



Social Studies 6 **COURSE SYLLABUS**

GRADE LEVEL: 6

SCHOOL YEAR: 2022-23

TEACHER: David Lein

EMAIL: dlein@dishs.tp.edu.tw

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

In the Grade 6 geography course, students will begin by learning about the foundations of geography. Students will learn about the Five Themes of Geography, geographers' tools, 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, and developed nations versus under-developed nations. This knowledge will be amalgamated to answer geography's essential question: What is and why is it there?

The course will then delve into 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, 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 include information from secondary sources. Working on properly citing your work will be required.

D'TORCH Standards

- a.) Students will adhere to the principles of the D'TORCH (Truthful, Organized, Reflective, Helpful, and Courageous)
- b.) Students will understand that 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 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 is 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

<i>(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)</i>	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 10th to 11th <u>Only 2 School Days</u> <i>10 ~ First Day / Orientation Day</i>	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 14th to 18th <i>15 ~ Opening Mass</i>	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 21st to 25th	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 Aug 28th to Sep 1st	Topic 1: Lesson 2 Our Planet, Earth Prime Meridian, and Time Zones Activity: Time Zones and the effect on Human Interactions.
Week 5 Sep 4th to 8th <i>8 ~ Holy Mass & VIP Induction</i>	Topic 1 Lesson 3: Climates and Ecosystems Climate versus Weather: Similarities and Differences Relationship between Latitude and Climate. Relationship between Ecosystems and Human environment interaction, Region, and movement.

Week 6 Sep 11th to 15th <i>12-14 ~ Pre-Exam Days</i>	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 7 Sep 18th to 22nd	Topic 1: Lesson 5 Culture and Society What is culture? Relationship between Geography and culture. Society, Structure and Social Classes. Language Activity: What places in the world do you find certain cultures?
Week 8 Sep 25th to 29th No Classes <i>25-28 ~Teacher's Conference</i> <i>29 – Moon Festival Holiday</i>	
Week 9 Oct 2nd to 6th 3 Days of Class <i>5-6 ~Q1 Exams</i>	Review and Exam

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 9th to 13th 3 Days of Class <i>9-10 – Double 10 Holiday</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 2 (11) Oct 16th to 20th	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 3 (12) Oct 23rd to 27th	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) Oct 30th to Nov 3rd <i>1 - All Saint's Day Mass</i>	Topic 4 Lesson 3: Living in Northern Eurasia Settlement Patterns in Eurasia Cultural Diversity and Religions in Russia
Week 5 (14) Nov 6th to 10th	Topic 4: Lesson 4: Northern Eurasia at Work Governments of Northern Eurasia Economies and reliance on Natural Resources.
Week 6 (15) Nov 13th to 17th	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 20th to 24th	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) Nov 27th to Dec 1st	Topic 4 Lesson 1: Introduce Russia Silk Road, Russian Clans, Physical Geography Vikings, Kievan Rus, and The Mongol Invasion, Viking Invasions Causes of Imperial Age Ends. Activity: How has Russia's history shaped the developments seen Topic 4 Lessons 2 to 4.
Week 9 (18) Dec 4th to 8th <i>8 - Foundation Day Celebrations</i>	Review
Week 10 (19) Dec 11th to 15th <u>3 Days of Class</u> <i>14-15 ~ Q2 Exams</i>	Review and Exam.
Dec 18th to Jan 1st	Christmas Holiday

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 (20) Jan 3rd to 5th <u>3 Days of Class</u> <i>4 ~ New Year Mass</i>	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 (21) Jan 8th to 12th	Topic 5 Lesson 3: Later African Civilizations, Songhai, Mali, Zimbabwe, Axum
Week 3 (22) Jan 15th to 19th	Topic 5 Lesson 4 Colonization and Independence in Africa Historical Map Colonial and Post-Colonial Era Problems in Africa such as Rwanda, <u>Introduce Project: Africa Awareness PBL.</u>
Week 4 (23) Jan 22nd to 26th	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 (24) Jan 29th to Feb 2nd	Topic 5 Lesson 6: Africa at work Economic Divide, Literacy Rate divide *Project Work Research Economic Divide, Literacy
Week 6 (25) Feb 5th to 9th <u>3 Days of Class</u> <i>8-9 ~ CNY</i>	Topic 5 Lesson 7: Challenges Facing Africa Issues, Environmental disasters, conflicts. Content will be introduced to help with research. *Project Work.
Feb 8th to 16th	CNY Holiday
Week 7 (26) Feb 19th to 23rd <i>19 ~ Lenten Mass</i> <i>21-23 ~ Pre-Exam Days</i>	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 (27) Feb 26th to March 1st <u>4 Days of Class</u> <i>28 ~ 228 Memorial Day Holiday</i>	Group presentations: Review
Week 9 (28) March 4th to 8th <u>4 Days of Class</u> <i>8 ~ Q3 Exams</i>	Review Exam.

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 (29) March 11th to 15th 4 Days of Class <i>11 ~ Q3 Exams</i> <i>12 ~ Q4 Begins</i>	Topic 2: Lesson 1 Early European Cultures Migration patterns Art Cave drawings Agriculture
Week 2 (30) March 18th to 22nd <i>18-21 ~ Fire Drill</i>	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?
March 25th to Apr 5th	Easter Holiday
Week 3 (31) Apr 8th to 12th <i>10 ~ Easter Mass</i>	Topic 2: Lesson 5: The Middle Ages Feudalism, Kingdoms Crusades, Black Death. Topic 2: Lesson 6 Renaissance and Rival Kingdoms Renaissance, Absolute Rule and Wars between Rivals Activity: Exploring a possible cycle in Europe and continuity of violence.
Week 4 (33) Apr 15th to 19th	Topic 2: Lesson 7 Enlightenment and its Effects on Europe Industrial Revolution and Rise of Imperialism. Enlightenment. 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.
Week 5 (34) Apr 22th to 26th <i>22-26 ~ AP Mock Exams</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.
Week 6 (35) Apr 29th to May 3rd <i>1-2 ~ Pre-Exam</i> <i>1-10~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12 only)</i> <i>4/29 – 5/10 ~ AP Exams</i>	Topic 3 Lesson 1: Europe's Cultural Diversity Covering Recent Migrations in Europe 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.
Week 7 (36) May 6th to 10th <i>1-10~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12 only)</i>	Review Week and finishing content

<i>4/29 – 5/10 ~ AP Exams</i>	
Week 8 (37) May 13th to 17th <u>2 Days of Class</u> <i>15-16 ~ Q4 Exams</i> <i>17 ~ Record Day</i>	Review and Exam
Week 9 (38) May 20th to 24th <u>ACTIVITIES:</u> Double check the school calendar and emails from the administration.	----- <i>20-24 ~ Student Clearance Days</i> <i>21 ~ Baccalaureate Mass for Graduating classes</i> <i>22 & 23 ~ Middle & High School Sports Day</i> <i>23 ~ Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4 Recognition/Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion</i> <i>24 ~ Gr. 6 – 7 Recognition and Gr. 8 Graduation</i> <i>24 ~ Lower School Sports Day</i>
Week 10 (39) May 27th to 31st <u>ACTIVITIES:</u> Double check the school calendar and emails from the administration.	----- <i>27 ~ House Culminating Activity</i> <i>28 ~ Gr. 9-11 Recognition and Gr. 12 Graduation</i> <i>29 ~ Class Party</i> <i>30 ~ Last Day of School & Report Card Distribution (half day)</i> <i>31 ~ Teachers/Staff Meeting</i>