

# HL/SL Geography International Baccalaureate CORE THEME - PATTERNS AND CHANGE CGU4MB



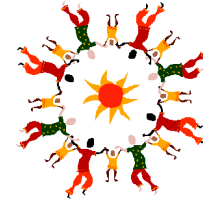
Semester 1, 2015/16

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Geography is a dynamic subject that is firmly grounded in the real world and focuses on the interactions between individuals, society and the physical environment in both time and space. It seeks to identify trends and patterns in these interactions and examines the processes behind them. It also investigates the way that people adapt and respond to change and evaluates management strategies associated with such change. Geography describes and helps to explain the similarities and differences between spaces and places. These may be defined on a variety of scales and from a range of perspectives.

Geography is distinctive in that it occupies the middle ground between social sciences and natural sciences. The Core of the IB Geography curriculum provides an overview of the geographic foundation for the key global issues of our times. The four main subtopics of the Geography Core are: 1) Populations in transition, 2) Disparities in wealth and development, 3) Patterns in environmental quality and sustainability, and 4) Patterns in resource consumption. We will also be covering one of the Optional Themes to remove some pressure from next year's course: Leisure, sport and tourism.

You will have the opportunity to research and study geographic themes and trends that will provide you a better understanding of current and future concerns. Hopefully, we will have time to develop computer skills for studying and mapping world data and for developing statistical techniques for dealing with data. Through independent research and open discussions and presentations, you will acquire a better understanding of the world.

There is a large amount of data available for some of the topics in this course and students must be able to synthesize such data by establishing broad trends and identifying anomalies. In order to achieve this, the use of both graphical and statistical techniques is essential.

## TOPICS & EVALUATION

Unit of Study
Populations in transition
Disparities in wealth and development
Patterns in environmental quality and sustainability
Patterns in resource consumption
Optional theme: Leisure, sport and tourism

**Final Examination: January 2016**



Evaluation Criteria	Value
Assignments and presentations (no IA this year)	15%
Tests	35%
Final Exam	50%

## Attendance

Learning takes place EACH and EVERY day of class. Apart from tests, there are many individual activities, group work, discussions and tasks that can only benefit those present. Therefore any absence for whatever reason, **can** and **will** hurt you (this is extremely important in a semestered school). It is YOUR responsibility to minimize this. Catch up immediately on ALL your work missed. Better still, BE THERE!!

## Notebooks

Notebooks should be a brief explanation of what we have been doing in class. They are your **PRIMARY** resource for tests, exams and even assignments. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure you keep a neat and well-organized and up-to-date set of notes.



## Course Books

For this course *Geography: Course Companion* (Nagle and Cooke) is used. The replacement value for this book is \$50 so **DO NOT LOSE THIS BOOK!** I do not have any extras.

## Homework

Homework is an important part of any course. It will be assigned on a regular basis. Homework often provides the link between the various ideas that are being discussed in class. It **MUST** be completed to the best of your ability and must be ready at the beginning of the next day, unless otherwise indicated. It should be presented in a neat, orderly fashion. It is usually wise to leave a little room at the end of the homework for additions during classroom discussion.

## Behaviour

Each and every person should be at I.E. Weldon to learn and improve themselves. Any behaviour, which is injurious to the learning environment in or out of the classroom, is, of course unacceptable. The Student Handbook clearly establishes guidelines for you to follow. **READ IT!!**



## Assessment Policies

- **NO LATE WORK** will be accepted once assignments have been evaluated and returned to students.
- Assignments **FORGOTTEN** or **NOT BROUGHT** to class are considered late assignments.
- **Copied work** is considered **PLAGIARISM** or **CHEATING** and is assigned a mark of "0".

## Missed Test/Assignment Policy

- Missed test due to extra-curricular activity: full opportunity for a different test will be given provided the teacher is informed of the absence **TWO DAYS** in advance.
- Missed test/assignment due to absence or family emergency: full opportunity for a rewrite or an alternate form of evaluation may be given. Parental/school documentation must be provided to the teacher before the commitment (if possible) for this policy to take effect.
- Tests in this course will be created similar to IB Geography exam questions. The scale for Ontario grades are provided for you.
- Missed test/assignment due to skip or unexplained absence/late: a mark of "0" will be assigned.

## **Grade 12 IB Geography Exam**

**\*\*Grade 12 final IB Geography exams are Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> (morning Paper 1) and Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> (morning Paper 2 & 3). This is worth 80% (HL) or 75% (SL) of your final IB Geography mark.**

## **Internal Assessment**

Graduating students must submit their *Geography IA* by Friday, September 25, 2015 for a final grade. Your lucky day! This is worth 20% (HL) or 25% (SL) of your final IB Geography mark.

## **Reporting**

Student achievement will be reported in all courses at the following times:

**Mark Update Week** - Oct 19 - 23

**Parents' Night** - October 29 - 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

**Interim Report Card Issued** - November 27 (tentative)

**Mark Update Week** - December 14 - 18

**Final Report Card Issued** - second week of February 2016

