



# Faiss Middle School Virtual Course Expectations

Dream... Believe... Soar to Achieve!

7th Grade **Explorations India**

Ms. Cynthia Ross

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2020-2021

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

**In Explorations India, students will become familiar with the country's physical geography, ancient historical achievements and will become aware of India's enriched culture and up-to-date status as the world's largest democracy and regional powerhouse.**

## II. HOURS OF AVAILABILITY:

**My office hours are from 8:20 am to 9:00 am Monday- Friday with an additional 45 minutes on Friday from 12:15 pm to 1:00 pm. During office hours, we may also meet using Google Meet when deemed necessary. My email address is [rossc1@nv.ccsd.net](mailto:rossc1@nv.ccsd.net). I will respond as early as possible to emails and most always within a 24 hour business day. Email is the best method to reach me and it is also here where we can set up any needed Google Meet. I also extend my work number. It is 702 799-6850 Ex. 3826 Please know that my contact information is also presented in Dashboard under Modules.**

## III. GRADING POLICY:

### A. DESCRIPTION OF GRADING PROCEDURES

**Students' grades will be calculated based on the following categories and percentages:**

- **80% Mastery [assessments]**
- **20% In Progress [classwork/practice]**

**Students have multiple opportunities to make up missing assignments and to also redo assignments within reason. This means extending 7 days for work completion. However, once an assessment for a particular topic is completed, classwork and practice leading to that assessment is no longer valuable. Therefore, late work is on a case-by-case basis, but the general rule of thumb is, yes, a student has up to 7 days to complete assignments so that I may meet the needs of my students and their various circumstances. That said, it is valuable that students complete work on time and stay on track the best they are able. For special circumstances, please reach out so arrangements may be made.**

**B. BASIS FOR QUARTER AND SEMESTER GRADES:**

The following will be utilized when assigning final grades for the quarter and the semester:

- 45 % Quarter Grade A
- 45 % Quarter Grade B
- 10 % Semester Exam

**GRADE SCALE**

<b>ACADEMICS:</b>	<b>CITIZENSHIP:</b>
100% - 90% = A	100 - 90 = Outstanding
89% - 80% = B	89 - 70 = Satisfactory
79% - 70% = C	69 - 50 = Needs Improvement
69% - 60% = D	49 or less = Unsatisfactory
59% or less = F	<i>** Point values recorded in Infinite Campus. Please see the Citizenship Rubric on Page 4.</i>

For grades, please refer to Infinite Campus. Grades reflecting red are those not meeting academic standards or are missing. These are what need to be addressed immediately, particularly summative assessment scores as they are weighed at 80 percent.

To help keep track of work, in Dashboard under Modules, all assigned work is listed in chronological order under weeks and then date. A weekly agenda is also posted under Modules that will give an informal overview of ongoing weekly work expectations.

**C. ATTENDANCE/FAILING GRADES/RETENTION ENFORCEMENT:**

Attending school on a regular basis is vital to academic success. Students who miss more than 10 unapproved absences in any course during a semester (18 weeks) may receive a failing semester grade for that course. An approved absence, as defined, is an unavoidable absence caused by illness, court appearances, religious holidays, and an emergency outside the control of the student or the student's family, and/or a prearranged absence (not exceeding 10 in a school year).

A pupil in Grade 6 must complete one semester with a passing grade in mathematics, English or reading, and science for promotion to the seventh grade. A pupil in Grade 7 must complete one semester with a passing grade in mathematics, English or reading, science, and social studies for promotion to the eighth grade. A pupil who enters Grade 8 must complete three semesters with a passing grade in mathematics, three semesters with a passing grade in English or reading, two semesters with a passing grade in science, and two semesters with a passing grade in social studies during the seventh and eighth grade years for promotion to high school (CCSD regulation 5123).

#### **D. MAKE-UP PROCEDURES:**

Teachers shall provide an opportunity for a student to make up missed work due to any absence. When a student is absent, the educational experiences lost during that absence might be difficult to obtain so it is here where communication is essential. I am available to assist when needed and it is important that the student make up the work as soon as possible as to not lose traction as work is often in sequential order.

After any absence, a secondary student is required to initiate contact with his teacher(s) to obtain appropriate make-up work within three (3) school days immediately following the absence. Once contact has been made with the teacher(s), specific make-up work must be completed and returned to the teacher(s) within a reasonable length of time, to be determined by the teacher and communicated to the student/parent or legal guardian. The make-up work must be returned to the teacher(s) by the specified due date. Students shall be allowed a minimum of (3) three days to complete make-up work.

#### **IV. STUDENT PLANNERS/NOTEBOOKS:**

Students are encouraged to utilize the Calendar features available in Canvas in order to stay organized and to keep aware of due dates for assignments and assessments within each of their courses. Again, the weekly planner found under Modules is also useful in my course.

#### **V. CLASSROOM RULES**

In addition to my posted Digital Learning Rules, I will now clarify that students are not required to have their cameras and microphones on, but it's both polite and helpful seeing the students I am teaching as well as it is for classmates. It proves helpful for me in monitoring student work effort during live sessions, and it also proves helpful in building positive classroom communities.

Respect for oneself and others is paramount. Also, as per my posted Digital Learning Expectations, it is helpful for students to be on Google Meet on time and in fact, I suggest that students pop in early and also with their Dashboard open "Ready to Learn."

##### **A. FAISS FLYER 15:**

All students will be expected to model the Faiss Flyer 15 at all times and points will be rewarded to their house for doing so.

- 1. When responding to any adult, you must answer by using their name and/or saying "Yes Ma'am/Sir" or "No Ma'am/Sir."**
- 2. Always say thank you when given something.**
- 3. Surprise others by performing random acts of kindness.**
- 4. Regardless of where you are on campus, keep it clean.**
- 5. If someone drops something, offer to pick it up.**
- 6. Be considerate of others and hold the door.**
- 7. You are expected to learn and follow your teacher's classroom rules.**
- 8. Make eye contact and track the speaker.**
- 9. During discussions, respect other students' comments, opinions, and ideas.**
- 10. Make every effort to be organized.**
- 11. Always encourage your classmates to be successful.**

12. When a guest teacher is present, greet them, make them feel welcome, and follow all classroom rules.
13. Be positive and enjoy life. A smile goes a long way.
14. Learn from your mistakes and move on.
15. No matter what the circumstance, always be honest.

## B. PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE PLAN

All teachers at Faiss Middle School will use the following progressive discipline plan (dependent upon similar infraction):

1. Teacher intervention
2. Teacher intervention with parent contact
3. Teacher intervention with parent contact
4. Referral to Office of Student Success

## C. ADDITIONAL CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:

Posted on Digital Learning Expectations/ Respect.

## VI. CITIZENSHIP:

Students will earn a citizenship grade for each quarter based on their behavior. Grades will be tracked each quarter in students' gradebooks on Infinite Campus. The following citizenship categories apply:

<i>Citizenship grades reflect class behavior, responsibility, cooperation, ability to work with peers, adherence to the Faiss Flyer 15 principles, and overall attitude. This rubric outlines the behavior and performance criteria for earning citizenship grades.</i>				
Expectations	Outstanding	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory
<b>Be respectful to teacher.</b>	Treats teachers in a respectful manner. Stands to participate without reminders. Says "yes/no" and "Ma'am/Sir" consistently. Consistently tracks the speaker. Follows directions. Asks questions appropriately.	Usually treats teachers in a respectful manner. May need to be reminded to stand. Attempts to address with respect ("Ma'am/Sir"), but not 100%. Mostly tracks the speaker. Uses appropriate language with adults. May need reminders to follow directives.	Sometimes treats teacher disrespectfully. May need a reminder to be respectful and caring. Does not say "yes/no" "Ma'am/Sir" and is often not tracking the speaker. May occasionally use a rude tone or sarcasm with staff or exhibit mild insubordination.	Consistently treats teachers disrespectfully; moderate to severe chronic misbehavior in class; rude tone; insubordination and/or belligerence.
<b>Be respectful to classmates and guests.</b>	Encourages and helps others; cleans up after self and others; says please, thank you, may I; praises and encourages others; works well independently and cooperatively; does not tolerate bullying; brings supplies daily; shows good sportsmanship; opens doors for others; does not cut in line.	Usually treats classmates respectfully. Cleans up only after self, but not others. Does not consistently use please, thank you, may I; mostly works well collaboratively; may occasionally borrow supplies, but usually has them; opens doors for others; does not cut in line.	Some misbehavior during class; sometimes treats classmates disrespectfully or exhibits inappropriate horseplay during class. Seat may be moved for misbehavior or peer conflict. Does not say please, thank you, may I; may let down the collaborative team; comes to class unprepared; may be bossy towards others.	Often treats class members in a negative way with put-downs, tone of voice, refusals or bullying; entices others to misbehave. Whines or complains about work aloud or otherwise lowers class morale. Poor group participation seat may be moved for misbehavior or peer conflict.
			Sometimes late (3-4 tardies); turns in work that	Often late (5 or more tardies), frequently turns

<b>Be the best you can be!</b>	Is on time, honest and positive, self-reflective upon their work, and submits the best work at all times. Does not leave class until dismissed.	Usually on time (1-2 tardies; does not submit 100% effort; may have no-name papers occasionally; occasionally may try to stand to leave class before dismissed.	is incomplete rather than requesting an extension; uses late passes often or may have missing/incomplete assignments; may try to stand to leave class before dismissal.	in work that is incomplete or uses all late passes for the quarter; has missing/incomplete assignments; may try to stand to leave before class dismissal
<b>Apply metacognitive strategies.</b>	Uses 100% of class time to work. Completes classwork regularly. Sets goals and timelines for finishing work on time; monitors own self; self-redirects; advocates for self as needed; positively participates in class frequently; assess own work and others' honestly.	Completes most classwork; sets goals and timelines for finishing most work on time; monitors own work; may advocate for self; may occasionally participate in class; assess own work and work of others honestly.	Usually does not complete classwork. Sometimes listens and follows directions. Needs frequent reminders to remain on task. Does not participate appropriately (blurting out or creates off-task distractions); may not assess work honestly.	Academic apathy. Rarely does classwork. Disturbs and distracts others. May be sent to time-out location or office. Does not participate appropriately (blurting out or creating off-task distractions). May not assess work honestly.

## Faiss Middle School Course Expectations Parent Signature Sheet 2020-2021 Follows.

Please Scroll down. Thank you.

**Faiss Middle School**  
**Course Expectations Parent Signature Sheet**  
**2020-2021**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Hello, my name is **Cynthia Ross** and I will be your child's **Explorations 7** teacher this year. **Please take a moment to read the attached course expectations and sign and complete this information sheet.** At some time during the year, I may find it necessary to contact you concerning your child's academic progress and/or behavior in the classroom. At Faiss MS, we look forward to communicating with families on a regular basis. The strongest ally I have in the classroom is YOU. Students do better in school when teachers and parents communicate proactively.

I look forward to having a successful year with all my students. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me either by phone or email.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,  
**Cynthia Ross**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the course expectations for my class.

**I will be sending an Infinite Campus message with a Google Survey for you complete showing that you have received these Expectations. Thank you in advance for completing it.**