

Curriculum Outline

**Global Interactions**

Our world has shrunk spatially at an unprecedented speed and scale, brought about by the growth and development in information and communication technology. The phenomenon of globalisation in which the flows and exchanges of people, goods and services, ideas, capital and technology has led to greater interdependence among countries. It is an integral force/process in an increasingly interconnected world.

The study of global interactions focusses on this complex 2-way process wherein the flows and exchanges may be adopted, adapted or resisted by different societies. These flows arise due to the disparities between places and vary across space and time though it is neither universal nor inevitable.

The change to places and humans that is brought about involves social-cultural, economic, political and environmental interactions. Due to its scale, intensity and speed, these changes also result in impacts where effects of distant events can be highly significant elsewhere and specific local developments can come to have considerable global consequences.

This course seeks to equip students with an understanding of the nature of global interactions that underpins the widening, intensifying and growing impact of world-wide interconnectedness. In doing so, not only will they become more attuned to their role as global citizens but at the same time, model the way forward and exercise initiative in making more reason, ethical decisions.

**Secondary 4  
GLOBAL INTERACTIONS**

Week	Topic / Key Idea	Key Knowledge Areas / Questions	Assessment
T1 Wk 1 - 2	Overview of Geography in Y4.  Students will use the first week of school to work on their GI and Teacher to supervise and help them to review and structure their reports.  Submission of Geographical Investigation Report will be end of Week 3.		<b>Submission of IA:</b>  <b>Wk 3 – 10% of overall grade</b>  Also: set up Google Classroom page
T1 Wk 3	Introduction to <b>Economic Development</b>	Key questions here: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o What is 'Economic Development'?</li> <li>o What does it mean when we say that a country is more / less developed? How can we measure development in a country more accurately? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students will look at various key indicators here (economic, social, political etc)</li> </ul> </li> <li>o Key Indicators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- GDP per capita</li> <li>- Life expectancy</li> <li>- Literacy rate</li> <li>- Human Development Index</li> </ul> </li> <li>o What would a more / less developed</li> </ul>	Students will look at a range of data and learn how to describe them.  Common ones here will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bar / line graphs</li> <li>- Proportional shape maps</li> <li>- Choropleth maps</li> </ul>

**Commented [1]:** See: <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/202761-2017-2019-syllabus.pdf>

		<p>economy look like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Understanding how different economies look like and what they focus on.</li> <li>- Key terms include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Primary sector</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secondary sector</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tertiary sector</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quaternary sector</li> </ul> </li> <li>o What are the different ways in which we can classify these countries? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key terms here: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MEDC</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LEDC</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NIC</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
T1 Wk 4	Issues to Development	<p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o What is poverty?</li> <li>o What does poverty look like today? How does it vary around the world?</li> <li>o What is the Gini coefficient and how can we use it to measure income inequality within a country?</li> <li>o Is Singapore a developing or developed country?</li> </ul> <p>Key ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Economic development is a continuing challenge for many countries.</li> <li>▪ There is no 'formula' for developing a country and different places will require a different set of solutions (which will need to be updated over time) to ensure continued growth.</li> <li>▪ Disparities will always exist but there is a need to ensure that the gap between the rich and poor does not get too wide and that opportunities are more evenly spread out.</li> </ul>	
T1 Wk 5	Introduction to Globalization	<p>Understanding what is globalization about and the ways in which we can see this process at work in space.</p> <p>Key ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Interconnectedness of people and countries across broad (global) spaces.</li> <li>▪ Interdependence of economies and livelihoods on other countries.</li> <li>▪ Integration of economies, culture and lifestyles across space.</li> </ul> <p>Contemporary global networks and</p>	

		<p>flows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ International trade of materials, manufactured goods and services.</li> <li>▪ International remittances from economic migrants.</li> <li>▪ Foreign direct investments from TNCs.</li> <li>▪ International tourism numbers.</li> <li>▪ Spread of refugees around the world.</li> </ul>	
<p>T1 Wks 6 - 7</p>	<p><b><u>History and Evolution of Globalization</u></b></p> <p>How do people and places connect?</p>	<p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How does technology facilitate the movement of people?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ...people?</li> <li>○ ...goods &amp; services?</li> <li>○ ...capital?</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ What are the key innovations that have brought us to where we are today?</li> <li>▪ What are the possible innovations in the near future?</li> <li>▪ What are the likely implications of all this?</li> <li>▪ How will this affect the development of countries?</li> </ul> <p>Key ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technological revolutions in transport and communication have helped to bring the people and places closer together.</li> <li>▪ This revolution can be felt across space, leading to what is known as a <b>time-space convergence</b> and a <b>'shrinking world' effect</b>.</li> <li>▪ The internet in itself has also become new type of economic 'space' to connect people AND do business transactions.</li> <li>▪ We are living in an age where information and data are now important drivers of the global economy.</li> <li>▪ Access to information today is no longer seen as just a privilege but a fundamental human right.</li> <li>▪ Governments, policy makers and businesses must embrace and adapt to the enormous opportunities that the internet can bring, while managing the risks and threats that it brings to national security and privacy.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Research Essay:</u></b></p> <p><i>Examine the relationship between technology and globalization today.</i></p>
<p>T1 Wks</p>	<p>Political Factors that Influence Global</p>	<p>How do countries participate and influence global interactions?</p>	<p><b><u>Group Case Study Research &amp;</u></b></p>

8 - 10	Interactions	<p><b>Case Studies:</b> Detailed examples of at least two actual or potential global superpowers. Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ USA, China, India, Russia</li> </ul> <p>Other powerful <b>geo-political organizations and global groups:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The World Trade Organization (WTO)</li> <li>▪ Global lending institutions, including the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank (WB).</li> <li>▪ Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) influence over energy policies.</li> <li>▪ Role of Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs) such as ASEAN and the EU and the significance of Free Trade Zones (FTAs).</li> <li>▪ INGOs such as the Red Cross or Medecins Sans Frontieres/Doctors Without Borders</li> </ul> <p>Key Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wealthy and powerful places exist at varying scales.</li> <li>▪ The current global map is complex and subject to change.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Presentation:</b></p> <p>One global superpower or powerful global group and their role in influencing global interactions today.</p>
March Holidays			
T2 Wks 1 - 3	The Rise of TNCs & The Global Shift	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Characteristics of a TNC</li> <li>▪ How they restructured the Global Economy by shifting the location and concentration of Pri &amp; Sec industries from MEDCs to LEDCs.</li> <li>▪ However, as LEDCs develop, many have now become NICs and are shifting over some of their Pri industry jobs over to other LEDCs.</li> <li>▪ Tertiary &amp; Quaternary industries today are also shifting out of MEDCs and into emerging LEDCs or NICs.</li> </ul> <p>Key ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased accessibility to places and advancements in ICT means that businesses today are no longer bounded by geography.</li> <li>▪ Many TNCs have operations and supply chains that span the globe.</li> <li>▪ Location of jobs and industries have become more fluid. This creates new risks and opportunities for places.</li> <li>▪ The rise of corporations and TNCs</li> </ul>	<p><b>Group Case Study Research &amp; Presentation</b></p> <p>Detailed example of a named TNC and their global strategies and supply chains, as well as their influence on countries.</p> <p><b>Research Essay:</b></p> <p><i>Examine the factors that influence the Global Shift of industries <b>today</b>.</i></p> <p><i>How has it changed from the Shifts in the past? Why is it changing?</i></p>

		<p>present new challenges to the sovereignty of nation states today</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It is a continuing challenge for places to stay relevant and competitive.</li> </ul> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What are the factors influencing company's decision to expand or move overseas.</li> <li>▪ What are the consequences of this on the economic growth and development of places around the world?</li> </ul>	
<p>T2 Wks 4 - 5</p>	<p><b>Coursework</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A well-established TNC firm is looking to expand its business into Asia. It already has a regional HQ in Singapore but it wants to expand its reach to other, <b>non-capital cities</b> in the region.</li> <li>▪ You are an official of such a city and you see this as a good opportunity to finally showcase what your city has to offer and hopefully kickstart further investments.</li> <li>▪ You will need to pitch your city to the CEO of this well-established TNC firm (e.g. think something along the lines of Amazon) and convince them why they should set up a new office in your city.</li> </ul> <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Students will be grouped.</li> <li>▪ They will have to research on <b>non-capital</b> cities in South East Asia and decide on one that they feel is well-positioned for the next new office of a TNC.</li> </ul> <p>Points to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What incentives does this city have that makes it suitable for this TNC?</li> <li>▪ Refer to <a href="#">this article here</a>.</li> <li>▪ Students should take note of the key factors mentioned in the article.</li> </ul> <p>Key ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Globalization has transformed the way in which the global economy today operates – jobs, businesses, people, money etc has become more fluid and are no longer bounded by geography.</li> <li>▪ How places and people manage and position themselves in this global</li> </ul>	<p><b>Products:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A "Sales" Pitch of their city</li> </ul> <p><b>15% of overall grade</b></p>

		<p>system of flows and connections is thus becoming more important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ I.e. "Think globally, act locally."</li> </ul>	
T2 Wks 6 - 7	<b>Coursework Presentation</b>		
T2 8Wks 8 - 9	<p><b><u>New World Order, New Risks &amp; Threats</u></b></p> <p>How do increasing global flows and interactions create new geopolitical and economic risks for societies and individuals?</p>	<p>Evolving threats to the political and economic <i>sovereignty</i> of states as a result of technological and globalizing processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Technological unemployment: Loss of jobs due to <a href="#">disruptive technological innovations</a>.</li> <li>▪ Borderless threats: <a href="#">spread of disease and extremism</a></li> <li>▪ Unchecked growth of cities in - <a href="#">mega cities, mega problems</a>?</li> </ul> <p>Threats to individuals and businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hacking, identity theft and the <a href="#">implications of surveillance</a> for personal freedoms.</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Research Questions:</u></b></p> <p><i>"Technology will eventually render us obsolete."</i> - <i>DYA?</i></p> <p><i>"In this day and age, government internet surveillance is necessary for national security."</i> - <i>DYA?</i></p> <p><i>Has globalisation made the world a safer or more dangerous place for us to live in?</i></p>
T2 Wk 10	<p><b><u>June Holiday Assignment Briefing:</u></b></p> <p>Photo Essay Assignment</p>	<p><b>Theme:</b> <i>Globalization in Singapore - Impacts &amp; Implications</i></p> <p>Students to plan and come up with a proposal. Teacher to facilitate and advise.</p> <p>Marks will go into their grades for T3.</p>	<p><b>15% of overall grade for T3</b></p>
June Holidays			
T3 Wk 1 - 2	<b>Photo Essay Assignment Due</b> Theme: Globalization in Singapore – Impacts & Implications		
T3 Wks 3 – 6	<p>Impact of Global Interactions on Societies &amp; Culture</p>	<p><b>How global interactions brings societal and cultural changes to places:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Students will analyze what happens when cultures interact.</li> <li>▪ Key term: cultural diffusion</li> <li>▪ Key ideas: adapt, adopt, resist, reassert</li> <li>▪ Examine the how the mechanisms through which cultures change and</li> </ul>	

		<p>evolve: e.g. via migration of people, tourism, consumption of goods, influence of technology etc</p> <p><b>Key Question:</b> Are global interactions making us more homogenized or diversified as a society?</p>	
T3 Wks 6 - 10	<p>Impact of Global Interactions on the Environment</p> <p><b>Global Waste Production &amp; Trade:</b></p> <p>Finite Resources, Infinite Wants</p>	<p>How international trade and consumption is impacting the environment around us and analyze the issues that result from it.</p> <p>Key Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ecological Footprint - how many Earths do we need to sustain our current demands?</li> <li>▪ Global waste is growing due to increase demand and production of goods, population growth and consumerism.</li> <li>▪ Consumption Shifts - rising Global Middle Class is putting a strain on the spaces and resources of different places around the world.</li> <li>▪ Possible Case Studies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ E-waste dumps in NICs/LEDCs (e.g. India, China and Ghana)</li> <li>○ Food Waste in DCs</li> <li>○ Plastic waste and accumulation in the World's Oceans</li> <li>○ Others possibilities: textile waste</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Other issues: Climate Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What does the research tell us about this issues?</li> <li>○ Are global processes more of a problem or a solution to this?</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Other questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Can our current rate of production for goods and services ever be compatible with environmental conservation?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Written Test in Week 7/8:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Structured Qns (30m) + Essay (10m)</li> <li>- 10% of overall grade</li> </ul>
September Holidays			
T4 Wk 1-2	Revision		
T4 Wks 3-5	<p><b>End-Year Examination &amp; Review (50%)</b></p> <p>Paper 1 – All Data Response/Structured Qns [25 + 25] - 1hr 30 mins - (25%)</p> <p>Paper 2 – Infographic + 2 Essay Qn [10 + 10 + 10] - 1hr 15 mins - (25%)</p>		

**Assessment:**

**Integrated Programme 2019****GEOGRAPHY****YEAR 4**

Term	Assessment Format	Weightage (Whole Year)
1	Dec Geog Fieldwork Report (10%)	10%
2	Coursework: Pitch (15%)	15%
3	Coursework: June Hols Photo Essay Assignment (15%)	15%
4	Written Test (10%)	10%
	EOY:	50%
	Paper 1	[25%]
	Paper 2	[25%]