Faculty Information
Faculty Name: Ricardo Brown, MAED
Contact Information: (preferred) rbrown@ivyprepacademy.org
Website – http://www.ivyexceeds.weebly.com

Short Faculty Bio: Currently pursuing EdD (A.B.D.), Argosy University, Atlanta- Educational Leadership; MAED (Masters of Arts in Education), University of Phoenix, BS (Bachelor of Science) Criminal Justice, THE Johnson & Wales University, Professional Development: adjunct instructor at Brown Mackie College for 3 years, Career Development: adjunct instructor at Virginia College, higher education administrator in the area of Student Affairs; public education experience as middle school teacher. I love to travel- have visited all 50 states, Canada, Jamaica, Bahamas, and the Virgin Islands.

Course Description In eighth grade, students study Georgia geography, history, government, and economics. While the four strands are interwoven, ample opportunity is also provided for in-depth study of the geography of Georgia and the government of Georgia. U.S. historical events are included, as appropriate, to ensure students understand Georgia’s role in the history of the United States

Instructional Contact Hours:
Students and parents can expect instructional and assessment engagement for the duration of this semester. Instructional engagement activities include lectures, presentations, discussions, group-work, and other activities that would normally occur during class time. Instructional engagement will occur every day they are in school. (There is NO SUCH thing as, “Mr. Brown didn’t give us (me) any HOMEWORK.”)

In addition to instructional engagement, students are expected to complete outside of the classroom contact hours as they prepare for the Georgia Milestone Test. Outside work includes preparing for and completing readings and assignments. Such outside work includes, but is not limited to, all research associated with completing papers, assignments, working in groups.

Description of Standards / Georgia Performance Standards:
Please refer to the Georgia Performance Standards for detailed listings of standards. (www.georgiastandards.org) (See standards attached)
Parents as Partners:
Family involvement is an essential element for a student’s success in 7th Grade Social Studies. Be positive and support homework, don’t do it for them. Think of yourself as a guide, rather than your child’s teacher. You can help by asking questions and listening. You may also help by visiting the online resources and encouraging your child to take advantage of the tutorials, interactive activities, and other online resources listed below. For those without home web access, check with your child’s classroom teacher or the middle school library.

Preparedness:
Students are expected to come to class prepared every day with notebook, folder, paper, and pencil. Bringing the list of materials, all assignments completed, and a willingness to learn and participate is crucial for success.

Policies / Regulations
● Homework- Homework is expected to be completed as assigned.
● Late Work: I DO NOT ACCEPT LATE HOMEWORK, UNLESS YOU WERE ABSENT!!!
● Make-up Work: Announced work, such as homework, quizzes and major assessments are due on the due date specified. A maximum of THREE zeroes will be allowed to be made up per semester.

Academic honesty- Receiving or giving information for an assignment is cheating and when caught in the act students will not receive credit nor receive the opportunity for a chance of make-up.

Plagiarism is not acceptable: If a student takes information from the Internet or any printed resources without a citation, it is considered plagiarism and will result in a ZERO.

Supplies
● 3 ring binder and dividers
● Notebook paper
● Pencils
● Pens (red, blue and black)
● Highlighters
● Jump drive

***Scholars will need to create an email (first name.last name.ivy@gmail.com)

Students will need these supplies for the entire school year.

Class Materials To ensure a successful year, scholars are expected to be prepared with the necessary materials everyday.  Pencil, pens (red, blue and black), notebook and a positive attitude.

Grading Categories  The overall grade will be broken down as such:

Class Participation 20%

Homework 15%
Projects 20%
Tests 25%
Quizzes 20%
Tests & Projects – Tests, projects, and presentations are based solely on demonstrated progress and achievement of reasonable and clear standards. At least one project will be assigned each quarter. In addition, a midterm and final exam will be administered each semester. All assessments are cumulative.

Quizzes – Quizzes will be given at various points throughout the semester. Quizzes may be announced and unannounced (pop quiz). The purpose of quizzes is to ensure that scholars are progressing well through subject matter.

Class Work – Class work encompasses the daily Do-Now, in-class group work assignments, hands on activities, in-class journals, additional assignments and worksheets that assess scholars learning progress.

Homework – Proficiency in writing is accomplished through frequent practice. Homework will be given several times per week; scholars will have homework on the weekend and during assigned breaks such as Thanksgiving Break, Christmas Break, Spring Break. Homework will be communicated to scholars verbally, through my website and via Edmodo.

Expectations
Teacher Expectations
▪ I fully support Ivy Prep’s mission and my goal is to ensure all scholars realize their full potential.
▪ Take your homework assignments seriously, do your best, be neat and be ready.
▪ Participate during class in positive, productive manner to contribute to an effective learning environment.
▪ Scholars who need additional assistance can speak with me about Saturday Academy. After school homework support is also available; scholars are required to speak with me and sign up at least 24 hours beforehand. WEDNESDAY’S ONLY. Scholars must indicate exactly what area they need assistance. No scholar is allowed to attend homework support without having completed the necessary steps. All scholars are required to exit the building at 5 p.m.
▪ I can be reached by email at rbrown@ivyprepacademy.org. I check email frequently throughout the day and will make every effort to respond within 48 hours.

Parent/Guardian Expectations
▪ I expect you to support your scholar’s academic endeavors by creating a home and school environment in which your scholar will be held accountable for working to her highest potential and by obtaining the necessary materials needed for homework and projects.
▪ It is important to keep the lines of communication open.

Scholar Expectations
▪ I expect scholars to respect themselves, their families, friends, and the staff at Ivy Prep Academy.
▪ I expect that all students will fully participate in class and seek help when they need it.
▪ I expect my high standards and expectations for the students to be reflected in how the students present themselves to me, how they behave in my classroom, and how they present themselves to the outside community.

I expect students to equate learning and knowledge with character and ability. I believe that all people can be life-long learners and that the process of learning is integral to becoming the person each of us should be.
Late Work Policy

Ivy Prep’s late work policy is as follows:

First day late – Scholar may receive a maximum grade of 90%.
Second day late – Scholar may receive a maximum grade of 80%.
Third day late – Scholar may receive a maximum grade of 70%.
No late work will be accepted after 3 days. It is the responsibility of the scholar to ensure That late work is turned in.

Make up Work

Ivy Preparatory Academy’s make up work policy will be applied. It is the scholar’s responsibility to monitor the class website, Edmodo and to contact me regarding any missed assignments.

Expectations / Consequences / Discipline

Students must adhere to the Ivy Prep Academy Student Code of Conduct, as well as IPA’s specific class rules. Students will be expected to come to class prepared, ask permission to leave the seat and/or room, refrain from running, yelling and using profanity, obscene words or gestures in the class. “Class Dojo” will serve as a behavior Management System for scholars. Consequences will adhere to the following plan:

1st offense: Warning
2nd offense: Reflective Writing
3rd offense: Phone Call
4th offense: Detention
5th offense: Referral
*** Major Offenses will warrant immediate referral to an Administrator ***

Helpful websites and other resources

- www.doe.k12.ga.us
- http://www.georgiastandards.org/ (See GPS for Parent’s section) Textbook resource list
- Study Island

***The teacher reserves the right to adjust the course work and/or differentiate instruction as needed to meet the needs of students and ensure academic success. I am very excited to be planning a school year full of learning and fun with your scholar. Please know that you can always contact me through my email at rbrown@ivyprepacademy.org
PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT
Social Studies, Mr. Brown

After completely reading this syllabus, we understand and agree to the course requirements.
Please note the syllabus is subject to change. Any updates will be communicated to the scholar and be posted on my website.

Student Name (Print):
___________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Name (Print):
___________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian’s Signature: ______________________________________________________

Date: ___________________

Parent/Guardian Best Contact Phone Number:________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Email Address:____________________________________________________