



ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SECONDARY SCHOOL

25 Corporation Drive
Brampton ON, L6S 6A2
Phone: 905.791.1195

We believe that each one, created in the image and likeness of God, is called by name into the Dufferin-Peel community to realize the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations to the fullest extent possible as we all journey from the early years to vocation.

COURSE OUTLINE

Department Name:	Social Sciences Department
Course Name:	The Environment and Resource Management
Course Code and Section:	CGR 4M1

Course Description:	This course investigates interactions between natural and human systems, with a particular emphasis on the impacts of human activity on ecosystems and natural processes. Students will use the geographic inquiry process, apply the concepts of geographic thinking, and employ a variety of spatial skills and technologies to analyse these impacts and propose ways of reducing them. In the course of their investigations, they will assess resource management and sustainability practices, as well as related government policies and international accords. They will also consider questions of individual responsibility and environmental stewardship as they explore ways of developing a more sustainable relationship with the environment.
Strands/ Units:	Unit 1 Geographic Inquiry and Skill Development Unit 2 Spatial Organization Unit 3 Sustainability and Stewardship of Natural Resources Unit 4 Ecological Systems: Interconnections and Interdependence Unit 5 Community Action
Corresponding Catholic Graduate Expectation Indicators for each Strand/Unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This course helps students to meet the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations by examining, evaluating and applying knowledge of interdependent systems (physical, political, ethical, socio-economic and ecological) for the development of a just and compassionate society.

Assessment and Evaluation:

Category Weightings	Weight
Knowledge/Understanding	25
Thinking	25
Application	25
Communication	25

Final Summative Assessments	Grade Distribution
Term Work	70
Course Culminating	10
Exam	20

Term Work will be divided into short response papers, assignments and tests.

Focus on Learning Skills

Works Independently	Teamwork	Organization	Work Habits/Homework	Initiative
-follows instructions, -completes assignments on time, uses time effectively	-solves problems collaboratively, contributes ideas and information to solve problems and make decisions, shows respect for members of group	-follows specific steps to reach goals, revise strategies when necessary, demonstrates ability to organize and manage information	-follows instructions, uses time efficiently, completes homework on time and with care	-attempts a variety of learning activities, requires little prompting to complete tasks, seeks additional information in the various media

COURSE INFORMATION

Recommendations for Notebooks

The following suggestions will aid you in the organization of your notebook and will provide you with easy reference when studying.

- use a hard cover three ring binder
- underline headings
- date each days notes and any accompanying handouts
- number each topic and record the topic's title in your index
- always write in ink
- notebooks **must** be in class each day
- place marked tests and assignments after each unit

Assignments

To be eligible for full marks, assignments must be handed in at the beginning of the period on the specific due date. Assignments handed in after this time will be considered late and will be penalized. All assignments will have a due date. All work handed in after the due date and before the closure date (**2 school days**) will face a **penalty of 10%**. Once the closure date has been reached the assignment will be given a **grade of zero**. If for a legitimate reason, such as an illness, you cannot meet the specified due date alternative arrangements may be made with the teacher in advance. Should any major culminating activity such as the CPT be missed a doctor's note is required for any work to be evaluated.

Homework

Homework assignments will be checked on a regular basis. Failure to complete homework assignments will result in you staying at lunch and/or after school to complete the work. Should this become a regular occurrence your parents will be contacted.

Tests

Students should expect a quiz or test at least every three weeks. Students will be given a minimum of 3 days to prepare for a major test. Quizzes may be given at any time without prior warning. Students who miss a test because of illness or an emergency must provide a note from their doctor the day of their return. Missed tests will be written the day of the students return to class from their illness. Any test missed by a student without a legitimate reason will merit a zero.

Absenteeism

When you are absent from class it is your responsibility to catch up on missed work. Students should arrange to have another class member save copies of any handouts given on the day they are absent from class.

Classroom Behaviour

It is expected that you will conduct yourself in a serious and conscientious manner in class. Interest in your work and consideration for others are appreciated every day. Disrespect of the teacher or other students, lateness and neglect of work will not be tolerated. Problems in these areas will be referred to the office and parents will be contacted.

Uniform

Full uniform is expected in the classroom. Any student not wearing the proper uniform will be sent to the vice principal. Remember that hoodies, multicolor undershirts and pants at your knees are not part of the uniform.

Food/Drink

No food will be allowed in the classroom. Drinks are allowed however this can change should this privilege be abused.