Berlin British School
– Internationale Ergänzungsschule –

Berlin British School
– genehmigte bilinguale Integrierte Sekundarschule –

BERLIN BRITISH SCHOOL
Course overview
GEOGRAPHY

Grade 6	
Map Skills	The importance of maps and who uses them. The different types of maps. Knowledge and understanding of map skills: scale, height, grid referencing. The interpretation of maps using symbols.
Settlement	Know and understand the key factors affecting the early location and growth of settlements. Study the different functions of settlements. Look at and understand 'urban models.' Investigate settlements of the future and the features and characteristics they have.
Weather	Study what makes up the weather and understand the difference between weather and climate. Understand the importance of forecasting the weather. Know and understand the three types of rainfall. What affects 'global' temperature? Know how weather is measured and using what equipment. Knowledge of high and low pressure weather systems and their key features.
Transport	The advantages and disadvantages of various types of transport. Knowledge of which type of transport one would take for different journeys. Project work looking at the Suez Canal and the Tibetan railway.
Key skills	Skills: Interpretation of maps, tables, statistics, images. Development of relevant mathematical skills (e.g. using bearings, calculations of scale). Research and presentation skills. Using diagrams to illustrate an idea.

Grade 7	
Development	What is development and how it can be measured? Understanding that different countries are in different stages of development and what some of the influencing factors are.
Brazil	How developed is Brazil? Looking at the physical features of the country and the economic activities. Project and presentation work.
Hazards	Looking at the make-up of the planet and the mechanics of earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanoes. Case study of Mt Pinatubo and an earthquake.
The 'work of water'	Studying the work of water on the planet, including the hydrological cycle, and the processes of weathering and erosion. Understanding the features of a river and its drainage basin from source to mouth.
The Environment	Know and understand some of the major environmental problems facing the planet and possible solutions to these problems. The importance of conservation and management.
Key skills	Skills: Interpretation of maps, tables, statistics, images. Research and presentation skills. Using diagrams to illustrate an idea, concept or process.

Grade 8	
Economic activities	Being able to classify employment under Primary, Secondary or Tertiary. Studying in depth an activity in each category – Agriculture, Car Industry, Tourism.
Japan	Case study looking at the physical and human geography of Japan and some of the problems it faces from this. Specifically the effects of the 2011 tsunami and its ageing population.
Coasts	Knowing and understanding the processes at work and the features formed by coasts.
Globalisation	Understanding what Globalisation is and studying its effects. Looking predominantly at the fashion industry and transnational corporations, e.g. Nike.

Key skills	Skills: Interpretation of maps, tables, statistics, images. Research and presentation skills. Using diagrams to illustrate an idea, concept or process.

Grades 9/10 - IGCSE (2 Year Programme)	
Population and Settlement	Understanding of population dynamics, distribution, density, population structure and policies. Explain key population migrations. Explain the key features of different types of settlements, their functions and service provision. Understand settlement hierarchy. Describe and explain the challenges of urbanisation, including overcrowding, informal housing, congestion.
The natural environment	Show a basic knowledge of the following physical environment topics, including case studies: • Plate tectonics (and weathering) • Rivers • Coasts • Weather and Climate • Rainforests and Deserts
Economic development	Understand how humans interact with the physical environment in the following contexts: • Global development • Food Production • Industrial Systems • Global tourism • Energy systems • Water resources
Key skills	• Application, interpretation and analysis of key geographical knowledge and data, including maps, graphs, tables, images. • Development of relevant mathematical skills (e.g. using bearings, calculations with basic formulas, interpretation of statistics etc.) • Synthesising information, judgement and decision-making. • Using case study evidence. • Using models to explain key concepts. • Using diagrams to illustrate an idea, concept or process. • Selection and correct use of fieldwork methods/presentation and interpretation of fieldwork data.

Grade 11/12 - IB Diploma (2 year Programme)	
Core Themes:	
Changing Population	• **Population and economic development patterns**: How population varies between places - Physical Human factors affecting population distribution at the global scale, global patterns and classification of economic development. • **Changing populations and places**: Process of population change and their effect on people and places. • **Challenges and opportunities:** Population possibilities and power over the decision-making process.
Global Climate	• **Causes of global climate change:** How the natural and human processes affect the global energy balance. • **Consequences of global climate change :** The effects of global climate change on places, societies and environmental systems. • **Responding to global change:** Possibilities for responding to climate change and power over the decision-making process.
Global resources consumption and security	• **Global trends in consumption:** How global development processes affect resource availability and consumption. • **Impacts of changing trends in resource consumption:** How pressure on resources affect the future security of places. • **Resource Stewardship:** Possibilities for managing resources sustainably and power over the decision-making process.

Optional Themes:	
Urban Environments	• **The variety of urban environments:** The characteristics and distribution of urban places, populations and economic activities. • **Changing urban systems:** How economic and demographic processes bring change over time to urban systems. • **Urban environmental and social stresses:** The varying power of different stakeholders in relation to the experience of and management of urban stresses. • **Building sustainable urban systems for the future:** Future possibilities for the sustainable management of urban systems.
Extreme Environments	• **The characteristics of extreme environment:** Why some places are considered to be extreme environments. • **Physical processes and landscapes :** How physical processes create unique landscapes in extreme environments. • **Managing extreme environment:** The varying power of different stakeholders to extract economic value from extreme environments. • **Extreme environment features:** Future possibilities for managing extreme environments and communities.
Food & Health	• **Measuring Food and Health:** Ways of measuring disparities in food and health between places. • **Food systems and spread of diseases:** How physical and human processes lead to changes in food production and consumption and incidence and spread of disease. • **Stakeholders in Food and Health:** The power of different stakeholders in relation to influence over diets and health. • **Future Health and food security and sustainability:** Future possibilities for sustainable agriculture and improved health.

Higher Level Themes:	
Power, Place and Networks	• **Global interactions and Global power:** How global power influence varies spatially. • **Global networks and flows:** How different places become interconnected by global interactions. • **Human and physical influences on global interactions:** How political, technological and physical processes influence global interactions.
Human development and diversity	• **Development opportunities:** Ways of supporting the processes of human development. • **Changing identities and culture:** How global interactions bring cultural influences and changes to places. • **Local responses to global interactions:** The varying power of local places and actors to resist or accept change.
Global risks and resilience	• **Geopolitical and economic risks:** How technological and globalizing processes create new geopolitical and economic risks for individuals and societies. • **Environmental risks:** How global interactions create environmental risks for particular places and people. • **Local and global resilience:** New and emerging possibilities for managing global risks.
Key skills	• Essay writing • Using statistical tests • Application, interpretation and analysis of key geographical knowledge and data, including maps, graphs, tables, images. • Development of relevant mathematical skills (e.g. using bearings, calculations with basic formulas, interpretation of statistics etc.) • Synthesising information, judgement and decision-making. • Extended writing skills. • Using diagrams to illustrate an idea, concept or process. • Selection and correct use of fieldwork methods/presentation and interpretation of fieldwork data.