

Geography and World Cultures offers a tightly focused and scaffolded curriculum that enables students to explore how geographic features, human relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts have developed and influenced life in countries around the world. Along the way, students are given rigorous instruction on how to read maps, charts, and graphs, and how to create them.

Geography and World Cultures is built to state standards and informed by standards from the National Council for History Education, the National Center for History in the Schools, and the National Council for Social Studies.

Geography and World Cultures is designed as the first course in the social studies sequence. It develops note-taking skills, teaches the basic elements of analytic writing, and introduces students to the close examination of primary documents.

Length: One semester

## UNIT 1: INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY

### LESSON 1: WRITING ABOUT THE WORLD

#### Study: The World Through Space

Discover that geography is an art, a science, and a way of thinking about the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Discuss: Introduce Yourself

Introduce yourself to your classmates.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

#### Journal: Your Notebook

Begin writing your geographer's notebook.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

#### Study: A Rapidly Changing Discipline

Discover how information technology is changing the discipline of geography.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: The Words We Write With

Learn the words that you will use when writing about the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Quiz: Writing about the World

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### LESSON 2: SPATIAL THINKING

#### Study: Mental Maps

Start thinking in spatial terms.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: Defining Culture

Identify the basic elements of culture and cultural studies.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: Population and Demography

Learn how to measure and analyze populations.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: Spatial Thinking**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 3: THE MAP CASE**

### **Study: Pictures of the World**

Discover why maps are special pictures of the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins

### **Study: Cartographer's Studio**

Learn about the people who make maps.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Read: The Mapmakers**

Read about the people who made the maps that revised the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Maps and Map Bias**

Learn how maps are inherently biased and how each map shows a particular perspective on the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: GIS: Geographic Information Systems**

Learn about the technology that is changing the discipline of geography.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: The Map Case**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 4: FIVE THEMES**

### **Study: Location: Where Is It?**

Discover how knowledge of absolute and relative location is a key geographic skill.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Place: What Is It Like?**

Examine the physical and human characteristics of a location.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Region: Dividing up the Earth**

Learn how to identify distinct areas.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Movement: People in Motion**

Discover how population movements affect places, locations, and regions.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Read: Migration Songs**

Read and evaluate songs about migrations and movement.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Human-Environmental Interaction**

Explore the ways in which humans and the environment affect each other.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Practice: Using the Themes**

Pick a country from the CIA World Factbook and use the five themes to summarize it.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 25 points

### **Quiz: Five Themes**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## LESSON 5: INTRODUCTION TO GEOGRAPHY WRAP-UP

### Review: Introduction to Geography

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### Test (CS): Introduction to Geography

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 40 points

### Test (TS): Introduction to Geography

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

## UNIT 2: PHYSICAL ELEMENTS

### LESSON 1: THE ROCK BENEATH

#### Study: Structure of the Earth

Identify the structure and function of each layer of Earth.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: Shapes and Forms

Discover the different shapes that form Earth's surface.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: A Moving Earth

Learn how movement in the Earth affects the lands we live on.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: The Ring of Fire

Discover why the Ring of Fire around the Pacific Ocean has more volcanoes and earthquakes than anywhere else on Earth.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Discuss: Living on Fire

Decide whether you would choose to live on the Ring of Fire.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

#### Quiz: The Rock Beneath

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### LESSON 2: WATER FLOWS

#### Study: Rain, Rivers, Oceans, Rain

Learn how the water cycle connects oceans, rain, and everything in between. Did you know that you drink seawater?

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: Wearing Away

Learn about the forces that wear away the surface of the Earth.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Journal: Building Up and Wearing Down

Evaluate which is more powerful — land-building or erosion.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

#### Study: Civilizations and Rivers

Discover why early civilizations formed in river valleys.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Read: The Folklore of Water**

Read myths from ancient civilizations to see what water meant to them.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Water Availability**

Learn how cultures adapt to situations in which there is little water.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: Water Flows**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 3: WIND AND WEATHER**

### **Study: The Elements of Weather**

Develop your vocabulary and understanding of weather.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Climate Zones**

Identify the major climate zones. Which one has grass growing over ice?

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Hurricane Zone**

Explain the causes and effects of a hurricane, including the effect of a hurricane on the shape of the land.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Climate Change**

Describe current scientific opinion on global climate change.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: Wind and Weather**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 4: THE FIRE OF LIFE**

### **Study: Habitats, Ecosystems, and Biomes**

Discover the links that connect life.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins

### **Practice: Life and Land**

Write a short essay explaining the connection between geography, climate, and biomes.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 25 points

### **Study: Environment and Culture**

Examine some of the ways that ecosystems affect culture.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Fragile Places: Human Interactions with the Environment**

Explore the ways in which humans affect the environment, especially in the most fragile places.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: The Fire of Life**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 5: PHYSICAL ELEMENTS WRAP-UP**

### **Review: Physical Elements**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Test (CS): Physical Elements**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 40 points

### **Test (TS): Physical Elements**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

## **UNIT 3: CULTURE**

### **LESSON 1: DEMOGRAPHICS**

#### **Study: Demography**

Study the distribution of the human population on Earth.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Study: Distribution Maps**

Learn how to use maps to indicate the way people or cultural traits are distributed through space.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Practice: Indonesia and Germany**

Use demographic information to compare two societies.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 25 points

#### **Study: Population Growth**

Describe the growth of the world's population.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Study: Population Movement**

Examine the movement of groups of people, especially through urbanization and mass migration.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Quiz: Demographics**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### **LESSON 2: POLITICS**

#### **Study: The Political Map**

Learn how to read a political map.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Read: Revolution and Change**

View art, music, stories, and poems created out of the yearning for change.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Study: Governments**

Explore the different forms of government around the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins

#### **Study: Tribes and Nations**

Analyze the tension between ethnic ties and national governments.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Quiz: Politics**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### **LESSON 3: ECONOMICS**

#### **Study: Economic Systems**

Learn about command market and traditional economic systems.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Discuss: Is It Fair?**

Evaluate world trade and world economic inequality.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

**Study: Development**

Examine economic development and its unexpected consequences.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: Comparing Developed and Undeveloped Countries**

Analyze the gaps between developed and undeveloped countries.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: The Green Revolution**

Discover the agricultural revolution that increased human population while lowering agricultural biodiversity.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Quiz: Economics**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

**LESSON 4: DAILY LIFE**

**Study: Tools for Understanding Others**

Learn how to interpret other people and other cultures.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: Family Structures**

Examine the various ways that families can be organized.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Journal: Look in the Mirror**

Evaluate your own family structure.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

**Study: Religion**

Discover different ways of understanding the relationship between humans and the divine and learn how to study that relationship.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: Eat, Drink, and Sing**

Explore the simple activities that make up daily life.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Quiz: Daily Life**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

**LESSON 5: CULTURE WRAP-UP**

**Review: Culture**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Test (CS): Culture**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 40 points

**Test (TS): Culture**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

## UNIT 4: NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

### LESSON 1: THE NEW WORLD

#### Study: Defining North and South America

Identify the place, location, and interconnections of North and South America.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: Two Big Rivers

Compare and contrast the Mississippi and the Amazon.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Quiz: The New World

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### LESSON 2: NORTH AMERICA

#### Study: Overview of North America

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of North America.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Practice: Mapping Your State

Create an annotated map of your state, showing geography, climate, biomes, population, and other information.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 25 points

#### Study: Shaped by Ice

Evaluate the effect of ice ages on modern societies.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Quiz: North America

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### LESSON 3: CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

#### Study: Overview of Central and South America

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of Central and South America.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Study: Colonial Linguistic Legacy

Analyze the sometimes surprising ways that language connects cultures across long distances.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### Journal: Walking Tour

Imagine that you were walking across South America. Lay out your path and then write a journal entry about one day of travel.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

#### Quiz: South America

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### LESSON 4: OCEAN-CENTERED GEOGRAPHY

#### Study: The Pacific Rim

Examine the Pacific Rim: Do the cities and countries along the coasts have more in common with one another than with their inland neighbors?

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Looking at Wet Places**

Analyze the ways that ocean-centered geography affects mental maps.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: Ocean-Centered Geography**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 5: NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA WRAP-UP**

### **Review: North and South America**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Test (CS): North and South America**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 40 points

### **Test (TS): North and South America**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

## **UNIT 5: EUROPE AND SOUTHWEST ASIA**

### **LESSON 1: THE WEST END OF ASIA**

#### **Study: Defining Europe and Southwest Asia**

Identify the place, location, and interconnections of Europe and Southwest Asia.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Study: The Mediterranean**

Explore the Mediterranean, a small ocean with its own distinct culture.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Quiz: The West End of Asia**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### **LESSON 2: EUROPE**

#### **Study: Overview of Europe**

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of Europe.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins

#### **Discuss: The Best That Has Ever Been Written or Done**

Respond to Matthew Arnold's definition of *culture*, which says "the best that has ever been written, thought, or heard."

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

#### **Study: Industrialization**

Analyze the Industrial Revolution that began in Europe and quickly spread across the entire world.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Quiz: Europe**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### **LESSON 3: CENTRAL AND SOUTHWEST ASIA**

#### **Study: Overview of Central and Southwest Asia**

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of Southwest Asia.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Study: Semitic Religion**



Discover the connections between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins

### **Practice: Sunni and Shia**

Compare the two major types of Islam.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 25 points

### **Quiz: Central and Southwest Asia**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 4: ENERGY**

### **Study: Fueling the Industrial Economy**

Learn how geographic concentrations of oil and other energy sources have affected the modern world.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Oil Fields**

Analyze the energy sources that fuel economic growth and development.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: Energy**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 5: EUROPE AND SOUTHWEST ASIA WRAP-UP**

### **Review: Europe and Southwest Asia**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Test (CS): Europe and Southwest Asia**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 40 points

### **Test (TS): Europe and Southwest Asia**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

## **UNIT 6: EAST ASIA AND SOUTH ASIA**

### **LESSON 1: ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS**

#### **Study: Defining East Asia and South Asia**

Identify the place, location, and interconnections of East Asia and South Asia.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Study: The Footprint of the Himalayas**

Trace the effect of the Himalayas on the climate and cultures of South Asia.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Quiz: Ancient Civilizations**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

### **LESSON 2: EAST ASIA**

#### **Study: Overview of East Asia**

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of South Asia.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

#### **Journal: The One-Child Policy**

Evaluate China's strict birth-control policy.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 20 points

### **Study: Buddhism**

Discover Buddhism, one of the major world religions.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: East Asia**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 3: SOUTH ASIA**

### **Study: Overview of South Asia**

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of East Asia.

Duration: 0 hrs 45 mins

### **Study: Hinduism**

Discover Hinduism, one of the major world religions.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Quiz: South Asia**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 4: URBANIZATION**

### **Study: Urbanization in Eastern China**

Learn about the rapid growth of cities in eastern China.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Study: Living in Cities**

Analyze the factors that lead to urbanization and that affect life in big cities.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Practice: Urban Studies**

Use your knowledge of urbanization to examine other large cities.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 25 points

### **Quiz: Urbanization**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## **LESSON 5: EAST ASIA AND SOUTH ASIA WRAP-UP**

### **Review: East Asia and South Asia**

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### **Test (CS): East Asia and South Asia**

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 40 points

### **Test (TS): East Asia and South Asia**

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

## **UNIT 7: AFRICA, ANTARCTICA, AND OCEANIA**

### **LESSON 1: PALM TREES AND PENGUINS**

#### **Study: Defining Africa and Oceania**

Identify the place, location, and interconnections of Africa, Antarctica, and Oceania.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: Antarctica**

Visit Antarctica, which is home to a few scientists and many penguins.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: Kilimanjaro**

Explore the many meanings of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Quiz: Palm Trees and Penguins**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

**LESSON 2: AFRICA****Study: Overview of Africa**

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of Africa.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: Poverty in Africa**

Explore the factors that have led to poverty in Africa.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Practice: Analyzing Multiple Causation**

Analyze the factors that have led to poverty in Africa.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 25 points

**Quiz: Africa**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

**LESSON 3: OCEANIA****Study: Overview of Oceania**

Identify the major geographic and cultural features of Oceania.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Discuss: Convicts and Aborigines**

Discuss the relationship between Aborigines and Australian colonists.

Duration: 0 hrs 15 mins Scoring: 10 points

**Study: Ecozones**

Use ecozones to analyze life-forms in Oceania and across the world.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Quiz: Oceania**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

**LESSON 4: DIVERSITY****Study: A Diverse Continent**

Examine the many diversities that shape African geography and culture.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Study: Rules for Living Together**

Analyze the rules that societies use to manage diversity and discover what happens when these rules break down.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

**Quiz: Diversity**

Take a quiz to assess your understanding of the material.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins Scoring: 15 points

## LESSON 5: AFRICA, ANTARCTICA, AND OCEANIA WRAP-UP

### Review: Africa, Antarctica, and Oceania

Prepare for the unit test by reviewing key concepts and skills.

Duration: 0 hrs 30 mins

### Test (CS): Africa, Antarctica, and Oceania

Take a computer-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 40 points

### Test (TS): Africa, Antarctica, and Oceania

Take a teacher-scored test to assess what you have learned in this unit.

Duration: 0 hrs 40 mins Scoring: 60 points

## UNIT 8: REVIEW AND EXAM

### LESSON 1: REVIEW AND EXAM

#### Review: Review

Prepare for the semester exam by reviewing key concepts covered.

Duration: 1 hr

#### Exam: Semester Exam

Take a computer-scored exam to demonstrate your mastery of concepts and skills covered.

Duration: 0 hrs 50 mins Scoring: 75 points

#### Final Exam: Semester Exam

Take a teacher-scored exam to demonstrate your mastery of concepts and skills covered.

Duration: 1 hr 40 mins Scoring: 100 points