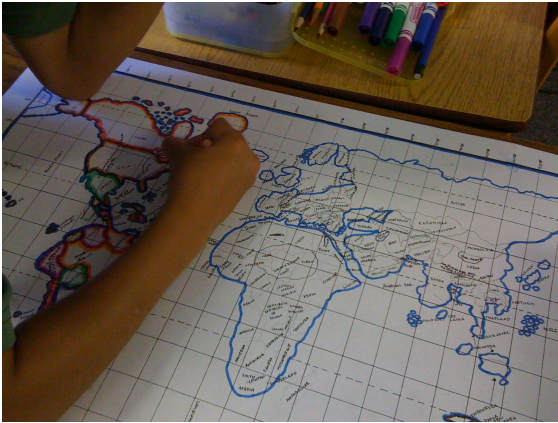


Mapping the World
Thursdays 2020-2021
Instructor: Lori Peters

Course Overview and Objective

This **full year course** will allow students to dive deeply into world geography, starting at any level. By the end of the year (if attending all four sessions and completing all assignments and recommended independent practice), students will be able to **draw a map of the world by heart**, on a equirectangular grid, and– dependent on their starting point of knowledge– will include most of the world’s 196* countries, major bodies of water, and major landforms. Like anything, the final product is determined by the time and effort put into it, which begins August 27! Lessons taken from David Smith’s “**Mapping the World by Heart**” curriculum, as well as video and other sources, will support the understanding of various maps, globes, regions, climates, coordinates, the spatial relationships of countries and continents to one another, and regional/cultural and historical information about some countries. **Instructor Lori Peters** has taught this unit many times before, and former students claim it was, without a doubt, one of the most beneficial projects they ever had. (*Number of countries is listed as either 195 or 196 depending on your source!)



Mapping is an ART:

Students will learn about the geography of various parts of the world, create maps, and explore the history and culture of various regions. Beside the geography lessons, there will be a lot of focus on accurate drawing, coloring, lettering, and spelling! After all, maps are art, and the final product will be a masterpiece. The picture to the left shows a student focusing on his final product, which was in full color by the time he was done. 😊

Course Expectations:

- Attend all classes, or study focus area if absent.
- Arrive on time to class and be prepared. Bring sketchbook weekly to show practice work. You will need to submit a photo of your work (or use **CamScanner**, a free app).
- Check **Edmodo** weekly for added assignment details.
- Materials needed each week:
 - Sharpened colored pencils, pencil, erasers, and good thin black art pens for outlining (not water based). Best are “architect-type” or Pilot Precise Rolling Ball, black and fine point
 - 3-ring binder with pockets (less than 1 inch) or similar for organizing weekly handouts
 - Spiral notebook for notes, journaling
 - A spiral blank sketchbook, 8.5 x 11” or larger
 - It is recommended that each student have their own physical world atlas and know how to use it. Recommended: **National Geographic Student World Atlas**, 4th Edition or later (under \$10 on Amazon)
 - Optional: a **hard copy of a large map** (not online) and/or large atlas that shows longitude and latitude. Recommended: 30x48 World Wall Map by Smithsonian Journeys - Blue Ocean Edition (30x48 Laminated) Please avoid a Mercator map.
- Homework: Students should plan to **spend 1.5-2 hours a week on their mapping practice**. There is NEVER “no homework”. More time may be needed during “project weeks”.

SYLLABUS

(subject to change dependent on student pace and whether our location changes)

Session 1

8/27 Blank grid first map (this won't be seen again until the end of the year). Introduction to various types of maps, themes of geography, and coordinate grids to find locations.

- Independent Practice: A Traveler's Tools #1. Practice sketch.

9/3: Longitude and latitude, and units of measure in geography. Focus: World features and major bodies of water. Definition of key terms.

- Independent practice: using grids to find locations. Need access to a hard copy map or atlas (not online). A Traveler's Tools #2. Practice sketch. (Sketching practice continues; some required and some are extra credit)

9/10: Grapefruit lesson: map distortion. Focus: The Americas.

- Independent practice: sketching the Americas. Use country guide to add correctly spelled locations!

9/17: Focus: USA geography, regions, and major landforms.

- Independent practice: sketch the USA. Can you add in 48 contiguous states, and then Hawaii and Alaska? Use state guide for spelling!

9/24: Focus: Canadian regions, provinces, and Greenland.

- Independent practice: finish map of Canada. Province sketch.

10/1: Focus: Central and South America geography, regions and major landforms.

- Independent practice: finish map of the Americas. How much more can you add? Students need access to a hard copy map or atlas (not online). State sketch.

10/8: Outline blank grid map of the Americas; focus on Central America. Select Central or South American country to study for session 2 presentation.

- Independent practice: country research.

Session 2

10/22: Physical map of South America, landforms and regions.

- Independent practice: Create detailed map of your country, at least 18" x 24". Be sure names are correctly spelled!

10/29: Political map of South America

- Independent Practice: prepare visuals for your presentation

11/5: Share Presentation #1 projects (maps and short oral presentation), of the Americas. Explain mapping experience. **Parents are encouraged to attend.**

- Independent practice: Sketch.

11/12: Using gridlines to plot outline of western hemisphere.

- Independent practice: finish outline sketch, labeling

11/19: Introduction to Africa, major landforms

- Independent practice: blank outline with landforms.

No class on 11/26

12/3: Focus: Outline blank grid map of Africa, political

- Independent practice: finish map of the Africa. How much more can you add? Need access to a hard copy map or atlas (not online). Use country guide to add correctly spelled locations!

12/10: Focus: Africa, more regions and landforms, practice with coordinates.

- Independent practice: practice sketching Africa, political and surrounding areas.

12/17 Focus: Western Europe, identify major landforms, region and culture, bodies of water. Select country for Project #2.

- Independent practice: Fact-finding mission Western Europe (using graphs/charts). World report almanac. Project research for Project #2 (Africa or Europe)

Session 3

1/14: Focus: Western Europe, region and culture, bodies of water. Outline blank grid map of Western Europe using coordinates.

- Independent practice: Create detailed map of your country, at least 18" x 24"

1/21: Finish practice map of the Western Europe. How much more can you add? Need access to a hard copy map or atlas (not online).

- Independent practice: prepare for presentations

1/28: Share African or European project #2. **Parents are encouraged to attend.**

- Independent practice: Fact-finding mission Europe/Eurasia; sketch

2/4: Focus: Eurasia (continental divide). Practice with coordinates.

- Independent practice: sketching Eurasia

2/11: Focus: Asia, regions, landforms, countries and culture.

- Independent practice: Eastern Asia.

2/18: Focus: Western Asia, Middle East, region and culture.

- Independent practice: Arabian Peninsula. Use country guide to add correctly spelled locations!

2/25: Focus: Southern Asia and surrounding islands and peninsulas. Select Asian country.

- Independent practice: Sketch and mini-research project.

3/4: Share Asian projects (maps and short oral presentation). Asia overview map.

- Independent practice: sketch

3/11: Focus: Asia overview map, bodies of water, and other landforms. Begin outline blank grid map of Asia.

- Independent practice: sketch

No class 3/18

Session 4

Please note: *Independent practice and review of any areas that students may have missed is critical at this point. The final map takes, on average, SIX full hours.*

3/25: Focus: Australia and Oceania. Practice using coordinates.

- Independent practice: sketch

4/1: Focus: Australia and Oceania. Practice using coordinates.

- Independent practice: sketch

No class on 4/8

4/9: Southern Hemisphere, including Antarctica, plus world sketch practice.

- Independent practice: Continent review and practice world map. Major landforms.

4/15: World sketch and pull it all together. Focus: Review Western hemisphere, grid map using coordinates.

- Independent practice: Complete grid map. Review of western hemisphere island groups.

4/22: Practice world sketch. Use country guides to add correctly spelled locations!

- Independent practice: Mnemonic strategies, begin review of world with practice sketches.

4/29: Final World Map, part 1: Prepare equirectangular grids. Begin light outline.

- Independent practice: study country lists! Sketching/tracing the world!

5/6: Final World Map, part 2: outlining countries, begin labeling. **Please ARRIVE at 8:30.**

- Independent practice: study country lists!!

5/13: Final World Map, part 3: outline lettering of countries and bodies of water. Shading and coloring.

5/20: Final touches for shading! **World Map celebration.** Parents are encouraged to attend. Take home maps! (Please bring a 30" **cardboard tube** to transport them in). Highly recommended for framing.