

Syllabus & Pacing Guide

1.) Syllabus & Pacing Guide

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Geography means "to study the earth." Geography is the study of physical and human characteristics of the Earth's people, places, and environments. Students will develop geographic thinking skills by studying the "why of where" as they examine the interactions, interconnections, and implications of forces shaping our world today. They will apply geographic knowledge and geo-literacy skills to identify, locate, interpret, analyze, and evaluate geographic patterns and processes. These standards emphasize human and physical geography, and students will explore the interconnections between the two.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

One of the fundamental purposes of public schools is to prepare young people for participation in America's democratic republic. The progress of our communities, state, nation, and world rests upon the preparation of young people to understand the interconnections and interactions between their local, national, and global communities in order to make reasoned and far-reaching decisions. The study of geography supports students in understanding how human and natural systems interact and connect places to each other. Geographically informed students can better participate in their communities and the world in a responsible, informed, and civically minded. The skills and habits of mind that students develop as they study the world through geography will nurture their sense of citizenry and civic and global awareness.

To that end, throughout this course, students should have ample opportunities to:

- Apply spatial analysis and reasoning to identify, examine, and rationalize a variety of issues facing local, national, and global communities today.
- Consider various political, historical, economic, cultural, and environmental perspectives to analyze and explain current events.
- Develop and demonstrate the values that sustain America's democratic republic, including open-mindedness, engagement, honesty, problem-solving, responsibility, diligence, resilience, empathy, self-control, and cooperation.

FOUNDATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SKILLS

The study of world geography begins with asking geographic questions. Students of geography use information gleaned from geographic texts such as maps, statistics, geospatial technology, media, and other geographic information to answer those questions. Geography students use evidence to make inferences about the interconnections and interactions between people and places. They also use spatial thinking to identify patterns and processes occurring at various scales. The following standards promote foundational skills and dispositions vital to the discipline of geography. These skills and dispositions are reinforced in subsequent strands as students engage with specific geographic content and inquiry.

Students will have ample opportunities, throughout the course, to:

- Conduct geographic investigations at various scales, including local, national, and global. They will formulate geographic questions, acquire information, select and organize relevant data, analyze patterns in the data, and arrive at evidence-based conclusions.
- Apply map-reading skills to analyze features, purposes, and uses of various types of maps, including mental maps.
- Use and create maps, graphs, and other types of data sets to show patterns and processes influencing our world.
- Use existing and emerging technologies, such as GIS and other geospatial technologies, whenever possible and appropriate.
- Compare the implications of interactions and interconnections between various people and places at various scales.
- Use evidence to analyze and explain the spatial organization of people, places, and environments and how they have changed over time.

COURSE STANDARDS

Visit the next lesson page for a full list of the course's core standards.

COURSE SUBMISSIONS

All assignments will be graded through Spark. Any attachments must be made in a Word document file, PDF, or Google Doc shareable link and turned in through Spark or directly to the instructor.

REQUIRED TEXTS

All readings will be provided on Spark. There is a textbook that can be referenced below.

GRADING BREAKDOWN

A 94-100%	C 73-76%
A- 90-93%	C- 70-72%
B+ 87-89%	D+ 67-69%
B 83-87%	D 63-66%
B- 80-82%	D- 59-63%
C+ 77-79%	F 58% or below

GRADED WEIGHT OF SCHOOLWORK

- It is important to note that you will receive unlimited attempts on all assignments and quizzes until you demonstrate mastery of the content. All quizzes will be randomized and will not show the correct answer, making reading the lesson material important BEFORE taking the quiz and completing the assignments.
- **Assignments: 40%**
- **Quizzes: 40%**
- **Post-Assessment Term/Quarter 1 & 2: 20%**
 - There are two final term/quarter exams. Each one is worth roughly 10% of your final course grade.

INSTRUCTOR EXPECTATIONS AND PACING

A typical semester course at a traditional high school requires 80 hours in total, which is 40 hours per term. Since this is a self-paced course, completing it may take you longer or shorter. You are expected to spend 3-5 hours each week and submit at least one unit each.

Students will be allowed to complete the course at a pace that best suits them. The students will be responsible for completing and turning in all assignments according to their individual needs. However, make sure to look at your school's deadlines, to ensure that you are completing courses on track.

Parents/Guardians will be able to observe and view their student's progress through Spark.

You should put the assignments in your calendar at the beginning of the semester so you know which work to complete each week.

Week 1	Unit 1: Welcome! <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make sure to read the syllabus.• If you choose to complete the Competency Exam, please do so this week. If you decide not to, simply skip this.
Week 2	Unit 2: What is Geography? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Assignment: Me Map◦ Quiz: What is Geography?
Week 3	Unit 3: Geospatial Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Quiz: Geographic Skills◦ Quiz: Geospatial Technology
Week 4	Unit 4: Natural Disasters & Adapting to Our Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Quiz: Natural Disasters◦ Assignment: Earthquakes◦ Quiz: Natural Disasters & Adapting to Our Environment
Week 5	Unit 5: Population & Life Expectancy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Assignment: Life Expectancy◦ Quiz: Population Pyramid◦ Quiz: Ecological Footprint◦ Quiz: Introduction to Population
Week 6	Unit 6: Looking to the Future <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Quiz: Predicting the Future◦ Assignment: Predicting the Future

Week 7	<p>Unit 7: Migration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Immigration in the US ◦ Assignment: Zip Code ◦ Quiz: Migration
Week 8	<p>Unit 8: Post-Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Term 1 Post-Assessment
Week 9	<p>Unit 9: Term 2 Competency Exam & Pacing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you choose to complete the Competency Exam, please do so this week. If you decide not to, simply skip this.
Week 10	<p>Unit 10: Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: Culture Collage
Week 11	<p>Unit 11: Cultural Traits & Globalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Cultural Traits ◦ Quiz: Religion
Week 12	<p>Unit 12: Globalization & Regions in the U.S.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Globalization ◦ Quiz: Globalization & Culture ◦ Quiz: Regions in the U.S.
Week 13	<p>Unit 13: Food Insecurity & Political Borders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Food Insecurity ◦ Quiz: Political Borders
Week 14	<p>Unit 14: Development in Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Gapminder Self-Check ◦ Quiz: Development in Countries ◦ Quiz: World Bubble Chart
Week 15	<p>Unit 15: Economic Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: Dollar Street ◦ Quiz: Economic Development

Week 16	Unit 16: Term 2 Post-Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Final Term/Quarter 2 Post-Assessment
Week 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Course Evaluation <p>Congrats! You finished Semester 1 of World Geography.</p>

ONLINE TECHNOLOGIES

This course takes place online. Since we will not meet face-to-face, you must have the necessary technology and technical know-how to work effectively in this online learning environment. This online course will utilize Spark as the learning management system. Please contact your instructor if you have trouble logging in or viewing any of the documents and links posted.