**Gateway STEM High School**

***Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow!***



**AFJROTC – Aerospace Science 220 – Grades 9 - 11**

***Cultural Studies – An Introduction to Global Awareness***

**Room 119E**

**Course Syllabus**

**2025-2026**

 **INSTRUCTORs:**

**Jeff Ditlevson, Lt Col (Ret), USAF**

**Greg Stephan, MSgt (Ret), USAF**

**Ms Karen Sennie, ICA**

**PLANNING PERIOD/PLC: 1st and 5th**

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**AFJROTC PROGRAM FRAMEWORK:**

* The AFJROTC curriculum includes Aerospace Science (AS) and Leadership Education (LE), and Wellness components. All students are granted academic credit applicable toward graduation requirements for the successful completion of AFJROTC courses provided by the Air Force equivalent to credit given for other academic courses per the Air Force School Agreement. Each academic course must consist of Aerospace Science, Leadership Education and Wellness components. The wellness portion is accredited as an approved PE credit towards graduation. Students may apply for college credit after one full year of completion and an overall B average. For college credit information, visit [www.leadershipcredit.info](http://www.leadershipcredit.info).

**COURSE CONTENT:**

* The aerospace science curriculum is a customized course about the world’s cultures. It introduces students to

the world’s cultures through the study of world affairs, regional studies, and cultural awareness. The course delves into history, geography, religions, languages, culture, political systems, economics, social issues, environmental concerns, and human rights. It looks at major events and significant figures that have shaped each region. An underlying theme of the course emphasizes the impact that cultural perspectives have on interactions between people. The course is designed to complement materials taught in social studies, social sciences, and other science related courses and is aligned with the National Geography Standards*—Geography for Life* and the *National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Standards*, and the *National Educational Technology Standards for Students (NETS/S).*

**COURSE OBJECTIVES / LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

* In an age when the Internet, trade, airplanes, satellites, and cell phones connect people everywhere, it’s more important than ever to understand the world’s cultures. After completing this course, *s*tudents will be able to:
	+ Know how historical, geographic, religious, and ethnic factors have shaped the six major regions of the world.
	+ Know how economic, political, and social factors impact cultures.
	+ Know how environmental resources influence global economic development.
	+ Know how population density, famine, war, and immigration influence the world.
	+ Know how the economic systems of communism and capitalism have shaped six major regions of the world.
	+ Comprehend how cultural perspectives of time, space, context, authority, interpersonal relationships, and orientation to community affect interactions among people.

**COURSE OUTLINE:**

**First Semester**

* **Chapter 1:**
	+ Lesson 1 – What is Global Awareness?
* **Chapter 2: The Middle East**
	+ Lesson 1 – An Overview of the Middle East
	+ Lesson 2 – Iran and Kuwait
	+ Lesson 4 – Saudi Arabia and UAE
* **Chapter 4: Africa**
	+ Lesson 1 – Hotel Rwanda” – Film Study
	+ Lesson 1A An Overview of Africa
	+ Lesson 2 – North Africa – Egypt and Morocco (Time permitting)

**Second Semester**

* **Chapter 5: Latin America**
	+ Lesson 1 – An Overview of Latin America
	+ Lesson 2 – Columbia, Brazil, and Venezuela
	+ Lesson 4 – Costa Rica, Panama and Belize
* **Chapter 6: Europe**
	+ Lesson 1 – An Overview of Europe
	+ Lesson 2 – Western Europe – France and Germany
	+ Lesson 3 – Southern Europe – Italy and Spain
* **Student/Group Regional Projects (Final Exam)**

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

* Books will remain in the classroom but can be checked out in exigent circumstances
* Binders and workbooks will remain in the classroom (unless making up work)
* Cadets **MUST** bring a charged laptop to class daily **except** on physical training (PT) days – **NO CELL PHONES!!**
* Cadets **MUST** wear the Air Force uniform once a week & PT uniform on **Fridays**
* Objectives, Do Now and key vocabulary will be posted every day; make sure you read them
* It is the cadet’s responsibility to ensure missed assignments and tests/quizzes are made up. You must make up assignments (to include missed uniforms) w/in the same grading quarter (exigent circumstances may supersede)
* Information on uniform wear/requirements, PT uniform requirements and grading are in the Cadet Handbook found in your academic binders and on the web under JROTC

**Classroom EXPECTATIONS/POLICIES:**

* Stand next to your assigned seat and be ready to work when the start bell finishes ringing
* Have charged laptop, paper, pencils/pens, books, and all needed supplies every day. Unless instructed, ensure your phones are placed put of sight or placed in the cell phone storage area located in the classroom
* Keep hands, feet, books, and objects to yourself
* No profanity, rude gestures, teasing, bullying, or put downs
* Each cadet will sign and strictly adhere to DD Form 3203 and Supplemental forms (attached). Violations (tardy, fighting, profanity, etc., will be dealt with IAW SLPS policy
* Cadets will participate in classroom discussion and physical fitness training
* AFJROTC is in strict compliance with the SLPS Code of Conduct. Infractions/violations are dealt with IAW SLPS District policies. Follow directions of the Code of Conduct and all school adults unless the request is illegal, immoral, or unsafe
* I will be available for parent/teacher conferences during each scheduled session. If your parent/guardian wishes to speak/meet with me about your progress or concerns, please have them participate in those sessions

**GRADING POLICY/SCALE:**

* ***Aerospace Studies* – 40%** of overall AFJROTC grade **(Assignments will vary in value)**
	+ Each week you will receive at least **one** grade from me every week (participation, Do Now, etc.). Projects, quizzes and tests will be administered throughout the course to ensure comprehension of required material. Assignments must be submitted/completed on time in order to earn full credit. Assignments turned in late (without prior coordination) will be subject to a grading penalty at a rate of 50% per week delinquent. Mid-term assessments will take place near the semester break and Final Assessments will occur during Finals Week
* ***Physical Fitness Training – 20*%** of overall AFJROTC grade(Uniform wear: 50% of the PT grade; Participation/Conduct 50% of the PT grade).
	+ Dressing out without participation will result in a 0. Note: PT is typically held on Fridays.

***\* The remainder of your course grade is comprised of Leadership Education (40% of your overall grade) and is explained in the LE instructor’s syllabus.***

**Grading Policy:** Students will follow the grading scale issued by the district, which is as follows:

**Grade** **Grading Scale**

A 100 – 90

B 89 – 80

C 79 – 70

D 69 – 60

F 59 and below

Parents may have internet access to their student’s grades and assignments, upon administrative approval at <https://sis.slps.org/SLPS/Default.aspx>

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/ PLAGIARISM:**

*All students are expected to act with civility, personal integrity, respect other students’ dignity, rights and property; and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their own efforts. An environment of academic integrity is requisite to respect for self and others and a civil community.*

*Academic integrity includes a commitment to not engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty include cheating or copying, plagiarizing, submitting another persons’ work as one’s own, using Internet sources without citation, taking or having another student take your exam, tampering with the work of another student, facilitating other students’ acts of academic dishonesty, etc.*

*Sanctions for breaches in academic integrity may range, depending on the severity of the offense from an “F” grade on an assignment or test to an “F” in the course. Severe cases and/or repeat offenses of academic dishonesty may also result in more severe disciplinary sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion.*

***NOTE****: This syllabus is subject to change based on schedule conflicts, events and/or special guests.*

***Current version of Gateway AFJROTC Cadet Contract attached below:***