

Summary

Paper 1 - Option G.4 Future possibilities for the sustainable management of urban systems

Subject	Year	Start date	Duration
Geography	IB1	Week 2, January	3 weeks

Course Part

Paper 1 - Option G.4 Future possibilities for the sustainable management of urban systems

Description

More than 50% of the world's population now lives in urban environments, with many living in megacities.

This optional theme considers the hierarchy of cities and other urban places as sites of intense social interaction and as focal points of production, wealth generation and consumption. They exhibit diversity in patterns of wealth and deprivation, which can result in conflict. They may share common characteristics and processes irrespective of the national level of economic development.

Transport improvements have led to rapid growth and shifts in population and economic activities, producing stresses and challenges for urban planners. The theme also considers issues of sustainability, wherein cities need to be managed to minimize harmful social and environmental impacts.

Through study of this optional theme, students will develop their understanding of processes, places, power and geographical possibilities. They will additionally gain an understanding of more specialized concepts including hierarchies (of settlements), systems (in relation to movements of people and the management of transport and waste flows) and sustainability.

Curriculum

Syllabus Content

Part one: Geographic themes (SL and HL options)

Option G: Urban environments

4. Building sustainable urban systems for the future

Future possibilities for the sustainable management of urban systems

Urban growth projections for 2050, including regional/continental patterns and trends of rural-urban migration and changing urban population sizes and structures

Resilient city design, including strategies to manage escalating climatic and geopolitical risks to urban areas

Two detailed examples to illustrate possible strategies

Eco city design, including strategies to manage the urban ecological footprint

Two detailed examples to illustrate possible environmental strategies

Smart city design and the use of new technology to run city services and systems, including purpose-built settlements and retrofitting technology to older settlements

ATL Skills

Approaches to Learning

Thinking

- In this unit, we will

ask students to formulate a reasoned argument to support their opinion or conclusion

give students time to think through their answers before asking them for a response

reward a new personal understanding, solution or approach to an issue

ask open questions

set students a task which required higher-order thinking skills (such as analysis or evaluation)

build on a specific prior task

help students to make their thinking more visible (for example, by using a strategy such as a thinking routine)

require students to take an unfamiliar viewpoint into account when formulating arguments

ask questions that required the use of knowledge from a different subject from the one you are teaching

include a reflection activity

make a link to TOK



Research

- In this unit, we will

require students to formulate/construct a focused research question (either in class or in a homework assignment)

reward or encourage correct citing and referencing

assign a task that required students to use the library

require students to practise effective online search skills (for example, use of Booleans and search limiters)

provide opportunities for students to reflect on how they determine the quality of a source, or analyse contradictory sources

require students to record their search for sources in steps (types of search engines, search terms, and so on)

give students advice on (or provide an opportunity for students to practise) narrowing the scope of a task to make it more manageable

discuss or model the importance of academic honesty and clear acknowledgment of sources

Developing IB Learners

Learner Profile



Communicators

IB DP IB1 Geography class of 2022 (IB1)



Risk-takers (Courageous)