

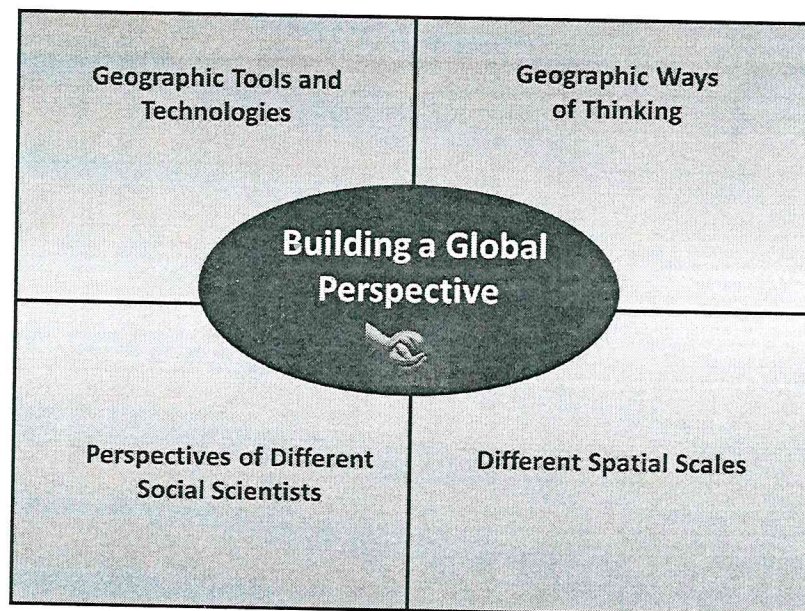
Unit 1: Foundations of World Geography

Below are three questions we will be investigating in this unit. Read the questions and think about what you already know that can help you understand each one.

Focus Questions

1. How can the five themes of geography help us understand our world?
2. How can the approaches and perspectives of different social scientists help us understand our world?
3. What makes an issue or problem global?

This unit will introduce you to the study of geography. While you have probably explored geographic concepts before, this course focuses on a global perspective. That means we are going to investigate the geography of the world. Since the world is rather big, we are going to start with some foundational ideas.



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What is geography?

Whether you know it or not, geography is a part of your every-day life. From the foods you eat to the type of home you live in, geography affects your life. Geography is the social studies field that investigates the earth and the ways humans interact with it. An expert on geography is called a geographer.