

An Introduction to Contemporary World Studies Cecil County Public Schools

While studying Contemporary World Studies, students will investigate the impact of systems, quantity, movement, and culture on global issues today.

Utilizing **Maryland State Curriculum Standards**, and **College Career and Civic Life Standards (C3)**, Contemporary World Studies students will focus on developing understandings of four macro-concepts throughout the course: Systems, Quantity, Movement, and Culture. These four macro-concepts are to be integrated with the standards. The concepts are the catalyst for teaching the standards in depth and the micro concepts will provide the depth of learning in each unit. Contemporary World Studies students will build upon their understandings of the standards and will be able to transfer the standards across all disciplines.

Contemporary World Studies teachers will have access to a Course Organizer providing an overview for instruction for the course. Each unit represents a macro-concept that serves as a lens through which the content will be explored. Contemporary World Studies teachers will also have access to a unit planner and a unit organizer for each unit. Each unit organizer reflects Maryland State Curriculum Standards and C3 standards. The units are intended to be taught sequentially and conceptually as indicated below:

Unit 1: Globalization (Systems) is about utilization of systems to dissolve barriers between nations. Students will recognize place through economics, interdependence, and cooperation.

Unit 2: The Cultural Landscape (Quantity) is about studying the world's population. Students will analyze cultures around the globe and global issues through the lens of quantity to see trends and patterns.

Unit 3: Resources (Movement) is about how humans interact with and manage their environments. Students will evaluate human-environment interactions by exploring the paradox of resources, analyzing resource conflicts, and evaluating the management of resources.

Unit 4: Conflict (Culture) is about national and international disputes and their impact on the global community. Students will take a regional approach to analyzing conflicts in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America.