***Course Name:***  World History & Geography (grade 7)

***Instructor:*** Steven Herbert, [sherbert@plymouth.k12.ma.us](mailto:sherbert@plymouth.k12.ma.us), 508-224-2725 X5314, [psmsthirdfloor7.weebly.com](https://psmsthirdfloor7.weebly.com/)

***Course Description:***

World History & Geography takes a regional approach to studying the history of the world c. 500 - 1500 CE and the fundamentals of modern world geography. The historical focus will be on the key characteristics of the societies of early modern history and the patterns of interaction across these people and places. Additionally, students will explore the modern geography of each region and how that geography has impacted the way of life for people today and in the past. Students will apply both historical thinking and geographic literacy skills in their studies.

***Instructional Objectives:***

Students will independently and collaboratively:

* Demonstrate civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions
* Develop focused questions or problem statements and conduct inquiries
* Organize information and data from multiple primary and secondary sources
* Analyze the purpose and point of view of each source; distinguish opinion from fact
* Evaluate the credibility, accuracy, and relevance of each source
* Argue or explain conclusions using valid reasoning and evidence
* Determine next steps and take informed action as appropriate

***Regions and Topics:***

* Five Themes of Geography
* Middle East and North Africa- The Byzantine Empire & Islamic World
* Sub-Saharan Africa- African Kingdoms
* Monsoon Asia- Dynastic China and Early Japan and Korea
* Central and South America- Meso and South American Empires
* Europe- Medieval Europe

***Text and Instructional Materials:***

*World Cultures and Geography*. 2016. Chicago, IL.: National Geographic Learning.

*History Alive! The Medieval World & Beyond*. 2017. Palo Alto, CA: Teachers’ Curriculum Institute.

***Grading Policy and Assessment:***

Levels of proficiency on various tasks and assignments determine student grades. Grades are posted in Aspen which is updated weekly.

***Student Absence/Extra Help:***

It is the responsibility of the student to see Mr. Herbert regarding missed work. This is best done after school. Mr. Herbert is available for make-up work/extra help after school on Tuesdays.