

Tree of Life School

*"Wisdom is a tree of life to those to those who embrace her."
Proverbs 3:18*

Geography of Canada and the World Course Outline

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Course Outline

Introduction

The term “geography” usually conjures up images of maps, place names, compasses, and the like. However, as important as the physical aspect of the study of geography is, the subject is much more than this. Economy, culture, transportation, etc. also play a part in understanding the “geography” of a region or a country. This course will help you do just that. You will, of course, learn much about the physical characteristics of various places in our world. But you will also learn how these characteristics play a role in helping to shape the cultures found there. In addition, this course offers in particular a more in depth look at the Dominion of Canada. Here you will learn of the varied nature of the topography of this country, its people, and the way it governs itself.

How to Work Through the Course

This course has been divided into a **140 day schedule**. This will allow the student to follow a **four-day school week** and still complete the course in a normal academic year. The **fifth day** of each week can be used to **catch up on assignments**, do **extra reading**, or simply **take the day off** from the course. If, however, a five-day school week is more desirable, the student is encouraged to pursue this course of action and will be rewarded by an early completion of the material. Care has been taken to provide specific instructions for each day’s work. Therefore, **all work is to be completed in the order presented in the daily schedule**.

Calculating Your Final Grade

Your final grade will be based on a series of tests, projects, and completion of your notebook. There are 5 tests in all worth 30% of your final mark. There are also 6 projects or assignments worth 60% of your final mark. Finally, your completed notebook will be worth 10% of your final mark.

You will also notice that the daily schedule refers to two different editions of the Geography textbook. If you have a copy of the text Geography 2nd edition, follow the reading instructions for that text. If you have a copy of the text Cultural Geography 4th edition, follow the reading instructions for that text.

Daily Schedule

DAY 1 – Spend half an hour looking over the course outline and text. Note the course requirements, projects and daily work that will be expected of you this the year by studying the assignment planner and table of contents. Remember that you will be asked to keep a notebook this year and are required to show it to your parents. It's part of your final mark! It is suggested that you label each new section of your notebook so that it corresponds to the Day on your schedule. (Ex. DAY 1, DAY 2, etc.) Also note the structure of your text, the chapters within each unit and the different headings within each chapter. Scan through the text, and get a feel for what words are usually bolded or italicized, and the different questions asked in section reviews. Once you have looked over all your material carefully, put your books away for the day. You get to start reading tomorrow!

DAY 2 – Today, depending on which edition you have, read pages 2-7 in your text, Geography 2nd Edition or pages 13-18 in your text Cultural Geography 4th Edition. Stop at Map Projections. Read the entire section without taking any notes. Mentally note what you believe to be the key ideas and definitions.

Next, take out your notebook and make sure you define the following terms: *cartography, topography, hemisphere, latitude, longitude*.

Next, answer the following questions in your notebook:

1. Define the term “geography”. Also list the two main branches of geography.
2. What is the 0° latitude called?
3. What is the 0° longitude called?

These questions/answers will serve as helpful study references when you are preparing for your test. Make sure you have defined all the required terms and answered all the questions listed.

Finally, in your notebook find the location of your home on a world map. What is the approximate longitude and latitude? Check suggested answer at the end of this study guide.

DAY 3 – Today, depending on which edition you have, read pages 7-14 in your text, Geography 2nd Edition or pages 18-24 in your text Cultural Geography 4th Edition. This section covers Map Projections and Graphic Relief maps. You will need to have a working knowledge of graphic relief maps for your first project, so make sure you understand the material. Read the entire section without taking notes. Mentally note what you believe to be the key ideas and definitions.

Next, take out your notebook and define the following terms: *map projection, distortion, contour lines, contour intervals*.

Next, answer the following questions in your notebook:

1. What are the four types of distortion on flat maps?
2. What is the term for a map that shows the altitude of land features?

3. Explain the difference between a contour line and a contour interval.

These questions/answers will serve as helpful study references when you are preparing for your test. Make sure you have defined all the required terms and answered all the questions listed.

Finally, in your notebook answer the following two “Application Questions”.

1. What map projection would you use to show the nation of Russia?
2. What colour shows land below sea level? Why is this colour never next to the sea?

Check suggested answers at the end of this study guide.

DAY 4 – Today, depending on which edition you have, read pages 17-24 in your text, Geography 2nd Edition or pages 27-32 in your text Cultural Geography 4th Edition. Read the entire section without taking notes. Mentally note what you believe to be the key ideas and definitions.

Next, take out your notebook and define the following terms: *crust, mantle, core, continent*.

Next, answer the following questions in your notebook:

1. What is uniformitarianism? What biblical view better explains the changes in the world’s land formations?
2. What are the three divisions or basic landforms of the earth?
3. What are the seven continents? Which one is often considered part of another continent?

These questions/answers will serve as helpful study references when you are preparing for your test. Make sure you have defined all the required terms and answered all the questions listed.

Finally, in your notebook answer the following two “Application Questions”.

1. How is mixing cement a useful way to explain the softness of the Earth after the Flood but its hardness today?
2. Does any continent touch all four oceans?

Check suggested answers at the end of this study guide.

DAY 5 - 7 – NOTE: You can take two or three days to do this section. Today, depending on which edition you have, read pages 26-35 in your text, Geography 2nd Edition or pages 33-40 in your text Cultural Geography 4th Edition. Read the entire section without taking notes. Mentally note what you believe to be the key ideas and definitions.

Next, take out your notebook and define the following terms: *river system, tectonic activity, faults, folds, weathering, erosion*.

Next, answer the following questions in your notebook:

1. What are the two main reasons that water is important to human activity?
2. What four factors must you consider when you compare rivers? What river system is the greatest in each category?
3. What evidence supports the plate tectonic theory?
4. What is the difference between weathering and erosion?
5. List four forces that cause erosion.
6. What does weathering help produce that is essential for life on the earth?

These questions/answers will serve as helpful study references when you are preparing for your test. Make sure you have defined all the required terms and answered all the questions listed.

Finally, in your notebook answer the following “Application Question”.

1. If deformational mountains are formed from earthquakes, and depositional mountains are formed from volcanoes, how do you think erosional mountains are formed?

Check suggested answer at the end of this study guide.

DAY 8 - 10 – NOTE: You can take two or three days to do this section. Today, depending on which edition you have, read pages 37-44 in your text, Geography 2nd Edition or pages 41-44 in your text Cultural Geography 4th Edition. Read the entire section without taking notes. Mentally note what you believe to be the key ideas and definitions.

Next, take out your notebook and define the following terms: *Coriolis Effect, low pressure zone, high pressure zone, Gulf Stream*.

Next, answer the following questions in your notebook:

1. Why does latitude affect temperature?
2. What causes the changes of seasons?
3. What causes wind?
4. How does the Coriolis Effect change the direction of wind?
5. What are the three belts of prevailing winds?
6. Why does the wind on one side of a continent sometimes flow in a different direction from the wind on the other side?

These questions/answers will serve as helpful study references when you are preparing for your test. Make sure you have defined all the required terms and answered all the questions listed.

Finally, in your notebook answer the following “Application Questions”.

1. Do the tropics have four seasons?
2. Compare and contrast the role of wind and ocean currents in distributing heat (thermal energy).

Check suggested answers at the end of this study guide.

DAY 11 & 12 – Note: You can take two days to do this section. Today, depending on which edition you have, read pages 45-56 in your text, Geography 2nd Edition or pages 44-54 in your text Cultural Geography 4th Edition. Read the entire section without taking notes. Mentally note what you believe to be the key ideas and definitions.

Next, take out your notebook and define the following terms: *humidity, dew point, precipitation, arid*.

Next, answer the following questions in your notebook:

1. What is the difference between condensation and precipitation?
2. Describe/Define the hydrological cycle.
3. What are the three main situations that contribute to precipitation? Which one is the most obvious on a climate map?
4. What is the difference between climate and weather?
5. Name and state the differences of the four main types of moderate climates.
6. How does altitude affect temperature?
7. What are the three basic biomes?
8. Contrast coniferous and deciduous forests.
9. What are the two types of grasslands and the main distinction between them?

These questions/answers will serve as helpful study references when you are preparing for your test. Make sure you have defined all the required terms and answered all the questions listed.

Finally, in your notebook answer the following “Application Questions”.

1. Consider the effect of prevailing winds and currents. Why do you think the mountains on the east coast of the United States are wet whereas the mountains in California are wet on the west side but dry on the east side?
2. Why are there no moderate climates in the Tropics even though they receive lots of sun and rain?
3. Should every country strive for sustainable development? Explain.

Check suggested answers at the end of this study guide.

DAY 13 – In the last lesson you completed Unit I. Next stop is Unit II and two more chapters. Upon completion of this unit you will be writing your first test. If you have been doing a good job with your daily notes and questions, preparing for that test will be a breeze! Keep that in mind. But, for now, let’s get started on the next unit.

Today, depending on which edition you have, read pages 60-69 in your text, Geography 2nd Edition or pages 59-70 in your text Cultural Geography 4th Edition. Read the entire section without taking notes. Mentally note what you believe to be the key ideas and definitions.

Next, take out your notebook and define the following terms: *primary industry, subsistence farming, natural resources, alloy*.

