~ Global Issues(GI) & Honors GI ~

**Instructor: Marc Sprintz Class Period: 3**

**Room: 325, Phone: 732-6133, ext. 20206 Email:** [**marc.sprintz@orange.k12.nc.us**](mailto:marc.sprintz@orange.k12.nc.us)

**Website:** [**http://sprintz.weebly.com/**](http://sprintz.weebly.com/) **Tutoring: Plus Period: Mon (by apptmnt), Wed., Fri.**

###### Course Texts:

There will not be a single textbook for the class but a variety of readings including articles and excerpts from:

Sachs, Jeffrey, The End of Poverty, as well as the writings of many others in the fields of global development, Middle Eastern society, environmental issues, food insecurity, and migration.

Course Description:

## Global Issues is a semester-long course that is designed to engage students in studying the most crucial and intriguing international issues of our day. While the specific topics that we explore may shift from one semester to the next, relevant units may include focus on global poverty, war, religious extremism, migration, challenges of corruption, natural resource extraction, and infectious disease. Within the context of each unit, students will be exposed to a variety of perspectives. In fact, a key component of the class is connecting students with speakers who have direct experience working on the issues that we study. Students in the class may speak in person or via video conference with founders of international non-governmental organizations (NGOs), scholars, filmmakers, politicians, and medical doctors. Students will use the knowledge that they gain from class to propose ways of solving the issues that we study. One of the great things about this class is that if a new and compelling issue arises we can focus our efforts into examining that issue.

*Honors GI: Students taking Honors Global Issues will be provided with additional readings and assignments. Honors course requirements are more rigorous and Honors students are expected to demonstrate leadership in the classroom.*

### Goals/Objectives:

##### Students will obtain a greater understanding about causes, effects, and efforts to alleviate many issues impacting the world today including poverty, climate change, displaced people, global health, structural stability, economic structures, democratization and political instability. Students will analyze efforts that have been employed by ‘developed’ nations and NGOs to help address some of these global issues, as well as come to conclusions on the impacts of those efforts. Students will collaborate to increase awareness of global issues in their school & community.

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##### Grading:

All work is evaluated using a weighted point system. Informal assessments including most homework, classwork, maps, and pop quizzes will account for 30% of your quarter grade. Formal assessments including unit tests, major projects, and announced quizzes will account for 70% of your quarter grade.

Each quarter will account for 40% of the final grade. The other 20% of the final grade is made up of the student’s score on the final project.Typically, each 4-5 weeks, students will be responsible for take-home or in-class readings & related in-class activities, critical thinking-based writing assignments, 2-3 tests that include a writing component, and projects.

We will follow the Orange County Public Schools grading scale:

A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: 59% and under

##### Required Supplies

* Three ring binder with file separators
* College Ruled Notebook or loose-leaf paper
* Highlighters (yellow, blue, and green)
* **Box of tissues** (requested not required but PLEASE bring a box)!!!)
* **Glue sticks**
* **Headphones** or ear buds
* **Colored pencils**

Assignments and Activities

Assignments in the course may include some or all of the following: article/book reviews, Socratic discussion, movie/documentary reviews, interviews with experts in the field, research and presentations utilizing technology (videos, GoogleSlides, PREZIs, etc.), debates, writing letters to politicians, and student-led lessons (delivered to our own and possibly other classes).

**Quizzes & Tests**

Planned and/or unannounced quizzes will be given and will typically be used to assess the extent to which students are completing and understanding the reading assignments. It is critical that ALL reading assignments are completed on time. Unit tests will include material covered in class and any supplemental readings.

Late Work

Assignments are expected to be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date assigned. If you turn in work after the start of class, it will be considered a day late.

1 day late - maximum credit = 90% 2 days late - maximum credit = 80% 3 days late - maximum credit = 70%

**THE LAST DAY I WILL ACCEPT LATE WORK FOR EACH UNIT IS THE DAY OF THE UNIT TEST.**

*The above policy does not apply to students who have excused absences on the day an assignment is due. Typically, students who are absent have the same number of days to complete an assignment as they were absent.*

**Making up assignments missed due to absence:**

**You need to be aware of all assignments and make it your own responsibility to obtain information and materials not received due to absence.** It is not my responsibility to remind you of late work that you have not submitted. **Prior to your absence** from class, **it is your responsibility to arrange with me times when you can make up assignments**. We will be watching several films in class and you will need to come during PLUS Lunch, before or after school to watch portions of those films that you may have missed.

**Academic Integrity Policy:**

Any copying or cheating from peers or other sources will not be tolerated. **Unless I specifically tell you that you may work with another person, you are expected to complete work on your own. Handing in identical work & using the excuse ‘we worked together’ does not fly with me. If you need help on an assignment, email me or stop by and I can help you.** This goes for all assignments from short answer reading assignments to questions about films we watch in class, to major projects. **Cheating will result in a ZERO on the assignment for ALL students involved** in the cheating event, a parent conference, administrative referral from you which you may receive additional consequences, and loss of any hope you have of me writing a letter of recommendation for you. I take academic integrity extremely seriously. Consider this your first and only warning.

**PLUS Lunch:**

If your grades dip into the D and F range, you will be required to attend PLUS Lunch tutoring.

**Ground Rules for Global Issues**

1. **RESPECT** and **TOLERANCE** for people & ideas that may or may not be consistent with your own values will be absolutely expected from every student in this class. Keep an open mind! Allowing yourself the possibility to understand and appreciate different global perspectives are critical in order for this class to succeed.
2. **Be aware of all assignments and make it your own responsibility to obtain information and materials not received due to absence.** Homework will always be listed on the back board. Feel free to take a pic of the board so you have a copy of the assignments saved.
3. Dispose of any trash you have, including empty bottles, into the trash cans and do not leave trash around the classroom. If you, as a class, abuse the privilege of being able to drink in the class by leaving bottles around the room, the privilege will be revoked.
4. Do not use profanity in the classroom, on assignments, or verbally attack me or your classmates.
5. Return any supplies you borrow from me to where you found them before you leave the class.
6. Turn your cell phone **OFF and leave it in your book bag during class time.** There will be occasions where I will let you use your phone for school-relevant assignments. I will let you know when cell phone use is acceptable. We will follow the OHS cell phone policy as explained in the Student Code of Conduct.
7. **If you need to leave the class for the bathroom or anywhere else, you need to take the pass with you. No one may leave the class for the first 10 minutes or last 10 minutes of class.** Please don’t ask to leave for the bathroom until there is a pause in instruction.
8. I typically do bell-to-bell instruction. So, **do not pack up your bags until I indicate class is over and DEFINITELY do not hover around the door before the bell rings.**

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| **Student/Parent Information** | **Global Issues** |
| **Mr. Sprintz** |

**Student Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Home Phone Number**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Cell Phone Number**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Father's First and Last Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Father's Work Phone Number**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Father's Email Address**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's/Guardian’s First and Last Name**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's/Guardian’s Work Phone Number**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's/Guardian’s Email Address**: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please read the following, student AND parent should INITIAL next to each of the boxes, and SIGN below to indicate that you have read and understand the information in the syllabus:**

**Initials**

* ***I have read and understand the syllabus, policies, and student expectations for this class, including the grading policy and ground rules.***
* ***I also understand the academic integrity policy. It is clear that the plagiarism policy will be vigorously enforced even though my child may normally be an exceptional student or exhibit exemplary character on most occasions.***

**Student's Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent's Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. **What global issues interest you? Include at least 3 and write down something you know or think you know about each of the 3.**

**a.**

**b.**

**c.**

1. **What countries/regions would you like to know more about? Why?**

**Homework for tomorrow:**

Without the help of any other resource than your own mind, answer the following questions:

1. What is poverty?
2. What does it mean to be poor?
3. What experiences do you have with poverty? *This can be personal experience you’ve lived through or could be poverty you’ve seen somewhere in person or in the media.*