



Physical Geography 12

Course Outline

Course Overview

Physical Geography 12 is a comprehensive course, which examines the world around us from both a regional and global perspective using the five themes of geography, namely location, place, human/environmental interaction, movement and regions. Learners will investigate physical geography topics such as the cause and effects of plate tectonics, gradational processes, weather and climate, biospheres and energy, and then apply this knowledge to understanding some of the many of the problems associated with managing our environment including various types of pollution and their role in global warming and global dimming.

Course Content and Suggested Timelines

The suggested timeline is based on students aiming to complete the course in one semester (5 months). Double the timeframes for two semesters (10 months).

Physical Geography: Unit 1 - Earth's Surface and Tectonic Processes - Unit 1 examines some of the many forces that are shaping and building our active planet resulting in earthquakes, volcanoes and mountain ranges. (Suggested time: 2 weeks)

Physical Geography: Unit 2 – Gradational Processes - This unit examines the gradational forces which wear down our planet and undo many of the creations of the tectonic forces studied in Unit 1. Gradational forces include weathering, mass wasting, glacial ice, wave action, wind and more. (Suggested time: 2 weeks)

Physical Geography: Unit 3 – Weather and Climate - In Unit 3 you will examine the causes and characteristics of weather including the atmosphere, air masses, global winds, and the water cycle as well as how weather patterns have created the different climates of the world. (Suggested time: 2 weeks)

Physical Geography: Unit 4 – Biosphere - Unit 4 focuses on all life on earth including plants, animals and humans and how they interact with each other and their physical environment. Study topics include ecosystems, biomes, climate change, soil degradation and the human factor. (Suggested time: 2 weeks)

Physical Geography: Unit 5 - Topographic Mapping - An important skill in geography is the ability to read and interpret maps. This unit teaches map measurement and topographical mapping skills including map scale, grid references, landscape relief and map symbols. (Suggested time: 3 weeks)

Energy and Environment: Unit 1 - Energy – This is the first of two Energy and Environment units. The focus of this unit is on the rising demand and consumption of energy as more countries become industrialized and the world population continues to grow. Topics of study include conventional energy sources such as oil, coal, natural gas, and hydro electricity along with alternative means such as solar, wind, biomass and nuclear power. Also ways to conserve energy use and possible energy sources for the future will be examined. (Suggested time: 2 weeks)

Energy and Environment: Unit 2 - Managing Our Environment - In this unit the focus is on pollution and dealing with waste products. Topics including the Greenhouse effect, acid rain, ozone depletion, salt and fresh water pollution, waste management options, dealing with hazardous wastes and more will be studied. (Suggested time: 2 weeks)

Unit 8: Research Project - Although this is the final unit you do not have to wait until the end of the course to begin planning and working on your research project. The goal is to take a topic of interest (to YOU) that was covered in this course and do some additional research to learn more about the topic. Then present your research findings in an online slide presentation using MS PowerPoint or a similar program. You can also choose to present a speech. Your research topic must be pre-approved by your teacher. (Suggested time: 3 weeks)

Course Materials

The course uses one of the two following resource books:

1. *Geography 12 Student Textbook- 4th Edition by Henry P. Sovio.*
2. *Studies in Physical Geography + Energy and Environment Textbooks 1st Ed. by Henry P. Sovio.*

One of these workbook versions will be mailed to you once you have read through the course introduction documents. The first unit of the textbook has been scanned into the course, so you can start working, while you wait for the textbook to arrive by mail.

For learning outcomes, performance standards, required resources, and assessment strategies, go to: <http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/kindergarten-to-grade-12/teach/pdfs/curriculum/socialstudies/2006geography12.pdf>

Assessment Information

<p>Matching Questions: These matching questions will be answered online. You may use your resource book for help with this work.</p>	10% of Course
<p>Multiple Choice Questions: These multiple choice questions are located in your resource book in Unit 8. You will be answering these questions initially on paper, not in your resource book, then inputting your answers online where they will be marked automatically so you will quickly see how you did. You may use your resource book for help with these questions.</p>	10% of Course
<p>Focus Questions: Your resource book contains a set of focus questions for each unit of study. Think of these focus questions as a way of creating a set of study notes for the unit. Therefore it is strongly advised that you take the time to answer them using information in the resource book, but please do not write answers in the resource book!</p> <p>A small number of these focus questions have been selected to answer online. You must use your resource book for help with these questions.</p> <p>I am only asking for a small sample of the resource book focus questions to be submitted. You are still responsible for being able to answer the other focus questions should they appear in the unit quizzes. So it is important that when reviewing for your unit quizzes to ensure that you are prepared to answer any of the focus questions in each unit.</p>	30% of Course
<p>Unit Quizzes: Unit quizzes are completed online and are "closed book" meaning that you may not use your resource book or any</p>	25% of Course

<p>other reference, living or nonliving, to help answer the quiz questions.</p> <p>You may be required to attend a center near your home to complete supervised tests or assignments in this course. If so, your email address may be provided to the testing center to help in booking your sessions. If you disagree with your email address being used in this way, please contact your teacher.</p>	
<p>Final Research Project: This should be done as the final part of the Geography 12 course once you have covered most of the material. Select a topic to research that is relevant to a topic covered in this course (must be pre-approved by your teacher) and present it as an online slide show using MS PowerPoint or a similar program. Minimum 20 slides not including title slide and a bibliography (references) slide. You also have the option of doing a speech or another presentation style of your choosing (must be teacher-approved).</p>	<p>25% of Course</p>

When Students are not Meeting the Learning Outcomes/Falling Behind

While E-Bus is self-paced, you are expected to stay actively engaged in the course. If you fall behind and do not hand in an assignment for four or more weeks (without notifying me with a plan) you will receive reminder emails until you catch back up. Students may be contacted via phone as well, if deemed necessary.

This process escalates with each reminder email sent, to the point where we have to make a decision about you continuing in the course. Your parents will be contacted as will the administration at that point. If you are not meeting the outcomes for the course you will receive an I plan and your parents will be contacted to discuss your plan for completing the course.

Without a response or renewed efforts in the course, the student may be assigned an F or withdrawn. Should they begin actively working in the course, the student may be given an alternate completion date.

Expectations

- Adhere to the EBUS Academic Integrity Policy
- Contact your teacher when help is needed
- Review feedback from assignments and tests, where applicable
- Work to complete the course in a timely manner
- Communicate respectfully
- Review weekly progress reports

Reporting to Parents:

There are 4 term report cards that can be downloaded from the student dashboard. A notice will go out when these report cards are available.

Every week that EBUS is in Session the teacher will send out a progress report showing the student's progress.

Contacting Your Teacher:

Your teacher will be available Monday through Friday, during regular school hours. If you are having trouble with any concepts, please contact your teacher right away!

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