1. Homework is to be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date, no exceptions. ***If you know you will be absent for school events you are required to turn in work before your absence***.
2. Any assignment designated to be **TYPED** must follow these guidelines
	1. 12pt black font
	2. Double spaced
	3. Times New Roman
	4. 1 inch margins

3. Late Assignments can be turned in for a 75. After a two week grace period, the highest grade possible is a 50. \*Unless teacher has returned graded work, and then ONLY a 50 will be possible.

1. Late project will not be accepted.

# Assignments

**Classroom Rules**

* Respect Others
* Be Prepared for Class when the bell rings
* Bring paper, pencil/pen, textbook, color pencils, and interactive notebook daily.
* NO ELECTRONICS
* No food or drink (water is allowed)

 **Remember and follow the Student Code of Behavior**

**Contact Information**

Ms. Ramos

Room 236

Phone: 841- 9756

Conference Periods: 4th and 6th

Tutorial: Fit and mornings

Email:

 maribelvelez.ramos@austinisd.org

Class Web Site:

http://ramosworldgeography.weebly.com/

Contrary to what many think, Geography is much more than being able to read maps and memorize countries (don’t get me wrong these are both valuable skills). The goal of the World Geography class is to show the student how the human experience has changed over time and in different regions. The main concepts we will study in geography can be encapsulated in topics such as Population, Agriculture, Culture, Political Geography, Urbanization, Economics, Immigration, and Social Geography. Within this class students will study how the past has shaped the human experience, as well as how current issues are a bi-product of geography.

Students will analyze, interpret, and use primary sources, maps, and other graphic evidence of events to support positions. Research and writing skills are an integral part of any curriculum. Students will practice expressing themselves with clarity and precision.

# Course Description

**Pre-AP World Geography**

Class Procedures and Syllabus

2016-2017

* Make up work will only be provided for **EXCUSED** absences and you will have a maximum of three days (not class periods) to turn in make-up work.
* It is your responsibility to check with me after your return to get make-up work.
* You will need to get notes from someone in the class. Remember you are not relieved of the responsibility of topics covered in your absence.
* If your absence is unexcused the highest grade possible is a 70. This includes work missed, quizzes, tests, interactive notebook checks and or projects that take place/due on the date of absence.
* When missing an exam, quiz or in-class writing assignment, you may be given an alternative assessment which must be completed on the day of your return or you will receive a zero.
* If extenuating circumstances are present, I will work on an individual basis with you if I deem necessary.

**Grading Policy:**

**Major grade: 60%**

**Minor grade: 40%**

**Technology and World Geography**

During our study of World Geography, students will be expected to use technology to research and solve problems. This will include students using the Internet, email, writing papers, and creating presentations using many different formats. Students will be given class time to work on some computer related projects, but much of the student’s own time will also be needed to complete current events and online activities. This does not mean I expect students to own a computer since labs are available before and after school. Students may use the computers in my classroom outside of class time. If at any time a student is having problems finding a computer to use for schoolwork, let me know and I will help find a solution. The time spent in research using a computer is no different than what would be expected if students were using print resources in the library.

We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something.

**Mother Teresa**



# Make Up Work

**I plan on implementing a variety of activities throughout the year and each student needs the following supplies:**

**\* Notebook**

**\* Folder**

**\* 1 Box of Colored Pencils—for home**

**\* 4 Glue sticks – 1 for home and 3 Glue sticks for the classroom**

**\* A current Student Atlas or access online to current world maps.**

**\* Pen/Pencil, Notebook daily.**

**Interactive Notebook**

The disciplines of geography and history include skills in writing, critical thinking, interpretation, and organization. To facilitate the development of the skills mentioned above, the student would be required to keep an interactive notebook. This will be used to organize notes, homework assignments, and project handouts. Guidelines for the notebook will be given later, but the notebook along with tests does constitute 40% of the students’ six-week grade.

* 6 Weeks Calendars
* Basic Geography Concepts
* Regions of Study (Notes, Maps & Vocabulary)
* Tek Work
* Projects

**Required Materials**

*“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.”*[***Martin Luther King, Jr.***](http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/m/martin_luther_king_jr.html)

**Tips for Success**

Advice from past students to the incoming 9th graders. The list below gives the top recommendations in order of what the previous 9th graders found to be most important.

1. Learn to manage your time (Your 9th grade year is more hectic than you will ever believe)

 - Do the work when assigned not the day before it is due — Don’t Procrastinate (to be slow or late about doing something that should be done)

 - Start Six-Week Projects early and complete a little at a time—impossible to get a good grade if you wait until the last minute

2. Complete the Reviews and Vocabulary — They are the best way to study for exams (The exams are extremely difficult if you don’t study)

3. Do the online activities early.

4. Write down all the examples that your teacher gives during notes — They are often on exams!

55. Visit the Geography Website or teacher’s webpage at least once a week so you can keep up with the work.

6. Keep Organized—Notebook and use your calendar.

7. Go to tutoring or ask your teacher’s if you don’t understand the concepts being studied in class.

8. Don’t give up — the class may seem difficult at the beginning, but it is worth sticking it out.

Pre-AP World Geography Website

http://ramosworldgeography.weebly.com/

**Progress Reports**

* + - It is your responsibility within a week of posting to let me know of any corrections that need to be made. You must have documented proof for me to change a grade.
		- Progress reports will be sent out by the school district the 3rd week of the six-week grading period if the student is borderline or failing.
		- I will send home progress reports after every major grade and these will need to be signed and returned to me.
		- If I do not receive a signed copy of failing progress reports, then parent contact will be necessary.