

Grade 11 Physical Geography

Overview

The curriculum documents for these two courses (University Entrance and General) are dated (1966, 1967) and are no longer available from the Manitoba Text Book Bureau. The documents would be of little value to the teacher currently teaching this option since they are composed of chapter summaries of the then-recommended text book.

Physical Geography is a survey course, providing an introduction to the broad field of physical geography. The curriculum documents, representative of the time period, reflected a highly descriptive approach to the study of physical geography. General topics include:

- the solar system, Earth, time and seasons
- spheres of the Earth and Earth materials
- diastrophism and mass wasting processes
- oceans, currents and waves
- elements of weather and climate
- world climate, vegetation and soil regions

The contemporary approach to physical geography education emphasizes the nature of earth systems and their interactions with each other and with humans, ecological patterns, environmental issues, and the limitations that the physical world places on human activities and, in turn, the impact of human activities on the physical world. When considered within this new approach, the study of physical geography is both timely and relevant in view of the global challenges facing humankind on Planet Earth.

Major Topics

The current recommended student and teacher resources (*Earth Matters*, see below) reflect this new approach to physical geography. These resources contain the following units:

Unit 1: The Earth: A Vibrant Planet

Unit 2: The Ground Beneath our Feet: Understanding the Lithosphere

Unit 3: The Water all Around: Understanding the Hydrosphere

Unit 4: The Air Above: Understanding the Atmosphere

Unit 5: All That is Living: Understanding the Biosphere

Learning Resources

The *Earth Matters* student resource is richly illustrated with colour photographs, maps, and diagrams. It includes a variety of Case Studies and Environment Watch reports from around the world, descriptions and examples of Changing Technology in the study of geography, Career Planet features, Geo-web Resources, and sections on Developing Skills in geography.

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Student learning opportunities are provided through a variety of strategies in Understanding Concepts, Developing and Practising Skills, Learning Through Application, GIS Assignments, and creative unit Culminating Activity suggestions.

The *Earth Matters Teacher's Resource* provides a variety of supports including the following: Unit and Chapter Overviews, Assessment and Evaluation Overviews, Teaching Notes, Answers to chapter questions, Additional Activity suggestions, Additional Resources, as well as Assessment Masters and Reproducible Worksheets.

- Curriculum Document: No longer available.
- Recommended Student Resource: *Earth Matters - Studies in Physical Geography* (2001) by Ron Chasmer, Oxford University Press; Manitoba Text Book Bureau Stock Number MS 5443
- Recommended Teacher's Resource: *Earth Matters – Studies in Physical Geography Teacher's Resource* (2002) by Ron Chasmer et al, Oxford University Press; Manitoba Text Book Bureau Stock Number MT 5442
- Recommended Student Resource (Listed for Grade 10 but appropriate for Grade 11 Physical Geography): *Geography and GIS: GIS Activities for Students (2001)* by Todd Pottle, Irwin Publishing; Manitoba Text Book Bureau Stock Number MS 2351
- Recommended Teacher Resource (Listed for Grade 10 but appropriate for Grade 11 Physical Geography): *Mapping Our World: GIS Lessons for Educators* (2002) by Lyn Malone et al, ESRI Press; Manitoba Text Book Bureau Stock Number MT 2352
- Teacher Resource: *Fieldwork First Hand: A Close Look at Geography Fieldwork* (1989) by Peter Glynn, Crakehill Press
- Additional map and atlas resources may be required.