

## **CANADIAN AND WORLD STUDIES DEPARTMENT GRADE 9 CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY**

Every Ontario Highschool Graduate is required to successfully complete 2.5 credits in Canadian and World Studies. The required courses are Grade 9 Canadian Geography, Grade 10 Canadian History and Civics. These 2.5 courses provide students not only with the foundation to be successful in future Canadian and World Studies or Social Science courses, but to be well informed and active Canadian and Global Citizens.

In Grade 9 our students begin the ever important journey to becoming knowledgeable citizens by studying the physical and human geography of Canada and its ever-growing role in the wider world.

The course uses a variety of frameworks, including ecozones and principles of physical, human and economic geography, to explore Canada's distinct and evolving character. Students will investigate the interconnections among landforms, climate, soils, plants, animals and human activities in Canadian ecozones to develop geographic knowledge and skills that contribute to an understanding of Canada's diversity and its role in the world.

### **Units Covered in the Course:**

1. Canada's Global Connections
2. Canada's Natural Diversity
3. Canada's People
4. Canada's Resources Stewardship
5. Canada's Economic Diversity

### **Course Evaluation - Academic:**

Knowledge & Understanding	25%	Term Work	55%
Thinking & Inquiry	25%	Mapping Portfolio	5%
Communication	25%	Research Paper	10%
Application	25%	Culminating Activity	10%
		Final Examination	20%

### **Course Evaluation - Applied:**

Knowledge & Understanding	25%	Term Work	60%
Thinking	25%	Mapping Portfolio	5%
Communication	25%	Research Paper	5%
Application	25%	Culminating Activity	15%
		Final Examination	15%

## ACADEMIC VS. APPLIED : WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

### Course Differences

**Academic:** An academic course is more holistic in its presentation of the material and takes a more theoretical approach. Students move beyond the facts to make connections. The expectation is that students can work independently.

**Applied:** An applied course is more compartmentalized in its presentation of the material and takes a more hands on approach. Students move beyond the facts in a more direct way to make connections. Students are given more guidance in their work.

### You are an Academic Student if....

- You can begin a task immediately and stay on task.
- You take your time to complete an assignment with care.
- You enjoy reading and are a self-guided reader.
- You prefer to move beyond the facts to see connections.
- Your written and oral communication are equal in strength.

### You are an Applied Student if...

- You need to be reminded to stay on task.
- You finish an assignment just to hand it in.
- You prefer to be guided through reading assignments.
- You prefer to get the facts and only the facts.
- Your oral communication is stronger than your writing.

Please note:

- students do not have to take all their courses in academic or applied, they can match their strengths and choose different streams accordingly.
- Contrary to popular belief, students who take applied courses in Grade 9 and 10 can move in to academic/university stream courses in Grade 11 and 12 and get into university programs.
- It is extremely important you choose the appropriate level of study to ensure not only your success in the course, but in laying the foundation for future success.