

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: 50%**
 - There are a total of 15 assignments.
 - Each assignment is worth roughly 3.5% of your final course grade.
- **Quizzes: 30%**

- There are a total of 18 quizzes. Each quiz is worth roughly 1.5% of your final course grade.

- **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.
Week 2	Unit 2: The Americas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: Physical Map of Americas ◦ Quiz: Americas & Landforms ◦ Quiz: Panama Canal
Week 3	Unit 3: Population & Demographics in the U.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: Population Shifts & Increasing Diversity in the U.S. ◦ Assignment: Immigration in the U.S. ◦ Quiz: Population & Demographics of the U.S.
Week 4	Unit 4: European Countries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: Map of European Countries ◦ Assignment: Exploring European Culture ◦ Quiz: European Countries
Week 5	Unit 5: African Countries & It's Physical Geography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: Map of Africa ◦ Quiz: African Countries & Its Physical Geography

Week 6	<p>Unit 6: Danger of a Single Story</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: The Sahara Desert ◦ Quiz: The Sahara & The Sahel ◦ Assignment: Danger of a Single Story
Week 7	<p>Unit 7: Sanitation & Cultures Within Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Sanitation & Wastewater ◦ Assignment: Exploring Ethnic Groups in Africa
Week 8	<p>Unit 8: Post-Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Term 3 Post-Assessment
Week 9	<p>Unit 10: Russia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assignment: Russia's Biomes ◦ Assignment: The War in Ukraine ◦ Quiz: Russia
Week 10	<p>Unit 11: The Middle East</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: The Middle East ◦ Assignment: Current Even Analysis ◦ Quiz: Israel & Palestine
Week 11	<p>Unit 12: India & China</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: India ◦ Quiz: China ◦ Assignment: Air Pollution Analysis
Week 12	<p>Unit 13: Japan & Korea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Japan ◦ Assignment: North & South Korea ◦ Quiz: North & South Korea
Week 13	<p>Unit 14: Southeast Asia & Australia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Southeast Asia ◦ Quiz: Australia ◦ Quiz: The Great Garbage Patch & Climate

Week 14	Unit 15: Know Your Countries & Final Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Quiz: Know Your Countries ◦ Final Geography Project
Week 14	Unit 16: Term 4 Post-Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Final Term/Quarter 4 Post-Assessment
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Course Evaluation <p>Congrats! You finished Semester 2 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.