

Honors Requirements for the 2006 Fall Semester

1. Current Events Portfolio-90 points
 - a. Select a geographical topic or current events happening in a foreign country and follow the story for a period of three weeks. Write a 2-page compilation of the three articles and your own opinion of the situation.
 - b. You will have three entries for each quarter, due every third Friday.
 - c. You may use the following newspapers as reputable resources
 - i. Omaha *World Herald*, Lincoln *Journal Star* or the *Clipper Herald*
 - ii. Or you can use online sources such as www.washingtonpost.com
 - d. ABSOLUTELY NO SPORTS ARTICLES
 - e. Staple the three articles together with your paper & be sure to list the date.
 - f. You must summarize the three articles (10 pts), and then explain what you noticed about how the story changed, concluded, or stayed consistent (10 pts), & finally your overall opinion of the story/event (10 pts).

2. Semester Annotated Internet Website Bibliography 50 points
 - a. You will use the country that you have chosen as the basis for your search critique.
 - b. You will research & critique 10 different websites for your country, each entry is worth 5 points.

 - c. Each bibliography entry shall consist of the website name, website address, its author, and a paragraph that discusses the following items: what is on the site, what could be used for research, the credibility of the site, whether it is up to date, and whether or not you think it is a good resource.
 - d. Due Date: Tuesday, September 4th

3. Cultural Scrapbook 100 points
 - a. You will create scrapbook entries about the cultural aspects of the country have chosen. These scrapbook pages will be included in your portfolio.
 - b. A handout will be provided with more specific instructions for completing this assignment.
 - c. Due Date: Monday, September 24th

4. Country Map Analysis: 100 points Due: Monday, October 8th
 - a. Using blank maps of your country (that I will provide), you will draw/create seven maps showing unique information about that country.
 - b. The maps you will draw/create will be: Physical features, Vegetation, Climate Zones, Population density (with major cities identified), Language groups, Economic Activities/Land use, & Ethnic Makeup. 10 points for each map.
 - c. Each map will have a key to explain the features of the map. 10 points
 - d. Once you have completed each map, you will then write a one-page paper about the correlations/similarities of the maps. 20 points
 - e. You will look for & explain any relationships that exist between the following map combinations: Physical/Pop., Pop./Econ., Veg./Climate, Ethnic/Physical, Climate/Pop., Physical/Econ., Ethic/Lang. & Pop./Lang.
 - f. You should conclude your paper by answering this question: How has the physical qualities of the country affected the people that live there?

5. Economic Profile 50 points

- a. In this assignment you will use the online source CIA World Fact book, <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>, & the World Book Encyclopedia that our school has on its Mac computers to research economic activities of your country.
- b. You will have four parts to this assignment:
 - i. GDP information: You will create two pie charts, one showing the country's GDP composition, and the other showing the labor force by occupation.
 - ii. GDP Comparison Bar Graph: You will find out the GDP of your country as well as the GDP's of its neighboring countries and create a bar graph displaying the information.
 - iii. Economic Composition Picture Collage: You will create a picture collage of the three sectors of the country's economy: Agriculture, Services, & Manufacturing/Industries. You can draw/cut & paste images that represent the economic activities onto your scrapbook page. Make sure you list all of the activities of the sector in case you cannot find an appropriate image for one.
 - iv. Export/Import Information: You will create two pie charts showing whom the country exports to & imports from and then list the items exported & imported next to their respective pie charts.
- c. This assignment will be graded on neatness (of charts & graphs, lists, & pictures), as well as the accuracy of the information presented.
- d. Due Date: Friday, October 19^h

6. Illustrated Timeline 50 points

- a. In this assignment, you will create a timeline of the country's history.
- b. This will include import dates, events, and milestones.
- c. Due Date: Monday, November 5th

7. Government Comparison 100 points

- a. In this assignment you will be comparing your country's government to the U.S.'s.
- b. You compare these four parts: Legislative, Executive, Judicial, & Military
- c. You will use Venn diagrams (that I will hand out) to distinguish the similarities/differences found. Use only the keywords or specific images to describe the similarities/differences.
- d. You will compare/contrast each part of the government looking in these areas:
 - i. Legislative: Election/appointment of members, Organization, Law-making process
 - ii. Executive: Election/appointment of members, Duties/Responsibilities, Current Person
 - iii. Judicial: Election/appointment of members, Structure
 - iv. Military: Who controls/governs it, Branches, Size
- e. Due Date: Monday, November 19th

8. Semester Paper Outline 10 points

- a. You will produce a detailed outline of your semester paper based on the research/analysis you have done up to this point.
- b. You will receive a handout with more information about the outline.
- c. Due Date: Friday, November 30^h

9. 5-7 Page Semester Paper 100 points
 - a. You will use all of the information you have gathered and produced for your scrapbook to write an informative paper about your country.
 - b. Due Date: Friday, December 14th

10. Class Poster Presentation 100 points
 - a. You will create posters about the information you have gathered/analyzed for a presentation about your country to the class.
 - b. You will have a minimum of 5 informational posters as well as a beginning poster. The presentation should last between 5-10 minutes.
 - c. The posters should use the same information that you have been researching/using the entire semester.
 - d. Rubrics will be provided that will explain what is expected on the posters & how you should present.
 - e. You may bring artifacts to show/explain to enhance your presentation.
 - f. Students will draw for presentation order.
 - g. Presentations Due Date: December, 13th and 14th

11. Honors Portfolio 50 points each quarter
 - a. Your portfolio will take the shape of a scrapbook of your country as well as your current events entries.
 - b. You will write a 1 page, double-spaced 12pt font reflection, one for the quarter & one for the semester on what you have learned while completing the assignments & how you have grown as a student in Geography class.
 - c. The organization of the portfolio will be as follows:
 - i. Reflection Paper 25 points
 - ii. Country Symbols page (Used as a beginning page for the scrapbook) 10 points
 - iii. Assignments completed in order
 - iv. Semester Paper
 - v. Presentation Pictures
 - vi. Current Events Entries
 - d. The final 20 points of the portfolio will be graded on the organization & neatness of the portfolio.
 - e. Due Date: Wednesday, December 19th

12. Semester Final Test 100 points
 - a. Students will be given a comprehensive final over any & all of the information covered during the semester
 - b. To be completed during the final week of the semester, most likely Wednesday, December 19th.