

9th Grade World Geography Syllabus

Keelee Anderson – Lake Dallas High School

Fall 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to 9th grade at Lake Dallas High School! My name is Keelee Anderson and I will be your students' 9th grade World Geography teacher. I am so excited to be working with them this year. I am a graduate of UNT, where I majored in history. Growing up I have always had a love for history and social studies and hope that your students will leave my class with that same enthusiasm! This syllabus outlines the course plan for your child's class this semester, including key topics, expectations, and how you can support their success. As required by Texas law (Senate Bill 12), this document serves as the instructional plan and is available for your review.

Contact Information

- **Teacher:** Keelee Anderson
 - **Email:** keanderson@ldisd.net
 - **Phone:** TBD
 - **Conference Time:** M, TH, F - 1:25pm - 2:10pm
 - **Best Way to Reach Me:** Email or call the school office. I'll respond within 24 hours on school days.
-

Course Description

World Geography is the study of where people, places, and things are located and how they relate to each other. This course is designed to prepare students for future social studies courses. It will introduce the student to the scope of geography and serves as a foundation for all social studies courses at the high school level. Elements include the study and analysis of the earth's physical and human characteristics with topics that range from basic map skills to types of governments and economic systems. Special emphasis is placed on the study of the world's countries including their landforms and topography, resources, cultures, ethnic groupings, demographic patterns, and historical backgrounds.

Course Goals

- Students will not only investigate where something is but also what it is, why it is there, and how it got there.
- Students will be using problem solving skills to gain a geographic perspective of their world and the issues and concerns that affect their lives.
- Students will use practical applications of geography that pertain to everyday life.
- Knowledge of geography will enable students to make better sense of the world and become more responsible citizens.
- Students will become geographically literate, as it is essential to ensure the future quality of the earth's environment as well as for diverse peoples to be able to share our planet.

Course Overview (Instructional Plan)

This semester, your child will study the following topics in World Geography based on Texas state standards (TEKS):

- **Unit 1: Foundations of Physical Patterns and Processes**
 - Learning objectives: Describing physicality of landforms and environments, explaining relationships between the weather and climate in their specific regions, and identifying the different regions and biomes.
 - Summatives: Test, Visual models, and group projects.
- **Unit 2: Foundations of Human Geographic Systems**
 - Learning objectives: Comparing and contrasting different political, economic, and cultural elements and how they impact and shape the areas around them.
 - Summatives: Test, Data Visualization, Physical Geography Map, and Project.
- **Unit 3: The United States and Canada**
 - Learning objectives: Analyzing migration and other settlement patterns and their changes over time. Evaluating the development and contributions of diverse cultural groups.
 - Summatives: Country Profile, Physical Geography Map, Group Project, Test
- **Unit 4: Latin America**
 - Learning objectives: Examining physical and human geographic factors that characterize Latin America, and its connections to other regions and the rest of the world.
 - Summatives: Test, Political Map, Country Profile
- **Additional Skills**
 - Developing critical thinking, note-taking, and group work.
 - Example: Learning how to interpret different maps, preparing for a test, project
- **Supplies**
 - Folder or binder with pockets
 - Highlighter set

Thank you for supporting your child's education! Feel free to contact me with questions.

Sincerely,
Keelee Anderson