



Tohoku International School

Secondary School Course Syllabus

Course Title: World Geography	Teacher: Mr. Jordan Nogaki Email: jnogaki@tisweb.net
Grade Level(s): Grade 7-8	Time Frame: 37 weeks
Brief Course Description: Students in Grade 7-8 will study world geography as it relates to the following topics: Physical features, maps, migration, culture, government and trade and resources.	
Course Objectives By the end of this course students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Appreciate physical and human geographic phenomena (e.g. governmental structure, climates, migration, trade)● Understand how these phenomena work together and affect each other● Apply their understanding of the world to analyze real situations and current events● Create useful content (e.g. videos, posters, written reports or essays) in order to help inform our TIS community about Geography	
Course Philosophy: Geography is the study of the world around us and how we live in it. Physical Geography teaches us how to understand the features we see around us. Human Geography allows us to explore how we live and interact on the earth. We will use a variety of textbooks, online resources and local sources to deepen our knowledge of the world around us. It is important for students to experience Geography through as many mediums as possible.	
Assessments: Group Projects – 30% Teamwork, effective communication with group members, appropriate problem solving skills, equal division of work, as well as successful completion of the task and a clear presentation to the class are all considerations when grading group projects. Individual Assignments – 30% In a unit, individual assignments offset the group projects. Time management, overall quality of the assignment and demonstration of subject knowledge are all considerations when marking assignments. End of Unit Test or Project – 30% Students are expected to complete end of unit tests or projects individually. They are the culminating, summative assessment for a unit. For projects, students will be given some class time, but students should expect to also work on their projects at home. Students will be given at least 1 week notice before an end of unit test or project. Learning Skills – 10% Attendance, organization, homework completion and the ability to take initiative and work independently and in groups all play a role in student success and are important for achieving course expectations.	

World Geography (cont'd)

Additional Notes:

2018-2019 Units of Study

Physical Geography	What is Geography? What tools do we have to learn about the world? What are physical features and where do they occur? How do physical features affect our lives and how we organize ourselves?
Migration	Why do people move? How does migration of people affect the populations at the origin and destination? What are some of the greatest migrations in history?
Culture Story	What is culture? How and why does culture change over time? What geographic forces in history have shaped culture (physical, economic, climate etc)? How and why does culture change over time?
Trade & Resources	How do we use resources (natural and human) and how can we take care of the resources we have? Why do we trade, and what are the impacts of trade?
Government	What kinds of governments are there? Why are there different countries (why are the lines on maps where they are)? Why do nations become "friendly" or "unfriendly"? What is the UN and is it a government? What are the levels of government (local, national, multinational etc)