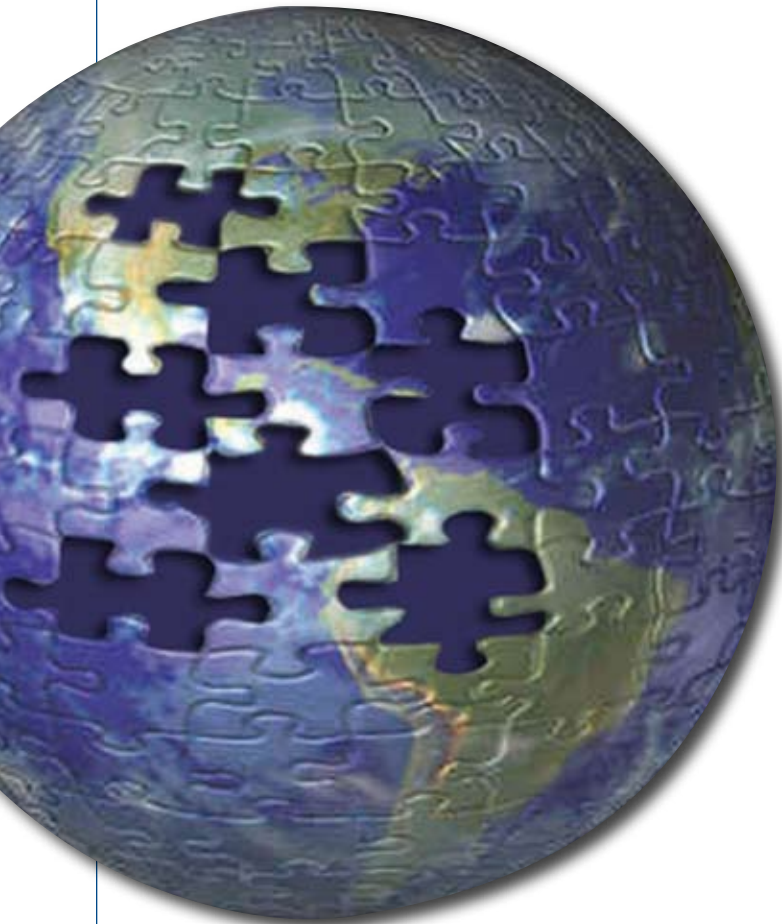


# Pathways to Global Literacy

*for Wisconsin Students*



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent



# The Elements of Global Literacy

Wisconsin students need to study global cultures, languages, connections, and challenges, at all grade levels and across all subjects. Globally competent students must develop literacy in these areas:

## Communication

The first language of children gives them a strong identity. It opens a world to them and enables them to reason and express themselves in their first community. As students learn other languages, beginning in elementary school, they gain keys for global understanding, future jobs, and influence within a broader global community.

## Citizenship

Children are first of all citizens in their home community. Through community and school life, they are introduced to local and regional history, geography, and their natural environment. As they mature, they understand that civic duty includes a deep understanding of national and world affairs and their impact on issues such as economic development and stewardship of the environment.

## Careers

The globe has shrunk through travel, high speed data transfer, and instant communication technologies. This brings great opportunities, but only if students can function within an ever-changing global job market. Global commerce involves the exchange of products, knowledge, and information. Students need to apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills in all areas of the curriculum ranging from the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics to the humanities.

## Culture

Artistic expression through literature and the performing arts has always defined a nation's humanity. As cultures come into contact, young people need flexibility and creativity to work across cultures in fields such as architecture, film and media, fashion, and design. Students need genuine experiences living, studying, and working within cultures different from their own home community.

## Community

Getting to know people in other parts of the world through communication, commerce, and culture creates understanding as well as respect. The health of every community, small and large, is strengthened as students learn to see issues through the eyes of others.



## Pathways to Global Literacy

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) takes a leadership role in its work with students, teachers, school districts, administrators, parents, and business and community leaders to develop pathways to global literacy for Wisconsin students.

The development of global literacy in all areas of the curriculum is integrated in several department initiatives, including the American Diploma Project, Partnership for 21st Century Skills, Quality Educator Initiative, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), and high school redesign.

State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster and Governor Jim Doyle appointed a Statewide International Education Council to recommend and advocate policies to make global studies more accessible to PK-16 students and educators. The Council developed specific recommendations for strengthening international education in Wisconsin's schools. These recommendations are available in print and online at [dpi.wi.gov/cal](http://dpi.wi.gov/cal).



***Elizabeth Burmaster**, State Superintendent, Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction; **Dr. Khunying Kasama Varavarn**, Permanent Secretary, Thailand's Ministry of Education; **Kenneth Foster**, First Secretary, Cultural Affairs, Embassy of the United States of America in Thailand*

Four pathways to global literacy were identified as strategic priorities for DPI initiatives by a statewide planning group of members of the International Education Council, community members, and educators from K-12 as well as higher education: Advocacy, Building Bridges to Other Cultures, Teaching and Learning, and Study-Abroad Opportunities.



## Advocacy

The Department of Public Instruction recommends that:

- All students learn a world language.
- All teachers and administrators learn a world language.
- All school districts establish education partnerships with schools around the world.
- All school districts collaborate with local and state business and community leaders to create international learning opportunities for all students.

## Building Bridges to Other Cultures

- The Department of Public Instruction creates and maintains education partnerships with regions around the world for the benefit of school districts, teachers, and students.
- Existing partnerships are maintained with Chiba Prefecture (Japan), the state of Hessen (Germany), the Académies of Aix-Marseille and Bordeaux (France), and Thailand's Ministry of Education, and education partnership agreements with Heilongjiang (China) and Jalisco (Mexico) are pending.
- Through these partnerships, the DPI creates opportunities for:
  - School-to-school cooperation;
  - Student hosting, exchanges, and study tour experiences;
  - Teacher and administrator hosting, exchanges, and study tour experiences;
  - Global dialogues on teaching, student learning, and achievement; and
  - International professional development seminars for teachers and administrators.



## Teaching and Learning

The Department of Public Instruction works closely with school districts, institutions of higher education, and national initiatives to ensure that:

- Teachers have the skills and knowledge to teach their content area within an international or global context;
- Curricula in the content areas provide the framework for teaching, learning, and problem solving in a global context;
- State model academic standards in all content areas include an international dimension;
- Teacher preparation includes requirements for study-abroad and global studies;
- Professional development opportunities are available to teachers through workshops and international study experiences; and
- Teachers use available technology to connect with schools around the world to create project-based cooperative learning scenarios.





## Study-Abroad Opportunities

The Department of Public Instruction

- Encourages teacher and student study-abroad experiences made available through its partnerships with regions and countries around the world as well as reputable exchange organizations;
- Administers international teacher seminars with partner institutions in France, Germany, and Japan;
- Administers a semester-length student exchange program with Hessen (Germany); and
- Advises school districts on ways to award credits toward high school graduation for students studying abroad.



*Hessen-Wisconsin Teacher Seminar, Darmstadt 2005*



## Resources

### Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Websites:

- International Education: More detailed information on all programs mentioned in this brochure and a vast array of state, national, and international resources in all areas of K-12 international education are available at [dpi.wi.gov/cal/intertled.html](http://dpi.wi.gov/cal/intertled.html).
- World Languages Education: Information on effective world language instruction is available at [dpi.wi.gov/cal/languages.html](http://dpi.wi.gov/cal/languages.html).

### Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Publications:

- International Education Recommendations
- Planning Curriculum in International Education
- Planning Curriculum for Learning World Languages
- Planning Curriculum in Social Studies
- Planning a Connected Curriculum

To order these and other DPI curriculum guides and CD ROMs, call (800) 243-8782 (toll free, U.S. only), or (608) 266-2188, or go to our website: [dpi.wi.gov/pubsales](http://dpi.wi.gov/pubsales).





# More Information about Wisconsin's Pathways to Global Literacy and Exemplary Programs:

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