

LISGAR COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE



DEPARTMENT: Social Sciences, Canadian & World Studies, and Law
COURSE NAME: Canadian & World Issues, Grade 12, University Preparation
COURSE CODE: CGW4U

OVERVIEW

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 geotechnologies 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.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 – Introduction

- Mapping, critical thinking, statistical & media literacy, global perspectives

Unit 2 – Demographic Issues

- Population theories, growth / decline and control, future & aging societies, gender disparities, migration, urbanization, globalization of disease (e.g. HIV/AIDS, SARS, H1N1)

Unit 3 – Economic Issues

- Geographic models of development, globalization, economic disparities, the global debt crisis, fair trade and social responsibility

Unit 4 – Environmental Issues

- Land and forest issues, global food supply, fresh water availability, energy issues and sustainability

Unit 5 - Geopolitics

- Ideology and conflict, the globalization of terrorism, global power structures today and tomorrow

OVERALL COURSE EXPECTATIONS:

In this course, students will be expected to provide evidence that they can:

A) Geographic Foundations: Space & Systems

A1 Explain how the earth's natural and human systems are interconnected in multiple, complex ways.

A2 Analyse the causes and effects of economic disparities around the world.

A3 Compare the cultural, economic, and political aspirations of selected groups and the effects of their actions on local, national, and global geographic issues.

B) Human-Environment Interactions

B1 Analyse the impact of selected global trends on people and environments at the local, national, and global level.

B2 Analyse geographic issues that arise from the impact of human activities on the environment in different regions of the world.

B3 Evaluate approaches, policies, and principles relating to the protection and sustainability of the planet's life-support systems.

C) Global Connections

C1 Analyse the influences that increase the interdependence of countries around the world.

C2 Analyse instances of international cooperation and conflict and explain the factors that contributed to each.

C3 Evaluate the social, economic, and environmental impact of the strategies for sustainable development implemented by a variety of individuals, organizations, and institutions.

D) Understanding & Managing Change

D1 Analyse trends and predict changes in the human use of the earth and its resources.

D2 Evaluate the cultural, economic, and environmental impact of changing technology.

D3 Evaluate the effectiveness of short-term and long-term solutions to geographic problems and issues at the local, national, and global level.

E) Methods of Geographic Inquiry & Communication

E1 Use the methods and tools of geographic inquiry to locate, gather, evaluate, and organize information.

E2 Analyse and interpret data gathered through research and investigation, using a variety of methods and geotechnologies.

E3 Communicate the results of geographic inquiries, using appropriate terms and concepts and a variety of forms and techniques.

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Primarily from assignments (mapping, graphing, surveys, research, presentations etc.), culminating activities & unit tests.

EVALUATION

Term Work – 70%

Though a variety of tasks throughout the semester (e.g. Tests, quizzes, projects, presentations, simulations, etc.)

Summative Performance Task – 10%

Research report and oral presentation

Exam – 20%

A summative written evaluation consisting of a variety of cumulative questions from throughout the course.

ATTENDANCE

If you are absent from class, you are expected to catch up what you missed and complete any relevant homework. When you return to class, you must show your teacher an Absence Verification Slip.

If you know in advance that you will be absent for a test, please see your teacher **before** the scheduled test date to arrange an alternate time to write it.

If you are unexpectedly absent for a valid reason on the day of a scheduled test, please let your teacher know why. When you return to class, remember to show an Absence Verification Slip from your homeroom teacher and a note from your parents indicating that they are aware you missed the test. An **unjustified absence** for a test may result in a **mark of zero**.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES & RESOURCES

- Global Connections: Canadian & World Issues, 2nd ed. – Pearson (Clark & Wallace) – cost \$90
- Oxford School Atlas
- Various internet sites (e.g. Population Reference Bureau)
- Field trips and guest speakers
- Please try to keep up with current events