



# North Polk Community Schools Pacing & Course Description Guide



Grade Level: 9th

Content: World Geography and Cultures

Year: 2022

## Course Description/Rationale

This course provides an overview of world geography, including the physical environment, the political landscape, the relationship between people and the land, economic production and development, and the movement of people, goods and ideas.

Name of Unit	Time Frame	Essential Learning Target	Standard(s)
Unit 1: Introduction to World Geography and Cultures	5 Weeks	Students will develop an understanding of foundational vocabulary and concepts for the course.  Students will identify key world regions and physical features.	SS-Geo.9-12.13
Unit 2: North America	5 weeks	Students will explore issues pertaining to world migration and urbanization.  Students will compare and contrast consumption patterns of countries in developed and developing countries around the world.	SS-Geo.9-12.14 SS-Geo.9-12.24 SS-Geo.9-12.20
Unit 3: South America	4 Weeks	Students will describe the origins of land use conflict in the Amazon Rainforest.  Students will analyze the consequences of human-made and natural catastrophes on global trade, politics, and human migration.	SS-Geo.9-12.21 SS-Geo.9-12.23
Unit 4: Europe	4 Weeks	Students will develop understanding of population pyramids to understand the changing demographics and history of countries around the world.  Students will describe the origins and characteristics of the European Union.	SS-Geo.9-12.22

Unit 5: Russia	2 Weeks	<p>Students will analyze the impact of Russia’s physical landscape on its development.</p> <p>Students will describe the history of the collapse of the Soviet Union and the development of new nation-states that formed in the years after the Cold War.</p>	SS-Geo.9-12.18
Unit 6: Korea	2 Weeks	<p>Students will explore the origins of the divide between North and South Korea.</p> <p>Students will compare and contrast society in North and South Korea.</p>	SS-Geo.9-12.14
Unit 7: China	4 Weeks	<p>Students will analyze key events in 20th century Chinese history and its impact on the present.</p> <p>Students explore dilemmas faced by China as its population grew in the 20th century.</p>	SS-Geo.9-12.19
Unit 8: Japan	2 Weeks	<p>Students will evaluate the physical geography of Japan and how population density impacts the way people live.</p>	SS-Geo.9-12.15
Unit 9: India	3 Weeks	<p>Students will evaluate the impact of human settlement in India and the environmental and cultural characteristics of specific places and regions.</p> <p>Students will explore the history of colonialism in India.</p>	SS-Geo.9-12.18
Unit 10: Middle East	3 Weeks	<p>Students will analyze Middle Eastern Countries relationships and interactions between human and physical systems to explain reciprocal influences.</p>	SS-Geo.9-12.16
Unit 11: Africa	3 Weeks	<p>Students will analyze how environmental and cultural characteristics in Africa influenced political and economic decisions.</p> <p>Students will explore the history of colonialism in Africa.</p>	SS-Geo.9-12.17