

Canterbury High School

Ottawa-Carleton District School Board

Social Science Department

Semester 1 – 2010/2011 – Course Outline

Course Title: Geography of Canada

Course Code: CGC1D

Prerequisite: Grade 8

Grade Level: 09

Credit Value: 1

Teachers: Ms. Devine, Ms. Short, Mr. Smith

Course Overview 110 hours

Geography is an integrative subject that brings a variety of perspectives, both social and physical, to the study of people, places, and environments around the world. Knowing where physical, social, or political events or processes occur helps students gain a spatial perspective on them. Understanding the processes that shape the earth and knowing how life forms interact with the environment allow them to view events from an ecological perspective. Historical and economic perspectives help students understand the relationship between people and their environments, as well as interactions that occur among groups of people. Studying geography, students receive practical guidance for decision making and problem solving in geographic planning, economic development, and environmental and resource management.

As the world's economies become increasingly interdependent, as pressures on the world's resources mount, and as concerns about issues such as global warming, urbanization, and population growth escalate, people need to become geographically literate and able to make informed judgements about environmental and social issues. The Grade 9 Geography of Canada course provides students with a foundation in this essential area of learning.

Strands: Course Expectations

Geographic Foundations: Space and Systems

By the end of this course, students will:

- describe the components and patterns of Canada's spatial organization;
- demonstrate an understanding of the regional diversity of Canada's natural and human systems;
- analyse local and regional factors that affect Canada's natural and human systems.

Human-Environment Interactions

By the end of this course, students will:

- analyze the ways in which natural systems interact with human systems and make predictions about the outcomes of these interactions;
- explain the relationship of Canada's renewable and non-renewable resources to the Canadian economy.
- evaluate various ways of ensuring resource sustainability in Canada.

Global Connections

By the end of this course, students will:

- describe how Canada's diverse geography affects its economic, cultural, and environmental links to other countries;
- analyze connections between Canada and other countries;
- report on global issues that affect Canadians.

Understanding and Managing Change

By the end of this course, students will:

- explain how natural and human systems change over time and from place to place;
- predict how current or anticipated changes in the geography of Canada will affect the country's future economic, social, and environmental well-being;
- explain how global economic and environmental factors affect individual choices.

Methods of Geographic Inquiry and Communication

By the end of this course, students will:

- use the methods and tools of geographic inquiry to locate, gather, evaluate, and organize information about Canada's natural and human systems;
- analyse and interpret data gathered in inquiries into the geography of Canada, using a variety of methods and geotechnologies;
- communicate the results of geographic inquiries, using appropriate terms and concepts and a variety of forms and techniques.

Units of Study

Unit 1	Introduction to Geography – Geographic skills
Unit 2	Natural Systems
Unit 3	Human Systems
Unit 4	Humans in the Environment
Unit 5	Global Interactions
Unit 6	Sustainable Development

Teaching Strategies

Teacher demonstrations	Brainstorming	Small group work
Multimedia	Investigative research	Written assignments
Presentations	Listening	discussion/ reflection
hands-on activities	Student-teacher conferencing	

Assessment and Evaluation Strategies

Written Tests	Peer assessment	Rubrics
Summative Assignment	Group presentation	Homework quizzes
Seminar presentation	Exam	Individual research project
Written assignments	discussion	

Evaluation Summary

Category	Weight
Knowledge/Understanding	17.5%
Thinking/Inquiry	17.5%
Communication	17.5%
Application	17.5%
Summative evaluation	10%
Final exam (<i>during exam period in January</i>)	20%

References

www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/

Student Resources / Texts

Making Connections 2nd edition \$ 75