**GEOGRAPHIC ISSUES ‐ GE20F**

*Geography is far from just the study of maps. It is a multifaceted discipline that includes the analysis of landforms, vegetation, climates, and natural resources, and their impact on human activities and settlements.*

*In this course students will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of topics ranging from concepts such as: Energy Return on Investment; globalization; consumerism; GMO’s; sustainable development; free trade; fair trade, and more. This course most importantly is based around learning to form opinions based upon fact-based information synthesis.*

**Course Work**

Students are expected to learn to communicate through Brightspace to their teacher and be able to autonomously take charge in this guided learning experience.

**This Course Contains Five Units:**

**Geographic Literacy**

This unit introduces geography as a key tool in decision-making, blending the study of physical and human geography with an understanding of global environmental types. It emphasizes the connection between geography, identity, and perception, and teaches students to map and analyze geographic features and population patterns. The unit concludes by stressing the importance of environmental stewardship and the role of geography in appreciating and protecting the Earth's complex ecosystems.

**Natural Resources**

The learning experiences in this unit will examine the identification, use, and management of global natural resources, including water, forestry, and minerals. It explores Aboriginal perspectives on resource rights and the impact of factors like technology and competing interests on resource utilization. There will be an emphasis on sustainable development, discussing the implications of resource extraction and the importance of considering diverse viewpoints and making responsible choices regarding natural resource consumption.

**Food From the land**

This unit has been designed to examine the key aspects of food production globally and in Canada, including the necessary physical conditions and the environmental impact of agriculture. It delves into the human influences on food production and the entire process from growth to distribution. Contemporary issues will be highlighted including the effects of climate change on food production, resource scarcity, evolving farming practices, and genetic modification, urging students to consider the environmental and socio-economic impacts of their food choices.

**Industry and Trade**

This unit discusses different types of industries and factors influencing their location, including resources and policies. It examines the impacts of manufacturing locations and addresses key topics like sustainable development and Canada's trade relations. The course also explores the concept of globalization and its social consequences, along with the increasing role of Aboriginal peoples in Canadian business.

**Urban Places**This unit differentiates between rural, urban, and remote areas, encouraging an understanding of the merits of each. The unit will address urban environmental and economic challenges, growth patterns, and the importance of urban planning. It will also examines the social and lifestyle impacts of urbanization, emphasizing the diversity and interdependence of urban communities.

**Evaluation** – Based on submitted course work.