

Welcome to 7th Grade!!!

**7 - 1 Families: Your
presentations will continue in
Ms. Murphy's room (#1446)**

**7 - 2 and 7-3 Families: Your
presentations will continue in
the Makerspace**



Social Studies

Ancient Civilizations, Part II



Social Studies – Overview

Course Overview

This course provides students with the opportunity to think like historians and social scientists as they learn about the geography and ancient history of Asia, Oceania, and Europe. Students will also work to make connections between the past and the present by learning about current events that both impact our society today and thematically link to the historical content they study.


Throughout the course of the school year, students will work towards developing the following skills:

Thinking Like A Historian and Social Scientist	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evaluates a diverse range of evidence and perspectives to tell accurate narratives about the past and present• Makes connections between the past and present
Being A Changemaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Makes positive changes in our communities and the world

Units of Study

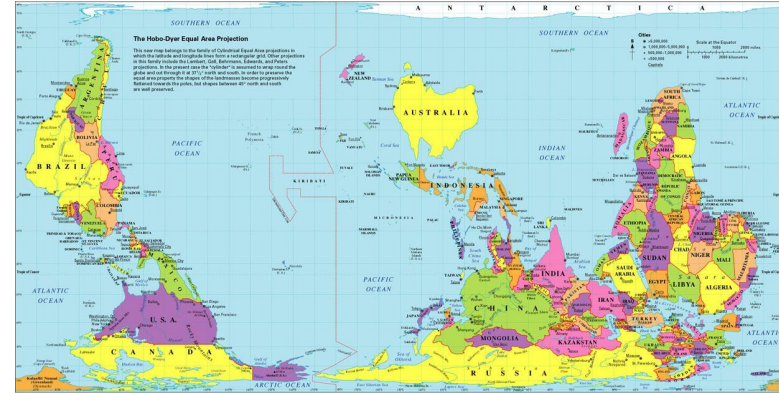
The 7th grade World Geography and Ancient Civilizations I course includes historical units of study on India, China, Japan and Korea, Australia, Greece, and Rome. Please note that current event content and units may be integrated into the curriculum throughout the academic year.

Our Units of Study

- Launch: Maps! 
- Unit #1: South & Central Asia **in progress**
- Unit #2: East Asia **on deck**
- Unit #3: The Silk Routes **(December/January)**
- Unit #4: Southeast Asia and Oceania **(February/March/April)**
- Unit #5: Europe **(April/May/June)**

Special “add-ons” throughout the Year:

- Elections
- Current Events



Guide to Success in Gr. 7 Social Studies

□ **Communication**

- Asking questions to improve understanding; using Canvas inbox; attending office hours; raising hand in class/participation including active listening

□ **Follow-through**

- Turning in assignments on-time; reviewing feedback provided on graded work; physically and mentally present in class for full 45 min. block

□ **Materials**

- Charged Chromebook
- Pen/Pencil
- Social Studies folder on Google Drive shared with margaret_clayton@psbma.org; all typed work for class should live in this folder, as should uploads of handwritten work e.g. photos

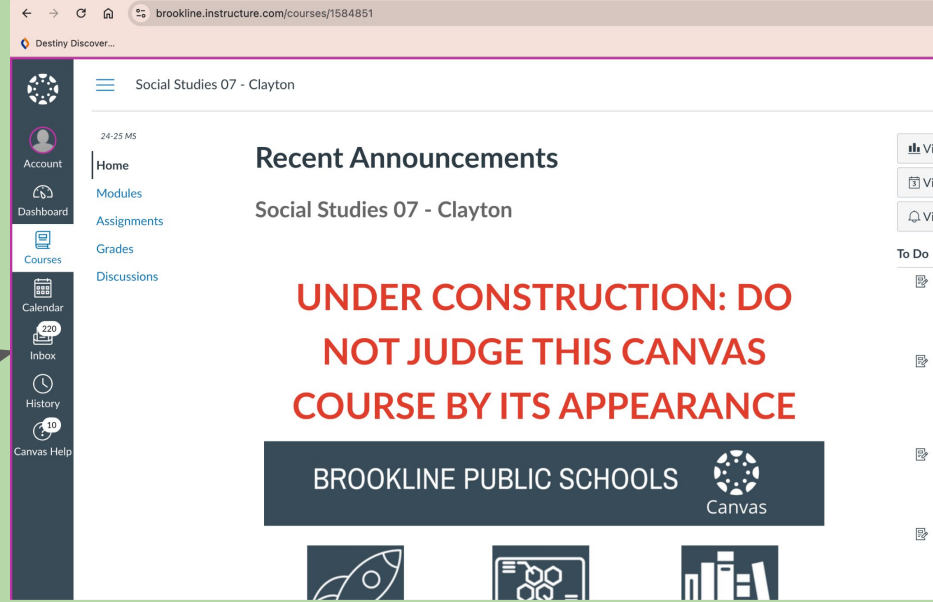
□ **Grades**

- Term average = total points earned divided by total points possible
- Missing work = 0% until end of grading period (for impact), floor is actually 50%
- Individual assignments have specific point values & rubric provided for all larger projects (e.g. DBQs)
- Students may resubmit for more credit after receiving initial feedback; cut-off is end of grading period (dates on Canvas calendar; first one upcoming for Q1 Progress Reports is Tuesday, October 1)

How to contact me:

From the Canvas dashboard, students can (and are encouraged to) message me...

- with questions
- about absences
- with concerns



Drop-In Office Hours for Students:

- 2:35-3:05 p.m. on Mondays

Families

- margaret_clayton@psbma.org

SCIENCE

Mr. Hazlinsky

eric_hazlinsky@psbma.org

A Little About Me



Education

- I earned my B.S. in Geosciences (Hydrogeology emphasis) with a minor in Water Resources and Watershed Management from Penn State, 2004
- I earned my M.Ed from Boston College (Secondary Science Education), 2008

Teaching

- This is my 14th year at Driscoll teaching 6th grade and 8th year teaching 7th grade Science
- I have also taught Earth Science at Framingham High and 7th grade math and science in Gloucester

Other

- I worked as a geologist in site management for petroleum remediation prior to becoming a teacher.

Course Overview

- Introductory Unit - Welcome to 7th Grade
- Earth Science
 - Geologic Time
 - Plate Tectonics
- Genetics and Heredity
 - DNA vs RNA
 - How traits are passed along
 - Punnett Squares
 - Cell Cycle
- Indoor Garden Engineering Project
- Ecosystems and Ecology
 - Food webs
 - Human Interactions with ecosystems
 - Trophic Cascades

My Responsibilities to You

- I will communicate clearly and make sure we're all on the same page
- I will treat every student with respect and fairness
- I will make sure everyone has the resources and support they need to succeed this year

LATE WORK POLICY:

Due dates must be honored. Full credit will be given only to projects turned in on time. The following is the policy for late

ASSIGNMENTS:

- A) First 10 school days – 5% off of grade each day it is late
- B) More than 10 school days late – max score is 50% on the assignment

We care more about effort and mastery than grades. Therefore, if you do poorly on a lab or project, Students will have the opportunity to make corrections and reassess material to show that you have learned the material, and earn back points.

Our Year

UNIT	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
EARTH SCIENCE										
GENETICS										
ECOSYSTEMS										

Science

How To Get Extra Help

I will not be available during most students WIN blocks during the school day. However, I will be available after school on **Mondays from 2:30 until 3:10 pm for Office Hours**. I can also be available at other times if Mondays don't work for your student. If your student is having a difficult time, please talk to us and we can set up a plan to accommodate you. **If students are absent please have them contact me to get caught up.** Again communication is very important.

ELA - MS. HART

- ❑ 9th year teaching at Driscoll
- ❑ 10th year teaching overall
- ❑ B.A. in English from Kent State University
- ❑ M.Ed. in Secondary English Education from Boston College: Lynch School of Education and Human Development
- ❑ Graduate courses (for continuing education) taken at BC & Harvard Graduate School of Education



HARVARD



GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF EDUCATION

MY TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

My philosophy of teaching is that all students are fully capable of achieving greatness in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. My primary teaching goal is to create and maintain a learning environment where all students feel safe, supported, respected, and capable of success. I want students to look forward to coming to school and spending time in my classroom, regardless of the lesson or topic we're covering (yes, even when we're reading Shakespeare).

Since reading and/or writing may not be every student's favorite in-school activity, I try to make lessons and assignments fun and engaging for all types of learners. I try to incorporate hands on activities whenever possible and I always try to connect a text or a specific lesson to the real world. This also requires students to practice and improve on their critical thinking skills, which then carries over to all of their other subject-area classes.

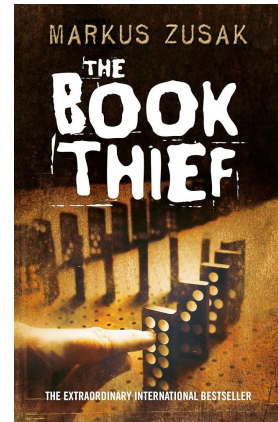
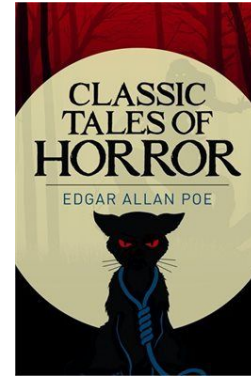
	Actually Guilty	Actually not guilty
Found innocent	Xyla Joanna Ethan	Andrew Antonia Hanna Betsy MS. Hart
Found Guilty	Riley Elad Jalise Jason Coburn Alexis Dana	M.T. Francesca Daniel

	Actually did it	Actually did not do it
Found Guilty	Gus Maga H. NARI Ren Henry	Maga P Will Emil
Found innocent	MS. Hart Benji Eoin and Homer	Leo Samantha Rubia Max Eric Leah Braks Vance

CLASS OVERVIEW

Some of the units we will cover this year:

- Genre Study: Gothic Horror (Poe & other short stories/poems)
- Writing Realistic Fiction
- Historical Fiction Book Groups
- The Art of Argument: Research-Based Essays
- Whole Class Book: TBD (currently writing a unit plan for an engaging whole class read)
- Shakespeare: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- Investigating Characterization: Author Study Book Groups
- Independent Reading Unit (TBD)
- Poetry, creative writing, grammar, & vocabulary practice throughout the year



HOMework

- Homework will be assigned 3-4 times per week depending on the unit we're on and what we're covering during each class period. The number of days students have to work on an assignment before it's due is based on the assignment's length and complexity.

- Students are also expected to read an independent reading book (of their choosing) 30 minutes each night.

- Students must write and present a "book talk" on one of their independent reading books once per term (4 total). Students sign up for their book talk presentation date at the beginning of each term.



GRADING

Students will be graded on **quizzes/tests**, **essays**, **assignments**, & **projects**. They will also be graded on **class participation & behavior**.

Students' class participation & behavior grade is put on Canvas weekly → students receive 5 points per school day.

- A student loses points from their daily participation grade for things such as being late to class, being disruptive during a lesson or independent work time, or not using class time effectively.

Assignment Groups Weight

☒ Weight final grade based on assignment groups

Participation	25	%
Homework/Classwork	40	%
Quizzes/Tests	15	%
Essays/Projects	20	%
Total	100%	

MISSING/LATE WORK

- **Students are encouraged to advocate for themselves (via Canvas or in person) if they need an extension on an assignment. If they do so, I'm (almost) always willing to give them an extension.**
- **If a student is absent, they will get the number of days they miss to complete their absent work. Depending on the assignment and their absent workload, I'm happy to give an additional day or 2 for them to complete their work.**
- **If a student does not turn in their work and was not absent and/or asked for an extension, they will lose points for each day it's not submitted.**



COMMUNICATION

- **Office Hours:** Mondays
after school (2:35 - 3:30)
or by appointment
- **Monthly Newsletter -**
Coming soon!
- **Email:** Courtney_Hart@psbma.org



Learning Center - Ms. Taube and Ms. Thorne