



Canadian and World Issues: A Geographic Analysis

Course: CGW4U

Program Area: Canadian & World Studies

Teacher: R. Williams

Program Leader: T. Gunn

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Course Description: In this course, students will address the challenge of creating a more sustainable and equitable world. They will explore issues involving a wide range of topics, including economic disparities, threats to the environment, globalization, human rights, and quality of life, and will analyse government policies, international agreements, and individual responsibilities relating to them. Students will apply the concepts of geographic thinking and the geographic inquiry process, including the use of spatial technologies, to investigate these complex issues and their impacts on natural and human communities around the world. The curriculum can be found at the following link:

[Canadian & World Studies Curriculum Document](#)

Big Ideas (overall learning outcomes for the course):

- The world is diverse and complex.
- Equality is not possible, but equity is - we have a right to live in a world where equity exists.
- Change is inevitable but the rate at which change occurs depends on many internal/external factors.
- It is not possible for humans to be completely sustainable, but we should strive for it.

Instructional Strategies: Westside teaching staff will use a variety of instructional strategies to help students develop and improve skills in the following areas: character, citizenship, communication, critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration and teamwork, and creativity and imagination.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Formative assessments are used to improve student learning by providing varied opportunities to demonstrate an understanding of course expectations in preparation for summative evaluations. Summative evaluations test groups of key expectations. Failure to complete a summative evaluation may result in the expectations of the course not being met and the credit not being granted.

More details about Westside's Assessment and Evaluation Policy is available

at: <http://www.ugdsb.ca/westside/wp-content/uploads/sites/74/2016/12/Westside-Assessment.pdf>

The following soft skills will be assessed:

Responsibility, Organization, Independent Work, Collaboration, Initiative, Self-Regulation

Achievement Categories: Student learning is assessed and evaluated with respect to the following four categories of knowledge and skills.	Knowledge & Understanding: 25%	Thinking: 25%
	Communication: 25%	Application: 25%

Late Policy:
 Students are expected to complete all assigned work and submit it by the teacher's established due date. Every attempt will be made to encourage students to complete all assigned work on time so their grade represents their actual achievement. For late and missed summative assessments, please see the ***Westside Students' Contract for Missing Evidence of Learning***.
[WSS Student Contract](#)

Assessment & Units of Study

Term Work: 50 %	Critical Thinking: 20 %	Final Assessment: 30 %
Unit 1 - Introduction to World Issues Assignment Unit 2 - Meeting our Basic Needs Test & Assignment Unit 3 - Human - Environment Interaction Test & Assignment Unit 4 - Becoming More Equitable Test & Assignment	Democratic Discourse Inquiry Problem Solving	♦ 15 % Assignment in last 2 weeks ♦ 15 % Formal Exam in January

I have read and understand the Course Outline:

Student Name: _____

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____