

Canterbury High School
Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
Social Science Department
Semester 1 – 2010/2011 – Course Outline

Course Title: Canadian and World Issues:
A Geographic Analysis

Grade Level: 12

Course Code: CGW4U

Credit Value: 1

Prerequisite: Any university or university/college preparation course in Canadian and World Studies, English, or Social Sciences and Humanities

Teachers: Mr. Van Hees

Course Overview 110 hours

This course examines the global challenges of creating a sustainable and equitable future, focusing on current issues that illustrate these challenges. Students will investigate a range of topics, including cultural, economic, and geopolitical relationships, regional disparities in the ability to meet basic human needs, and protection of the natural environment. Students will use technologies and skills of geographic inquiry and analysis to develop and communicate balanced opinions about the complex issues facing Canada and a world that is interdependent and constantly changing.

Strands: Course Expectations

Geographic Foundations: Space and Systems

- explain how the earth's natural and human systems are interconnected in multiple, complex ways;
- analyse the causes and effects of economic disparities around the world;
- compare the cultural, economic, and political aspirations of selected groups and the effects of their actions on local, national, and global geographic issues.

Human-Environment Interactions

- analyse the impact of selected global trends on people and environments at the local, national, and global level;
- analyse geographic issues that arise from the impact of human activities on the environment in different regions of the world;
- evaluate approaches, policies, and principles relating to the protection and sustainability of the planet's life-support systems.

Global Connections

- analyse the influences that increase the interdependence of countries around the world;
- analyse instances of international cooperation and conflict and explain the factors that contributed to each;
- evaluate the social, economic, and environmental impact of the strategies for sustainable development implemented by a variety of individuals, organizations, and institutions.

Understanding and Managing Change

- analyse trends and predict changes in the human use of the earth and its resources;
- evaluate the cultural, economic, and environmental impact of changing technology;
- evaluate the effectiveness of short-term and long-term solutions to geographic problems and issues at the local, national, and global level.

Methods of Geographic Inquiry and Communication

- use the methods and tools of geographic inquiry to locate, gather, evaluate, and organize information;
- analyse and interpret data gathered through research and investigation, using a variety of methods and technologies;
- communicate the results of geographic inquiries, using appropriate terms and concepts and a variety of forms and techniques.

Units of Study

Unit 1	Studying Issues, Media, and Global Power
Unit 2	Interdependence - Sustaining Planetary Systems
Unit 3	Quality of Life: Challenges of Disparity – Patterns of Poverty
Unit 4	Quality of Life: Population and Urban Issues
Unit 5	Quality of Life: Poverty, Health Issues, International 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
Written assignments	Group presentation	quizzes
Seminar presentation	role play/discussion	formal debate
Summative Assignment	Individual research project/essay	Final Examination

Evaluation Summary

Category	Weight
Knowledge/Understanding	21 %
Thinking/Inquiry	21 %
Communication	14 %
Application	14 %
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Summative assignment	10%
Final exam (during formal examination period in January)	20 %

References

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

Student Resources / Texts

Geonexus: Canadian and World Issues. The textbook will be collected at the end of the course. Damaged or lost texts will be the responsibility of the student. The current replacement cost of the book is \$84.