THE CENTER *for* INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

Global Competencies for Future-Ready Students

North Carolina high school graduates need to understand global issues and other cultures in order to thrive in the 21st Century. Being globally competent and aware means being prepared to interact with the world, both inside and outside our borders. Here are the competencies – skills, knowledge and perspectives – students need to be global citizens, workers and leaders.

1) Culturally Aware

a) Have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of one foreign culture very different than their own
b) Know world geography
c) Understand the relationship between behavior and culture
d) Recognize and can describe cultural differences without judging
e) Understand the contributions of different cultures to the American way of life

2) Aware of World Events and Global Dynamics

a) Have an in-depth knowledge and understanding of one pressing international issue or problem
b) Have the ability to analyze and understand current world events, international issues and global debates
c) Understand that global issues are complex and changing and have historic, political, economic and ecological dimensions and consequences
d) Understand that local issues and global issues are interrelated
e) Are able to understand and critically evaluate world events from the perspective of different cultures

3) Effective Communicators across Cultures

a) Are proficient in a second language
b) Can recognize the impact of culture on communication
c) Are able to adapt one's own written and spoken communication to be understood by a non-native speaker

4) Collaborative Members of Multicultural Teams

a) Are able to solve problems collaboratively with individuals from diverse cultures
b) Are able to function effectively as a member of a multi-national team
c) Are receptive to other's views, respectful of differences in interpretation and judgment, and able to revise and expand their own views

Compiled by the **Center for International Understanding**, a public service program of The University of North Carolina. This list of global competencies is adapted from the work of the following: Tony Jackson, International Studies Schools Network; Andy Smith, American Forum for Global Education; Partnership for 21st Century Skills; North Carolina Business Committee for Education; Darla Deardorff, Association of International Education Administrators; Michael Eskew, CEO, UPS; Committee for Economic Development.

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