



What Citizens Need to Know About World Affairs



What Citizens Need to Know About World Affairs addresses select World Geography topics covered in the Program for Studies for Kentucky schools.

World Geography

Historical Perspective 2.20

Students will

- understand historical changes in geographic patterns.
- recognize how to locate and gather geographic information using primary and secondary sources.
- analyze geographic information to evaluate past events and occurrences.
- recognize how attempts to acquire territory and resources have resulted in national and international conflicts.

- *Chapter 2 examines the world via a time perspective. Topics include, astronomy, geology, archaeology, history and religion. The century of the “J” curve and global interdependence is also discussed.*

- *Part V, World Regions – A Historical Sketch, examines the five major world regions, Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas. Nations in each region are profiled, as well as the relationship between nations in a particular region. Web site links such as Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information Home Page provide timely information regarding territorial conflict.*

Geography 2.19

Students will

- understand that human and physical features of the Earth’s surface can be identified by absolute and relative location.
- analyze the distribution of human and physical characteristics on Earth’s surface.
- use geographic tools to analyze geographic patterns resulting from the movement of people on the Earth’s surface.
- understand how and why people interact with and change their environments.

- *Chapter 1 explains the development of mapping geographic features. Mercator, Robinson and Peters projections are explained. Links to political, physical, and climate maps are available through chapter links.*
- *Chapter 15 examines the environment and the interaction of people with the environment. Pollution and the global economy are also discussed.*

Economics 2.18

Students will

- understand how geography affects the way nations deal with issues of production, distribution, and consumption.
- recognize that the location of activities (e.g., agriculture, production, distribution) impact national and international relationships.
- analyze how markets are affected by location and movement.
- recognize that all nations have to confront the problem of scarcity (imbalance between unlimited wants and limited resources).

- *Chapter 7 focuses on manufacturing and international trade. The global factory and world unemployment are discussed.*
- *Chapter 8 focuses on trade and trading patterns.*

Government and Civics 2.14, 2.15

Students will

- understand how political decisions affect political boundaries at local, state, national levels.
- recognize how natural environments and resources are used and controlled by governments.
- analyze how governments impact their human and physical geography.

- *Part III, Global Decision-Making, examines international relations and international organizations.*
- *Chapter 15 discusses how governments address pollution issues.*

Culture and Society 2.16, 1.17

Students will

- analyze the origin and migration of cultures.
- understand how the activities and beliefs of different cultural and social groups affect the use, form, and characteristics of landscapes.
- analyze the impact of movement on people and ideas.
- analyze how regions and places can have distinct cultural characteristics.
- understand how technological advances have impacted cultural assimilation.

- *Chapter 3 focuses on the issue of culture. Topics include cultural diversity, cultural pride, and cultural lag. Margaret Mead: Human Nature and the Power of Culture (Library of Congress Exhibition), Migrations in History, and Philosophy & Civil Society: Inventing Postmodern Civic Culture are examples of linked web sites that supplement text material.*