



What Citizens Need to Know About World Affairs



***What Citizens Need to Know About World Affairs* addresses select New Mexico Curriculum Framework Strands for Social Studies, Grades 9 – 12.**

Strand: Geography

Content Standard II: Students understand how physical, natural, and cultural processes influence where people live, the ways in which people live, and how societies interact with one another and their environments.

9-12 Benchmark II-A: Analyze and evaluate the characteristics and purposes of geographic tools, knowledge, skills, and perspectives, and apply them to explain the past, present, and future in terms of patterns, events, and issues.

1. Evaluate and select appropriate geographic representations to analyze and explain natural and man-made issues and problems.
2. Understand the vocabulary and concepts of spatial interaction, including an analysis of population distributions and settlement patterns.

- *Chapter 1 examines the world from a spatial perspective. The use of maps, satellite imaging and Global Positioning Systems help define how the world is viewed. Links to physical, political, and climate maps supplement chapter information.*

9-12 Benchmark II-B: Analyze natural and man-made characteristics of worldwide locales; describe regions, their interrelationships, and patterns of change.

1. Analyze the interrelationships among natural and human processes that shape the geographic connections and characteristics of regions, including connections among economic development, urbanization, population growth, and environmental change.
2. Analyze how the character and meaning of a place is related to its economic, social, and cultural characteristics, and why diverse groups in society view places and regions differently.
3. Analyze and evaluate changes in regions and recognize the patterns and causes of those changes (e.g., mining, tourism).
4. Analyze and evaluate why places and regions are important to human identity (e.g., sacred tribal grounds, culturally unified neighborhoods).

- *Chapter 2 focuses on time perspectives and discusses the relationship between astronomy, geology, archaeology, biology and history. Dynamic Earth: Historic Perspective and Web Geological Time Machine are examples of web sites supplementing chapter information.*
- *Chapter 3 focuses on cultural perspectives. Links to web sites such as Migrations in History, and Exploring Ancient World Cultures are available through the related web site list.*

9-12 Benchmark II-C: Analyze the impact of people, places, and natural environments upon the past and present in terms of our ability to plan for the future.

1. Analyze the fundamental role that geography has played in human history (e.g., the Russian winter on the defeat of Napoleon's army and the same effect in World War II).
2. Compare and contrast how different viewpoints influence policy regarding the use and management of natural resources.
3. Analyze the role that spatial relationships have played in effecting historic events.
4. Analyze the use of and effectiveness of technology in the study of geography.

- *Chapter 18 provides links to Napoleon, a web sites addressing the effect of winter on Napoleon's defeat and to World War II, a web site devoted to the history of this war.*
- *Chapter 14 examines natural resource allocation and the consequences for sharing these resources.*
- *Chapter 1 examines the spatial relationship of regions and our place on earth.*

9-12 Benchmark II-D: Analyze how physical processes shape the Earth's surface patterns and biosystems.

1. Analyze how the Earth's physical processes are dynamic and interactive.
2. Analyze the importance of ecosystems in understanding environments.
3. Explain and analyze how water is a scarce resource in New Mexico, both in quantity and quality.
4. Explain the dynamics of the four basic components of the Earth's physical systems (atmosphere, biosphere, lithosphere, and hydrosphere).

- *Chapter 15 discusses the environment and pollution. The relationship between the environment and the global economy is also investigated.*

9-12 Benchmark II-E: Analyze and evaluate how economic, political, cultural, and social processes interact to shape patterns of human populations, and their interdependence, cooperation, and conflict.

1. Analyze the factors influencing economic activities (e.g., mining, ranching, agriculture, tribal gaming, tourism, high tech) that have resulted in New Mexico's population growth.
2. Analyze the effects of geographic factors on major events in United States and world history.
3. Analyze the interrelationships among settlement, migration, population-distribution patterns, landforms, and climates in developing and developed countries.
4. Analyze how cooperation and conflict are involved in shaping the distribution of political, social and economic factors in New Mexico, United States, and throughout the world (e.g., land grants, border issues, United States territories, Israel and the Middle East, the former Soviet Union, and Sub-Saharan Africa).
5. Analyze how cultures shape characteristics of a region.
6. Analyze how differing points of view and self-interest play a role in conflict over territory and resources (e.g., impact of culture, politics, strategic locations, resources).
7. Evaluate the effects of technology on the developments, changes to, and interactions of cultures.

- *Chapter 9 focuses on developing nations and the measure of development.*
- *Chapter 12 addresses migration and population distribution patterns. Related articles include “Europeans Struggle With Idea of ‘Replacement Migration’.”*
- *Part V, World Regions – A Historical Sketch, examines the regions of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas. Economic, social, geographic, political and cultural factors that shape each of the nations within these regions is addressed.*
- *Chapter 3 investigates the topic of culture and the influences on culture.*
- *Chapter 6 focuses on technology. People and Discoveries: Technology and The Invention Dimension are examples of related web sites supplementing chapter information.*

9-12 Benchmark II-F: Analyze and evaluate the effects of human and natural interactions in terms of changes in the meaning, use, distribution, and importance of resources in order to predict our global capacity to support human activity.

1. Compare the ways man-made and natural processes modify the environment and how these modifications impact resource allocations.
2. Analyze how environmental changes bring about and impact resources.
3. Analyze the geographic factors that influence the major world patterns of economic activity, economic connections among different regions, changing alignments in world trade partners, and the potential redistribution of resources based on changing patterns and alignments.

- *Chapter 14 addresses natural resource distribution and scarcity. The relationship between industry and resources is discussed. Web site links include, Fossil Energy Web Site and Minerals and Geology Management Home Page.*
- *Chapter 15 addresses the environment and the global economy. Topics include pollution and the food chain. Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, Debt-for-Environment Swaps (1998) and Rainforest Action Network Home Page are examples of related web sites.*
- *Chapter 8 discusses trading patterns, the international marketplace, and the effects of trade on economies around the world.*