



Southern Lehigh School District

Middle School Syllabus

D.E.S.I.G.N.21 - 8th Grade **(Developing and Empowering Students in a Global Network Using 21st Century Skills)** 2013-2014

Course Description:

This course is intended to expose the students to those skills that will assist them in producing high quality products, think creatively, and become more culturally literate and aware through electronic communications; higher order thinking skills; planning, prioritizing and managing work through the use of real world technology tools and visual literacy.

Course Content:

1-Digital Citizenship

- Mini-Projects
- Digital Footprints
- Consequences of Oversharing
- Identity Theft
- Acceptable/Responsible Social Networking
- Cybersecurity
- Respecting Privacy and Personal/Private Information of Others
- Cyberbullying
- Being Smart, Safe, and Secure Online
- Copyright
- Quiz

2-Global Awareness

- Activating Prior Knowledge
- Brainstorming Project Topics
- Conduct Preliminary Research
- Group Project Planning -- Blueprint/Storyboard
- Journal Activities (Daily Goals/Accomplishments)
- Collaborative Research of Project
- Connections with Experts
- Multimedia Project Training (if needed)

3-Global Responsibility

- Journal Activities (Daily Goals/Accomplishments)
- Continued Collaborative Research of Project (if needed)
- Bibliography Construction
- Working Collaboratively (Multimedia Project Completion)
- Group Member/Self Evaluation
- Sharing of Multimedia Projects (Oral Presentations)

Required Textbooks and/or Other Reading/Research Materials

There are no required textbooks for this course. Several articles from magazines, the Internet, and newspapers are used to address Digital Citizenship topics and promote class discussion. Articles are updated throughout the year. Research is done on high quality websites. Attempting to connect with an expert to gain more knowledge about the chosen topic is required.

Course Requirements:

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Students are expected to lead by example when using technology, evaluate websites for content, use proper etiquette when using all forms of technology, apply copyright laws, work with others to keep technology safe, help others to be good digital citizens, and to engage in digital citizenship.

GLOBAL AWARENESS/GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY

Students are expected to select a problem to solve, which they would like to promote awareness about, collaboratively formulate a plan to solve their problem and promote awareness, attempt making an expert connection to learn about their topic, assume responsibility for sharing knowledge, questioning, and providing feedback to peers, demonstrate skills in problem solving and decision-making, demonstrate skills necessary to be self-directed learners, demonstrate concern, empathy, and respect for others, share their learning through the group selected multimedia final project, and to self-assess his/her performance as a learner/group member.

Grade Components/Assessments:

Grades will be based on the following assignments:

(Students are graded on a total points system. Points are earned for each completed assignment.)

Classroom Activities (KWLs, Journal Posts, Project Planning, Preliminary Research, Group Member Contributions, Collaborative Work Skills Rubric Scores, etc.)

Quiz

Digital Citizenship Mini Project

Group Member/Self Evaluations as Group Members

Final Multimedia Project/Oral Presentation

Each marking period is worth 20% of a student's overall grade. The midterm and final exam are each worth 10% of a student's overall average:

Quarter 1	20%
Quarter 2	20%
Midterm	10%
Quarter 3	20%
Quarter 4	20%
Final	10%

Required Summer Reading/Assignments:

There is no required summer reading/assignments for this course.