MINNESOTA WEST COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE
COURSE OUTLINE

Faculty members are required to have the outline submitted to the Academic Affairs Office. The course outline is the form used for approval of new courses by the Academic Affairs and Standards Council.

DEPT. GEOG COURSE NUMBER: 1100

NUMBER OF CREDITS: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

Course Title:
Introduction to Geography

Catalog Description:
Introduces the fundamental themes and concepts in Geography. Emphasis will be given to Cartography, Meteorology, Geomorphology, Cultural Geography, and the interrelationships between humans and their environment. Prerequisite: STSK 0090 or placement by multiple measures.

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (Leave blank if not applicable)

Goal 5: History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences: X by meeting the following competencies:

2. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.
3. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
4. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.

Goal 8: Global Perspective: X by meeting the following competencies:

2. Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
3. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
4. Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

Prerequisites or Necessary Entry Skills/Knowledge:
STSK0090 or placement by multiple measures
Topics to be Covered (General)

- What is Geography
- Maps and GIS Tools
- Weather and Climate
- Geomorphology
- Biogeography
- Earth’s Resources
- Population and Migration
- Cultural Geography
- Languages and Religions
- Political Geography

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Explain key themes and concepts in Geography and the importance of Geography in today’s world.
2. Use geospatial technologies and spatial thinking to understand and interpret information found on different kinds of maps.
3. Describe how solar energy varies in time and space and its effect on weather formation.
4. Relate endogenic and exogenic forces to our physical environment.
5. Identify various earth cycles and the processes involved.
6. Analyze how culture and experience influence one’s perception of people and places.
7. Identify interrelationships in Geography between people and their environment.
8. Differentiate the factors affecting population and migration.
9. Characterize factors in political geography that shape political systems and borders.

Is this course part of a transfer pathway:  Yes  No  X

*If yes, please list the competencies below

Revised 2/2020