognize how cultures and societies have developed differently over time.
- Compare different perspectives on historical and contemporary issues.
- Demonstrate respect for different cultures, traditions, beliefs, and perspectives.
- Use evidence to support ideas and conclusions.
- Communicate historical and social studies ideas clearly through written, visual, and oral work.
- Develop the critical-thinking skills necessary to understand the increasingly interconnected modern world.