

# Individuals & Societies

## Course Expectations

### What is Individuals & Societies?

Individuals & Societies, or **I&S**, is a social studies course that will focus on three major themes, one theme per trimester:

- **Geography** – Understanding basic geography skills and how geography affects history and current events
- **Civics** – Understanding your responsibility to participate in your community and your society's democratic processes
- **Economics** – Understanding economic decision making and how these decisions affect individuals, businesses, and society



### Expectations:

#### 1. Be Respectful

- Raise your hand and wait to be called on before speaking.
- Treat others as you want to be treated.
- Show Respect for yourself, others, and our entire school community.

#### 2. Be Responsible

- Come to class prepared and ready to learn.
- Be in your seat and quietly working when class begins.

#### 3. Be Safe

- Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- Avoid conflicts with others.

### Required Supplies:

- **1in binder with pockets**: We will create an Interactive Student Notebook (**ISN**), which will be a significant grade in I&S. This binder cannot be shared with any other class, since you will have to account for each page.
- **Colored Pencils or Crayons**: Your Interactive Notebook will require you to use color for different assignments. Colored Pencils and Crayons work best as they do not bleed through the pages. Markers are not recommended because they bleed through and make work on the other side difficult to read.
- **Highlighters**: Throughout the course you will be required to analyze different texts. Highlighters are a useful and necessary tool for many of the reading comprehension strategies you will be taught in this course.
- **Paper**: loose leaf paper to be kept in binder
- **Several sharpened PENCILS and PENS**

**Academic honesty is expected on all tasks and assessments.**

## Grading:

Assignments are broken down into the following categories:

Projects and Assessments: 50%

Interactive Notebook: 30%

Classwork and Homework: 20%

## Late Work/Missing Assignments:

- Homework is due (completed) at the **beginning of the class period**.
- All other assignments have a set due date that will be communicated when work is assigned.
- Late work will be accepted for reduced credit until grades are posted at the trimester.

## Absences:

YOU are responsible for collecting, completing, and turning in any missed work if you are absent! (This includes tests and quizzes!) Per school policy, you allowed the number of days you were absent plus 1 to complete assignments without penalty.

1. **Check** "Makeup Work Bin" for handouts
2. **Ask someone** you trust (a good student):
  - Do I need to turn anything in?
  - Do I need to pick anything up?
  - Are there notes I missed?
3. **Turn in** any assignments that were due while you were gone. Write "Absent" and the days you were absent at the top.

## Assignment Book:

- Fill out your assignment book daily with class assignments.
- A signed planner is required as a pass to leave the room.



## Family Access:

Family Access enables parents and/or guardians to view 7<sup>th</sup> grade students' attendance, schedules, and grades. The district mails user ID and password information at the beginning of the school year. If you need to reacquire your information, call the helpdesk at 708-367-2930.

You are encouraged to use your personal password to check your grades at home frequently. Please keep all assignments until you have double-checked the recorded grade. If you do have a question regarding a grade, see the teacher at an appropriate time. I have found students have a much easier time managing their grades when they take it upon themselves to stay updated on their own progress.



