

GEOGRAFIE BILINGUAL



WP 9/10 - Kurs im Schuljahr 2026 – 2028 von **Herrn Siegert**

KURSBESCHREIBUNG

In this bilingual Geography course, you explore four major world regions: North America, Latin America, the Middle East, and Australia/Oceania. Each semester, you first learn about the natural environment, such as climate, landscapes, and ecosystems. Afterwards, you look at people, cities, economies, and current challenges in the region. The course helps you understand global connections, cultural differences, and environmental problems. All materials and activities are in English, so you can improve your language skills while learning Geography. You work with maps, photos, diagrams, short texts, and case studies. You take part in discussions, group tasks, small projects, and simple presentations.

VORAUSSETZUNGEN FÜR KURSWAHL

You should be interested in other countries, cultures, and global questions. Basic Geography skills, such as reading maps or climate graphs, are helpful but not required. Because the course is taught in English, you should be willing to speak, read, and write in English regularly. A positive attitude, curiosity, and readiness to try new tasks are more important than perfect language skills – the language used is always on your grade's level of knowledge! New vocab is introduced bit by bit based on the topics we discuss in class. No specific English grades are needed, but if you have a four or below, maybe another course might be a better choice for you. You should also be open to working together in groups and sharing ideas. Your motivation and active participation are the most important requirements.

LEISTUNGSBEWERTUNG

In this bilingual course, your achievement is evaluated only based on your **Geography skills and knowledge**. The lessons and tasks are mainly in English, but your **language level itself is not graded**. What counts is your understanding of the geographic content: using correct concepts, explaining processes clearly, working with maps and diagrams, and applying what you have learned to new examples.

Tests, quizzes, and written tasks are done in the language used in class – English. If there are serious problems with understanding or with technical terms, you may use German in exceptional cases.

You complete different types of tasks: class participation, case studies, short written tests, project work, and simple presentations. Your progress, your accuracy in geographic thinking, and your active participation in class all play an important role – **not perfect English**.

CURRICULUM

1. SEMESTER – North America

Physical Geography

- Overview of major landforms: Rocky Mountains, Great Plains, Appalachian Mountains, Canadian Shield
- Climate zones and their distribution (tundra, humid continental, Mediterranean, arid, subtropical)
- Key ecosystems: boreal forest, prairies, deserts, coastal zones
- Natural hazards: hurricanes, wildfires, earthquakes on the West Coast

Human Geography

- Settlement history: Indigenous nations, European colonization, migration waves
- Urbanization patterns (Megalopolis, Sunbelt cities)
- Economic structures: agriculture in the Midwest, tech & services, resource extraction in Canada
- US–Canada border as a functional region
- Cultural diversity and regional identities
- Current spatial issues: water scarcity in the Southwest, energy landscapes (shale gas, hydroelectric power), socio-economic inequalities
- Case study: sustainable city development (e.g., Vancouver)

2. SEMESTER – Latin America

Physical Geography

- Andes, Amazon Basin, Brazilian Highlands, Patagonian landscapes
- Tropical, subtropical, highland, and arid climate zones
- Biodiversity hotspots, deforestation drivers
- Natural hazards: earthquakes, volcanoes, El Niño effects

Human Geography

- Colonial legacy and population patterns (mestizaje, Indigenous groups)
- Urbanization and megacities (e.g. Mexico City, São Paulo, Bogotá)
- Agricultural systems: subsistence farming, export crops, cattle ranching
- Economic contrasts: emerging economies vs. rural poverty
- Regional integration: MERCOSUR and Pacific Alliance
- Social challenges: informal settlements, inequality, access to education & health
- Case study: sustainable management of the Amazon Basin
- Tourism, ecotourism, and their impacts

3. SEMESTER - Middle East / Southwest Asia

Physical Geography

- Arid and semi-arid climate zones; water scarcity as a defining factor
- Relief and regions: Anatolia, Arabian Peninsula, Zagros Mountains, Fertile Crescent
- Key ecosystems: deserts, oases, Mediterranean coasts
- Natural hazards: droughts, dust storms, earthquakes (Turkey, Iran)

Human Geography

- Population distribution shaped by climate and resources
- Urban centers and growth patterns (e.g. Riyadh, Dubai, Istanbul)
- The role of oil and gas: production, trade routes, diversification strategies
- Water conflicts and resource management (e.g. Tigris–Euphrates, Jordan River)
- Cultural landscapes: religion, languages, regional identities
- Geopolitical hotspots: Israel/Palestine, Persian Gulf, Syria
- Migration and labor flows (Gulf States)
- Case study: visions for post-oil economies (e.g., Saudi Vision 2030)

4. SEMESTER - Australia & Oceania

Physical Geography

- Major landscapes: Outback, Great Dividing Range, Great Barrier Reef, New Zealand Alps
- Climate zones: tropical north, desert interior, temperate south, maritime NZ
- Endemic flora and fauna; threats to biodiversity
- Natural hazards: wildfires, cyclones, droughts, earthquakes (NZ)

Human Geography

- Indigenous cultures: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Māori
- Population distribution and urban concentration (Sydney–Melbourne axis)
- Economic geography: mining, agriculture, tourism, services
- Environmental challenges: coral bleaching, water scarcity, invasive species
- Pacific Island States: small island developing states (SIDS), climate change vulnerability
- Regional cooperation and geopolitics in the Pacific
- Case study: sustainable tourism on small islands
- Future outlook: climate adaptation, renewable energies, urban resilience