AAG Center for Global Geography Education (CGGE)

http://globalgeography.aag.org
Recent calls to “internationalize” curricula in schools and colleges have been interpreted differently, resulting in different outcomes such as:

- More investment in study abroad programs (still, only 2-3% of U.S. students participate in such programs)
- Efforts to boost recruitment of international students
- Using the web to connect students with their peers in different countries for collaborative learning

All of this implies a need to rethink approaches to teaching, learning, and developing curricula.
CGGE aims to internationalize the teaching and learning of geography:

1) By publishing **case studies** providing comparative regional analyses of important geographic issues, written by geographers from those regions.

2) By connecting geography students in different regions and countries for **collaborative projects**.

3) By providing teachers with **professional training** and opportunities to develop expertise in relevant pedagogies and educational practices.
This module explores how climates have changed in the past due to natural events, how climates are currently being influenced by human activities, and the associated affects on human and natural environments.

The conceptual framework introduces some of the theories and ideas used by geographers to analyze world climates, emphasizing concepts such as atmospheric pollution, greenhouse effect, and energy budgets.

Each case study explores a geographic question about climate change in the context of a particular country or region.

The module's collaborative projects offer opportunities for students to discuss the case studies and engage in geographic learning with students in different countries.

Reflections and on-going Developments from the

Singapore Workshop

AAG/CGGE March 2010

Presentation to SUNY COIL Conference:

Moving From Me to We: Breaking Boundaries and Building Bridges With Globally Networked Learning Partnerships

New York, New York, June 2012
Teaching geography with care

- medium term planning with ‘big concepts’
- Nurturing a ‘culture of argument’ - education for conversation, making sense of the world
- Promoting an attitude of ‘confident uncertainty’ towards knowledge development
- Stimulation ... or of ‘getting somewhere’

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Collaboration Between SUNY Oneonta Students and Beijing University Students

Population and Natural Resource Module
SE Asia Case Study

• Icebreaker presentations on their homes: i.e. local university, cities, students’ hometowns, and regions

• Presentations on local forest and population histories
Examples of student icebreaker activities from Spring 2011

The Catskills

Beijing

- Beijing is the capital of China,
- and it has a very very long history.
- In your short two day's tour,
- we want to take you guys to go some very
- interesting places and eat some very
delicious food.
Students were asked to research their local forest histories along with population changes and to then present those findings to their partners.
Gradually, logging developed. This was a slow but relentless process that affected the environment. The demand for timber pushed the deforestation deeper into the wilderness.
The current situation of forest

However, with the economic development and population growth, eighty percent of the forest that originally covered the earth have been cleared, fragmented, or otherwise degraded.
History of Population in New York State

Population Distribution in 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>589,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>3,097,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>7,268,894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>14,830,192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>18,976,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>19,378,102</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussions

- **From a Chinese Student**
  - “... Second, the conflict between a large population and insufficient natural resources will intensify, which should cause wars between countries. That is we all don’t want to see.
  - So, population change is and international issue and cooperation should be intensified for the sake of our planet.
  - This is my opinion, do you agree with me? Hope your reply!”

- **From an American Student**
  - “From a reasonable standpoint, there are circumstances that call for international support and then there are some cases that should be dealt with internally. When a nation's population is becoming problematic due to a misallocation of resources, that is to say that a small percentage enjoys a disproportionate amount of resources, that state’s government should act to better disperse those resources.”
SUNY Oneonta

Field Course To Vietnam

May 2011