



Grade 6: Geography COURSE SYLLABUS

GRADE LEVEL: 6

TEACHER: David Lein

SCHOOL YEAR: 2024-25

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In the Grade 6 geography course, students will begin with learning about the foundations of geography. Students will learn about the Five Themes of Geography, tools geographers use, climate zones, ecosystems, and time zones. Once this foundation is established, the course will traverse into the areas of history, governments, economic systems, culture, cultural diffusion, developed nations versus under-developed nations. This knowledge will be amalgamated to answer geography's essential questions: What is there and why is it there?

The course will then delve into the realms of Europe, Northern Eurasia, and Africa. The foundations will be implemented to provide a cogent understanding of these regions.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Reading Standards (Aligned with Common Core Curriculum Standards)

- a.) Students will identify the main point of the text and explain the supporting details used to supplement the main point.
- b.) Expect secondary texts from credible and valid sources such as BBC, PBS, National Geographic, and etc. The textbook only serves to provide a basic understanding. Supplementation is essential.

Writing Standards (Aligned with Common Core Curriculum Standards)

- a.) In this course, writing responses will be the bulk of the assessments.
- b.) You will be required to create structured responses which includes the information from the secondary sources. Working on properly citing your work will be required.

D'TORCH Standards

- a.) Students will adhere by the principles of the D'TORCH (Truthful, Organized, Reflective, Helpful, and Courageous)
- b.) Students will understand being respectful to every member of the school community is not just an expectation, but a requirement.

ASSESSMENT:

The quarterly grade will be awarded for all student work based on the following criteria:

- ✓ Class Participation, Graded Recitation, Quizzes and Tests- 30% of quarterly grade
- ✓ Major Projects and Assignments- 30% of quarterly grade
- ✓ Quarterly Exams- 30% of quarterly grade
- ✓ Department- 10% of quarterly grade

PRIMARY TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCES

Chu, G.H. & Holtgrieve, D. (2018). *World Geography: Eastern Hemisphere*. Pearson.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Behavioral Expectations

- Be on punctual and be prepared: Everyone is expected to be physically and mentally present. Participation is mandatory
- Be respectful at all times to all individuals. This includes speaking when granted permission to do so. All communication is required to be respectful. **Bullying in any shape or form will not be tolerated.**
- **Usage of electronic devices are prohibited unless allowed. Electronic devices are only to be used for school work.**
- Come ready and have fun learning.
- Only Speak English in the classroom

***For other discipline inquiries, please refer to the Dominican International School Student Handbook. Discipline will be instituted in accordance with the regulations of the handbook.**

Homework and Assignment Policy

- Late Homework or Assignments will be marked late and deducted 10 % for each day the assignment is late (up to a maximum of fifty percent).
- Quizzes, Exams, and major presentations are subjected to the same policy above.
***Penalties will only be avoided when a valid WRITTEN and SIGNED document is presented to the school.**
- **Plagiarism Policy: Any form of plagiarism or copying another individual or entity's work will be considered a violation of academic integrity and will at least result in a 0.**

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, the following:

1. Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work; and
2. Representing another's intellectual work such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, or research or the like as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
3. **Employing a tutor, making use of Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgement, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's own work.**
4. Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment. Included in academic dishonesty, is disproportionate group work.

1st QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 12th to 16th <u>4 Days of Class</u> 12~ First Day / Orientation Day 15~ Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady 8:00 15~ Induction of Class, Student Council Officers and DYM	Orientation *Syllabus overview, Class rules Topic 1: Lesson 1 Geography Basics The importance of cardinal directions vs intermediate directions. Latitude and longitude
Week 2 Aug 19th to 23rd	Topic 1: Lesson 1 Five Themes of Geography a.) Location (relative absolute) b.) Place (Human features and non-human features) c.) Region (different regions) d.) Movement e.) Human Interactions Ways Geographers Show Earth’s Surface (Tools and their limitations).
Week 3 Aug 26st to 30th 26~Fire drill? 26~Middle and High School Catholic Bridge Program (after assembly) 28~St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration	Topic 1: Lesson 1 Map Projections, and Understanding Maps a.) Map Reading b.) Map Projections c.) Distortions in map projections. Understanding Maps: Physical Maps versus Political Maps
Week 4 Sep 2nd to 6th 2~House Ceremony	Topic 1: Lesson 2 Our Planet, Earth Prime Meridian, and Time Zones Topic 1 Lesson 3: Climates and Ecosystems Climate versus Weather: Similarities and Differences Relationship between Latitude and Climate.
Week 5 Sep 9th to 13th 9~ Mass & Birthday Mother Mary & VIP Induction	Topic 1 Lesson 3: Climates and Ecosystems Ecosystem types Relationship between Ecosystems and Human environment interaction, Region, and movement.
Week 6 Sep 16th to 20th <u>1 Day of Class</u> 17~Moon Festival 18-20~ Teacher’s Conference	Topic 1 Lesson 3: Climates and Ecosystems *Finish Ecosystems
Week 7 Sep 23rd to 27th 24-26~Pre-Exam Days	Topic 1 Lesson 4: People and the Environment Natural Resources Renewable versus Non-Renewable Impacts of Human Activity: Industrialization, De-Forestation Over-Population Urbanization * Push and Pull Factors. Activity: Relation to the Five themes of Geography
Week 8 Sep 30th to Oct 4th	Review Week
Week 9 Oct 7th to 11th	Exam

<u>1 Day of Class</u> 7~Launching - Rosary Month and Bullying Prevention Day 8-9 ~Q1 Exams 10~Double Ten 11~Record Day	
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2nd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

<i>(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)</i>	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 14th to 18th <i>14~ Second Quarter Begins</i>	Topic 1 Lesson 6: Economics Economic Systems around the world. Comparative advantage. Topic 1 Lesson 7: Trade and Development Developed countries vs Developing. GDP vs GNP Trade imbalances Activity: How can history shape economies places have and how countries trade with each other?
Week 2 (11) Oct 21st to 25th <i>25 – Book Fair</i> <i>25- Masquerade Night</i>	Topic 1 Lesson 10: History Basics Methods of Measuring Time Primary versus Secondary Sources Historical Maps Archaeology versus Anthropology Activity: How can history shape culture?
Week 3 (12) Oct 28th to Nov 1st <i>1-All Saint's Day Mass</i>	Topic 1 Lesson 8 and 9: Governments and Citizenship Government types Relation between Government types and citizenship expectations. Activity: How can history and culture shape governments certain countries have?
Week 4 (13) Nov 4th to Nov 8th	Topic 4 Lesson 3: Living in Northern Eurasia Settlement Patterns in Eurasia Cultural Diversity and Religions in Russia
Week 5 (14) Nov 11th to 15th	Topic 4: Lesson 4: Northern Eurasia at Work Governments of Northern Eurasia Economies and reliance on Natural Resources.
Week 6 (15) Nov 18th to 22nd <i>22-Gr.12 Q2 Exam</i> <i>22 - YSC Contest</i>	Topic 4: Lesson 5 Challenges facing Eurasia Political Challenges, Economic Challenges, Governments Apply understanding of 5 themes Activity: Would Russia be considered a developing or developed country? .
Week 7 (16) Nov 25th to 29th <i>25-Gr.12 Q2 Exam</i> <i>26-28~Pre-Exam Day</i>	Topic 4: Lesson 2: Soviet Union and Break up Soviet Form of Control: Why Did communism thrive in Russia? Factors which contributed to the Fall of the Soviet Union Issues arisen from Putin's Russia Activity: How has history affected how Russia is the way it is today?
Week 8 (17) Dec 2nd to Dec 6th <u>6~Half Day</u>	Review Week

Foundation Day Celebrations	
Week 9 (18) Dec 9th to 13th 3 Days of Class 12-13 ~Q2 Exams	Exam Week
Dec 16th to Jan 3rd	Christmas Break

3rd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (19) Jan 6th to 10th 4 Days of Class 6~Record Day 7~Third Quarter Begins 10 ~ New Year Mass	Topic 5 Lesson 1: Human Origins What were the first migration patterns? What major developments helped spur migration Start Topic 5 Lesson 2: Ancient Egypt and Kush Five themes of Geography and Ancient Egypt Why was the physical area ideal for settlement?
Week 2 (20) Jan 13th to 17th	Topic 5 Lesson 3: Later African Civilizations, Songhai, Mali, Zimbabwe, Axum
Week 3 (21) Jan 20th to 24th	Topic 5 Lesson 4 Colonization and Independence in Africa Historical Map Colonial and Post-Colonial Era Problems in Africa such as Rwanda, Introduce Project: Africa Awareness PBL.
Jan 27th to Jan 31st	Chinese New Year
Week 4 (22) Feb 3rd to 7th	Topic 5 Lesson 7: Challenges Facing Africa Issues, Environmental disasters, conflicts. Content will be introduced to help with research. *Project Work. Topic 5 Lesson 5: Living in Africa Water importance, Environmental effects, Religion, and Ethnic Diversity Content will help with the project *Project Work.
Week 5 (23) Feb 10th to 14th 1-14~Catholic Week	Topic 5 Lesson 6: Africa at work Economic Divide, Literacy Rate divide *Project Work Research Economic Divide, Literacy
Week 6 (24) Feb 17th to 21st	Topic 5 Lesson 7: Challenges Facing Africa Issues, Environmental disasters, conflicts. Content will be introduced to help with research. *Project Work.
Week 7 (25) Feb 24th to 28th 4 Days of Class 24~Lenten Mass? 25-27 ~ Pre-Exam Days 24-27~IOWA Assessments 28 ~ Memorial Day Holiday	Review: Topic 5 Lesson 7: Challenges Facing Africa Issues, Environmental disasters, conflicts. Content will be introduced to help with research. *Project Work. Students find issues for certain African Country. * Finalize projects.

Week 8 (26) March 3rd to 7th <i>5~ Ash Wednesday</i>	Project Presentation
Week 9 (27) March 10th to 14th <u>4 Days of Class</u> <i>14 – Q3 Exams</i>	

4th QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (28) March 17th 21st <u>4 Days of Class</u> <i>17 – Q3 Exams</i> <i>18~ Fourth Quarter Begins</i> <i>18~ Fire Drill?</i> <i>19~ Feast of St. Joseph</i>	Topic 2: Lesson 1 Early European Cultures Migration patterns Art Cave drawings Agriculture
Week 2 (29) March 24th to 28th	Topic 2: Lesson 2 Ancient Greece History of Ancient Greece Cultural Diffusion of Greek Achievements City-States and reasons for the formation of City States Topic 2: Lesson 3: Ancient Rome Roman Government Roman Achievement, Christianity and the Roman Empire Activity: How have Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome shaped Europe today?
Week 3 (30) March 31st to April 4th <u>4 Days of Class</u> <i>4~Tomb Sweeping</i>	Topic 2: Lesson 7 Enlightenment and its Effects on Europe Industrial Revolution and Rise of Imperialism. Enlightenment.
Week 4 (31) Apr 7th to 11th	Topic 2: Lesson 8 Hot and Cold War in Europe World War I and II Causes Cold War Activity: Exploring continuity and change in Europe’s past. The juxtaposition of rights but prevalence of violent conflict.
April 14th to April 18th	Easter Break
Week 5 (32) Apr 21st to 25th <i>23~Easter Mass</i> <i>21-25 ~ AP Mock Exams</i> <i>26~Spring Fair</i>	Topic 3: Lesson 2: Living and Working in Europe Europe’s Economies, Education, and both England and Germany. Topic 3 Lesson 4 : Governments of Europe England and Germany’s Governments. Activity: Exploring which elements of Europe’s history resulted in Europe’s economic and political developments. Topic 3 Lesson 1: Europe’s Cultural Diversity Covering Recent Migrations in Europe Climate Change Infertility Demographic Changes Aging population Living costs. Activity: Exploring how Europe’s history and culture have created these challenges.

<p>Week 6 (33) Apr 28th to May 2nd 4/29-5/1~ Pre-Exam Days 1-2~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12 only)</p>	<p>Topic 3 Lesson 4: Challenges Facing Europe Climate Change Infertility Demographic Changes Aging population Living costs. Activity: Exploring how Europe’s history and culture have created these challenges.</p>
<p>Week 7 (34) May 5th to 9th 5-9~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12 only) 5-9 ~ AP Exams</p>	<p>Review Week</p>
<p>Week 8 (35) May 12th to 16th 4 Days of Class 14-15~ Q4 Exam 16~ Record Day 12-16 ~ AP Exams</p>	<p>Exam</p>
<p>Week 9 (36) May 19th to 23rd 19-23 ~ Student Clearance 19~ Baccalaureate Mass 23~Gr. 6 – 7 Recognition and Gr. 8 Graduation</p>	
<p>Week 10 (37) May 26th to 30th 4 Days of Class 26~House Culminating Activity 27~Gr. 9-11 Recognition and Gr. 12 Graduation 28! Class Party 29- ~ Students Last Day 30~ Teachers/Staff Meeting</p>	