# **Learning Objectives**



**Note** – This is part of a Booklet on Global Education with a Research and Writing assignment on global issues,

**Global Education: Research & Writing on Global Issues** 

This includes a student assignment for researching and writing about a global issue, though any particular issue can be chosen. It also includes assignment guidelines, learning objectives, class and semester ideas, question and note-taking worksheets, critical thinking questions and discussion guidelines, writing guidelines and rubric, general objectives and themes in global education, and an extensive outline of global issues for research and study.

#### from EducationForWorldSolutions.org

a non-profit website, free of ads, dedicated to global education on world issues, with hundreds of links to information websites

# Learning objectives

## Students learn to

- research, read and write across integrated content areas
- formulate useful questions relevant to the issue of inquiry
- identify and locate relevant online resources and information
- evaluate the comprehensiveness, currency, credibility, authority, and accuracy of resources
- compare and contrast different arguments or perspectives
- analyze the causal relations between various factors, such as economic, environmental, health, and sociocultural
- evaluate the positive & negative impacts of business activities, government policies, and proposed solutions to problems
- formulate conclusions & opinions, based on critical reasoning
- use summary and synthesis in writing about what is learned
- use rational argument in writing about an opinion or proposal

# Key learning objectives

*Textual analysis* – students examine primary and secondary sources to understand complex issues from multiple perspectives

*Media literacy* – students learn from a variety of multimedia and information sources, as well as critique and evaluate the content, reasoning, implicit meaning, values, perspectives, beliefs & bias

**Critical thinking** – students learn to analyze and evaluate media information, solutions and policy options, as well as question the underlying values and interests motivating different perspectives

**Communication** – students learn how to express their views and ideas, engage in collaborative discussions, formulate reasonable arguments, and use various mediums to communicate their ideas

## **General objectives**

- developing a Global View and understanding of issues
- developing intelligent understanding and opinions
- able to effectively communicate beliefs, ideas & opinions
- able to challenge status quo beliefs, biases, prejudices
- relating Global issues to local issues and to responsible informed action
- becoming interested in and inspired by global issues

## **Skills objectives**

- summarizing & explaining a global problem or issue
- summarizing & explaining the facts, causes & effects, and proposed solutions
- exploring & researching multiple information sources perspectives, and contrasting arguments
- comparing & evaluating different perspectives, beliefs, ideas, and opinions.
- recognizing & identifying implicit values or concerns, including economic or cultural interests in a viewpoint
- providing evidence & examples to support one's summary and conclusions

# 3 Main Learning Objectives: *Knowledge, Values, and Skills*

## Knowledge

- Global Awareness and general overview of issues
- Learning about other people and cultures in the world
- Learning about various kinds of problems in the world
- Learning how global problems are often interconnected
- Learning how global problems have multiple causes and consequences
- Learning more about physical & life sciences, social sciences, politics & economics
- Learning about particular issues, problems, and solutions
- Learning about choices needed to make the world better
- Learning how to locally work on a particular global issue

Knowledge of global issues, self-reflection and discussion of values, plus globally responsible decisions and actions, *should be* educational goals for high school & college students

#### Values

- Passion for learning about the world
- Interest in world problems
- Environmental concern
- Concern for all people in the world
- Considering how to help others and solve problems
- Respect for cultural and religious diversity
- Global thinking and responsibility
- Global-based, long-term thinking
- Commitment to human rights, social justice, peace, global cooperation, and environmental responsibility

#### Skills

- Improved literacy, reading & vocabulary
- Improved research & study skills
- Improved reasoning & evaluation skills
- Improved communication & writing skills
- Improved interest & engagement in learning

## **Reading comprehension skills**

- Improving student's level of reading and vocabulary
- Comprehension of concepts & terms used in science, social studies, economics, and politics
- Identifying different types of writing
- Identifying the author's thesis, purpose, and main ideas
- Identifying facts & opinions, cause & effect, comparison
  & contrast, persuasions, reasoning, & emotional appeal

#### Research skills

- Searching for information on an issue, problem, solution
- Examining primary and secondary sources, to explore multiple perspectives on complex issues
- Recognizing what is relevant and related to one's topic
- Evaluating a website's organization of information, usefulness, scope, trustworthiness, and reasoning
- Recognizing main themes, concerns, problems, causes, related effects, and proposed solutions

#### **Cognitive skills** (thinking, reasoning, & evaluating) (these are also learning objectives)

- Thinking about & studying issues, values and solutions
- Identifying main themes, problems, and important facts
- Identifying causes and effects
- Identifying inferences, comparisons, and conclusions
- Identifying perspective, values, and opinions
- Identifying underlying beliefs, and any bias or prejudice
- Evaluating facts, reasoning, inferences, proposed conclusions, arguments, and solutions
- Problem-solving and creative thinking to solve problems

#### **Communication & writing skills**

- Exposition of information, summary, analysis, synthesis, and persuasion.
- Communication of understanding, ideas, values, and thoughtful solutions