INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

MONARCH HIGH SCHOOL

Social Studies Department

**Instructor:** Mrs. Weslee Arciola

**Class meetings:** Based on A/B block schedule

**Contact:** weslee.arciola@browardschools.com

**Phone number:** 954-322-1400

**Office hours:** Mornings after 7:00 am (or by appt.)

**Office:** Portable 908

**Overview and Objectives:**

The primary objective of this course is to study the functions of the global community, the nature of the modern national state, national and world goals and the process by which nations communicate and negotiate to facilitate these goals. This course also introduces students to recent and current events and challenges for nations in the international political system. Beyond following the current political and economic issues that developing countries face globally, this course aims to provide a historical background and evolution of policy-making in these countries. The course will allow students to become informed citizens of the world by using critical thinking skills to begin to develop a comprehensive understanding of the past history of international politics as well as the current debates, challenges and major issues in international relations.

**Course Requirements:**

1. **Readings –** In addition to the textbook, the instructor will assign outside readings. These readings will range from current event articles to primary source documents. Students will be responsible for the assigned articles and there will be unannounced quizzes on assigned readings. There will also be books assigned for reading. Tests will be given for those books.
2. **Current Events –** Each student will responsible for summarizing a current news article in writing and turning in both the article and the summary on Mondays. The article must relate to American politics, law, government or international relations. If the student has an absence, the current event will be due the first day the student returns to school or a zero will be entered for the current events grade for that week.
3. **Notes –** The instructor will give notes on each unit of study that will accompany the textbook. These notes will include information that will go above and beyond the content of the text. Therefore, it is imperative that all students take notes and make arrangements will other students to get the notes when they are absent. Notes are for the students’ benefit and will not be collected nor graded.
4. **Tests and Quizzes –** There will be a variety of assessments in this course. This will consist of unit tests, section quizzes, short responses, and essays. Students will be graded on notes, textbook content, outside readings, and class discussions. Tests will be entered in Pinnacle as points but will carry a higher weight. Therefore, it may appear in Pinnacle that tests count the same as class work, but they do not.
5. **Projects and Presentations –** In order to accommodate all learning styles, there will be several projects and presentations in this class. Some projects will be individual and some group. When working in groups, all students are responsible for the project, not just a portion of the project. Therefore, if one student is absent it will not compromise the integrity of the project. Students are expected to back up their work. A technology failure is no excuse for late work.
6. **Vocabulary –** Students will be assigned vocabulary words to be recorded in a **composition or spiral notebook**. There will be approximately 5 words assigned per day. While most of these terms will have a specific class meaning, some may be general terms used during the course. Students must number in consecutive order each word and write the definition. This notebook will be collected at any time and students will be tested on the words at any time, without notice. Thus, it is important for students to stay up to date with the words. The book will be collected 2 times during the term for a vocabulary notebook grade. This grade will be based on completion as well as aesthetics.
7. **Late Work –** Any assignment that is turned in late will automatically have 20% reduction in grade. Work will not be accepted if more than one week late. I adhere to the School Board of Broward County make up work policy and any work that meets the provision of said policy will be accepted for full credit.
8. **Cheating / Plagiarism –** Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated. If students are found to be cheating and / or plagiarizing any assignments, all students involved will receive a zero for the assignment, a referral to administration, and parental contact. If the plagiarism is found to be from a published author, the original author may be contacted.

**\*Course Outline:**

Unit 1 – Geography and global studies

Unit 2 - World Government Systems

Unit 3 – History of US foreign policy as it relates to Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Latin America and the Middle East

Unit 4 – Foreign and domestic terrorism

Unit 5- Human rights policies

Unit 6 - Political, economic and social concerns of 20th & 21st century

Unit 7 - Theories of migration and world impact

Unit 8 - Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

Unit 9 - Globalization

Unit 10- Political Regimes, Health and Development

\*Tentative and may vary depending on school events and unforeseen circumstances.

**ADDITIONAL requirements:**

The course grade will be based on the following elements:

1. **Map Project and Timeline** : Each student will complete their portion of the Map Project and Timeline. Students are required to bring in an outside source and materials (article, book chapter, etc.) to add to their project. Countries will be assigned by the teacher and may not be changed except at the discretion of the teacher.
2. **Presentations and Activities**: Students will be required to give presentations on their project on certain specified dates during the year. ***Dates for presentations*** ***will be chosen and confirmed by the instructor and may not be changed without an excused absence.***
3. **Exams**: An in-class, closed book, midterm and a final exam will be based on the course reading material, class discussion and lectures. The ***midterm is scheduled for the week before winter break in December.*** You must contact me in advance if you have a valid and documented medical reason for not being able to take the midterm on its scheduled date. The ***final will take place during the designated week*** in our assigned classroom. Per school policy, there will be no alternative scheduled exam dates.
4. **Supplies:** Students should come to class with the following supplies each day unless otherwise notified by the teacher: 1 spiral notebook or composition book, 1 package of markers, 1 3-ring binder (1/2 inch) with notebook paper, 1 pencil and 1 pen, 1 set of non-toxic tempera or multi-purpose paint mixed colors, 1 small paint brush, 1 set of colored pencils

**Administrative issues:**

Please visit my class webpage frequently throughout the semester for lecture notes, announcements, and other postings, as well as to obtain reading materials. The easiest way to get in touch with me is via email.

*Class etiquette*: You are expected to observe all rules of proper classroom conduct. It is expected that you will arrive on time and not leave class during the middle of lecture or discussion. Students arriving late will be required to provide a pass from administration. Students will sit in their assigned seats and be prepared to work when the bell rings. Phones are to be put away during class unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Messaging, face booking, tweeting, texting, chatting, gaming or using electronic devices in any way that is distracting to your fellow classmates will not be tolerated. Any behavior that is disruptive and shows disrespect to the fellow students and the instructor will result in a lower participation grade.

Everyone must adhere to the Broward County School Board and Monarch High School’s standards for academic integrity. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by the an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one’s own academic work from misuse by others, as well as to avoid using another’s work as one’s own. Failure to submit original and independent work (e.g. plagiarism, cheating on exams, and collaboration on individual written assignments) will result in a 0 for the assignment and may be grounds for further sanction by the school. Please refer to the Broward County School Board Code of Conduct for detailed information.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

The following books are required and are available for purchase at bookstore and online. A limited number of texts will also be made available in the Library.

The remaining readings will be made available in class.

THE FOLLOWING ATTACHED DOCUMENT FOR SIGNATURES IS DUE and WILL BE THE FIRST CLASS TEST GRADE. PLEASE RETURN BY DUE DATE ASSIGNED IN CLASS.

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Please sign and return

I have read and understand Mrs. Arciola’s Syllabus for International Relations for the 2016-2017 school year. I am aware of the requirements of her class and her policies on cheating and plagiarism.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student’s Cell Phone Number:

Student Printed Name ( ) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student’s Email:**

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Parent Printed Name

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Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Phone number

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**Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**