

## Overview of Ancient Civilizations and Geography with Mr. Pickett

Welcome to 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Geography and Ancient Civilizations! We will be looking at a number of interesting topics and cultures this year such as human origins, Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Ancient Israel, Ancient Greece, the Roman Empire and Islam. We will also spend a lot of time working on reading, writing and research skills.

**Daily Procedure and Expectations:** Students should enter the class, sit in their assigned seat and begin working on the starter which will always be on the board in the front of the room. Students must follow classroom expectations to sit in their assigned seat, be prepared, raise their hand to speak, focus on assignments, focus on the work, keep hands and feet to themselves and always put their best effort into their work. Students that fail to follow these expectations get three strikes before receiving a consequence such as a phone call home or lunch detention.

**Materials:** Students need their laptops every day. The majority of their assignments will be completed and graded on Google Classroom. Parents are welcome to use google classroom to check student grades and missing assignments. In addition to laptops, students need a pen or pencil every class. It would be amazing if every student could have their own set of colored pencils for art projects and assignments but students are welcome to share my coloring supplies.

---

### **Grading Policy-**

- 10 %: Starters- Short little questions done at the start of class. These are completed on google classroom and graded once a week.
- 30%: Class work/Quizzes- This is any work done in class that isn't a test or project as well as an open note quiz given about once a week on Fridays. This quiz is designed to grade students on their notes.
- 30%: Tests and Major Writing Assignments- Students will have about one major test and writing assignment every five or so weeks. Tests are not open notes, so students will need to study hard to do well on these exams. Writing assignments such as open responses will involve writing for more than one class and may need to be completed at home.
- 30%: Projects- Projects will be done frequently in class. Grades are usually based on effort and creativity.

**Homework:** I do not give homework directly. The only time students will have homework is if they didn't complete their work in class.

**Communication:** Parents can contact me via remind, class dojo or e-mail. Whatever option you like best is fine by me!

**Extra Help:** If any student needs extra help they can request it any day except for Friday. If I can stay, I will stay! Additionally, students may e-mail me after school for help with homework or projects. I will almost always respond to emails so long as I have them by 9pm.

Thank you for reading! If you have any additional questions or concerns, please email me at [mpickett@lowell.k12.ma.us](mailto:mpickett@lowell.k12.ma.us) or contact me through Class Dojo/Remind. Looking forward to an amazing year!

---

~Mr. Pickett

**7th Grade Geography Ancient Civilizations**