District 203 Mission
To educate students to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers, and community contributors

Social Studies Department Mission:
Our mission is to equip students with knowledge and skills so they can be active global citizens, curious thinkers and empathetic and compassionate human beings through our dynamic teaching and collaboration

Course Description
Comparative Religions introduces students to the world’s major religious traditions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam). Students in Comparative Religions will explore the beliefs, practices, and historical development of each faith. In addition, students will discuss the impact of religion on current events. In this course, academic objectivity will be stressed and students’ personal religious views will be respected. Students may choose to participate in field trip opportunities to observe religions as they are practiced today. This course qualifies for the Illinois Global Scholar Certificate.

Course Skills
1. Create an empathetic understanding of major religions of the world by integrating factual knowledge of the religions with personal experience or reflection (Synthesis)
2. Compare and contrast basic beliefs and practices of major religions of the world (Analysis)
3. Research and form conclusions on topics associated with major religions of the world today (Evaluation)

Content Standards
1. Examine how religions answer the question; “Who are we?” (Humanity)
2. Determine how religions answer the question; “What is the nature of the world & the divine?” (Cosmos & Deity)
3. Assess how religions answer the question; “What is humanity’s relationship to the divine?” (Humanity & Deity)

Grading Calculation Definitions
At Naperville North we define formative and summative work as follows:
- Formative work is used to monitor student’s learning to provide ongoing feedback that can be used by students to improve their learning. Examples may include: practice activities, homework, quizzes, etc.
- Summative work is used to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional unit or segment of learning by comparing it against a standard or benchmark.

Grading Practices
Grades communicate each student’s progress toward mastery of goals/standards for the course.
- No extra credit will be issued.
- Violations of the academic integrity policy will be consequenced by administration in collaboration with the Department Chair/teacher.
- Any percentage lower than 50% will be put into the grade book as a 50%, the lowest possible grade on completed work (incomplete or work not turned in will receive a grade of 0 in the grade book).
- A zero on a summative assessment will only indicate that no attempt was made by the student
Formative work:
  ○ Accepted up to the end of each unit.
  ○ Formative work submitted after the due date cannot be penalized more than a total of 10%.

Summative work:
  ○ A zero on a summative assessment will only indicate that no attempt was made by the student
  ■ Summative work submitted after the due date cannot be penalized more than a total of 10% and must be submitted prior to the end of the next unit.

Grading Disbursement
A=100-89.5%, B=89.4-79.5%, C= 79.4-69.5%, D=69.4-59.5%, F=59.4-0%

World Cultures Grading Breakdown
  ✔ Overall Semester Grade =
    ✔ 85% course work (formative 10% & summative 90%)
    ✔ 15% Final Exam Test or Project

Academic Integrity Code Statement
  District 203 students are challenged to address the academic process enthusiastically, diligently, and most importantly, honestly. It is the responsibility of our students, teachers, and administration to uphold the fundamental academic values of honesty, responsibility, fairness, respect and trust. The integrity of our district’s academic programs is built upon these principles.

  Academic integrity violations include cheating; plagiarism, self-plagiarism or copy infringement; obtaining or providing an unfair advantage; falsification of documents; unauthorized access to records; and inappropriate collaboration, whether intentional or unintentional. The classroom teacher and administration will collaborate and exercise professional judgment in determining academic integrity violations.

Reassessment Policy
  Students will be provided multiple and varied opportunities to demonstrate mastery of learning standards. The purpose of reassessment is to allow students to demonstrate mastery of course standards in which they remain deficient.

  ● Students will have the opportunity to engage in further learning and reassessment when students do not demonstrate sufficient learning of the course essential standards.
  ● Students who have scored below 80% will be allowed reassessment opportunities on summative assessments if they so choose. To be eligible for reassessment, students must
    ○ Demonstrate readiness for the summative assessment through completion of formative work.
    ○ Complete designated learning experiences as assigned by the teacher
  ● Reassessments MUST be completed during the next unit of study.
  ● Project-based assessments that include multiple opportunities for feedback and improvement in the assessment process will represent multiple attempts and be considered a reassessment
  ● Higher reassessment grades will replace the original assessment score (but will not exceed 80%).

Communication
  ● You are encouraged to communicate with your teacher regarding questions.
  ● Teachers make every effort to respond to emails and phone calls within 24 hours during the work week.
  ● The best way to communicate with teachers is through email; however, if you haven’t received a response within 48 hours, please resend the email or call their voicemail. Your email may have been filtered
**Additional Resources for Support**

➢ You can make an appointment with your teacher should they need additional instruction or support in learning material.

➢ You can attend S.O.S. (Supervised Open Study) in the Learning Commons Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3:15-4:15 to receive extra support or to work on assignments.

➢ You can drop in to work with a peer tutor during lunch periods or before school in the Literacy Center.

**Parents or Guardians**

Naperville North believes in a collective partnership with parents/guardians which provides students the best opportunities for success.

We encourage students and parents to:

- Actively check Infinite Campus for their student’s grade.
  - Infinite Campus is a tool to progress monitor student work until final course grade is posted.
  - Monthly progress grades are posted and represent the current grade of a student in the course at that moment in time.

- Discuss missing assignments, reiterate due dates, help organize folders, materials, assignment notebooks and review upcoming projects and assessments.