

# Geography

## One Semester

**Me:** Brian F. Busker (Mr. Busker to you)  
Home Phone: (507) 442-5095 (no later than 10:00 p.m.)

### **Philosophy of Education:**

I believe we are all made in the image of God, and as such, should treat each other with dignity and respect. Failure to do so will bring with it consequences. All of history is God's history and fits into His (our) story of redemption. It is from this perspective and framework that I teach.

### **Subject:**

Geography is a semester long course for 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. This is an elective to be taken in your senior year. Geography is a course that is in full alignment with the Social Studies Program Goals, and in particular, with #5-9, 11 which deal with worldview, historical perspective, global connections, cultures, human nature and current issues.

Geography covers a variety of topics like the five themes of geography, geographic landforms and terms, climate and weather, wind, ecosystems, structure and composition of the earth, rotation, revolution and tilt of the earth, map and globe skills and cultures around the world. A major component of this class is teaching grade schoolers the basics of geography near the end of the semester.

### **Major Assignments:**

This semester's major assessments and assignments include, but are not exclusive to, the following:

- About five quests (Ch 1, 2, 3-4, 5-7, 9-13)
- Numerous Quizzes (geographic landforms, single chapters)
- Map and globe skills (30 daily worksheets)
- Nation and Culture reports of various regions we cover
- Map quizzes (U.S., Canada, Mexico, Caribbean, Central America, South America, etc)
- Map making and geo caching
- Teaching grade schoolers the basics of geography

### **Classroom Policies and Expectations:**

- When the bell rings you must be in the room. Not adhering to this will incur a tardy from which \_\_\_\_\_ accumulations of such an offense is punishable by a detention.
- Talking out of turn (especially when I am talking) is ill-advised and continuing to do so at inappropriate times will result in some form of justice.
- One must adhere to the student handbook concerning clothing and dress. Obvious rebellion of it will allow you to be kicked out of my classroom and sent to the office.
- Assignments are due the day assigned by the beginning of class time unless otherwise noted.
- If you miss class, ***YOU*** are responsible for getting the information talked about from a fellow classmate or myself. Missing the day before a test or quiz will still result in you taking the examination on the assigned day, unless special arrangements are made by taking the issue up with me at least one period prior to the event.
- If you are absent the day of a test or quiz it is once again ***YOUR*** responsibility to make arrangements with me to make it up.
- Late papers will not be accepted on full credit, unless special circumstances arise. I, and I alone, hold the ability to deduct points on late papers, and I will do it depending on the

degree of the assignment and the degree of lateness. Get the work in on time and you will avoid having me reduce them.

**Discipline:**

Inappropriate conduct or behavior, whether it be disturbing class and/or being disrespectful to me or a fellow student in any way, will result in your expulsion from my classroom.

**Grading:**

I grade by a point system taking the total possible and dividing it by the total amount received by you the student. The points will be added from daily assignments, projects, quizzes, papers, and tests. Class participation and attitude are the wild cards in this scheme and can either raise or lower your final grade. The final grade is weighted with each quarter being 40% and the exam being 20%

Grading Scale: 100-97 = A  
96-94 = A-  
93-90 = B+  
89-86 = B  
85-83 = B-  
82-79 = C+  
78-75 = C  
74-72 = C-  
71-68 = D+  
67-64 = D  
63-60 = D-

I hope and pray this will be a good semester and if the above is followed by you as well as me then we should have no problem accomplishing this goal.

D.V.