The Global Competence Matrix

Global competence refers to the skills and dispositions that all humans need to navigate and thrive in a diverse, interconnected, and ever-changing world. Educators who aspire to help students become globally competent must both develop these attributes in themselves and find ways to foster them in students.

Core Concepts

- World events and global issues are complex and interdependent
- One’s own culture and history is key to understanding one’s relationship to others
- Multiple conditions fundamentally affect diverse global forces, events, conditions, and issues
- The current world system is shaped by historical forces

Behaviors

- Seeks out and applies an understanding of different perspectives to problem solving and decision making
- Forms opinions based on exploration and evidence
- Commits to the process of continuous learning and reflection
- Adopts shared responsibility and takes cooperative action
- Shares knowledge and encourages discourse
- Translates ideas, concerns, and findings into appropriate and responsible individual or collaborative actions to improve conditions
- Approaches thinking and problem solving collaboratively

Values & Attitudes

- Embraces new opportunities, ideas and ways of thinking
- Engages willingly and openly with others
- Demonstrates self-awareness about identity and culture, and sensitivity and respect for differences
- Values multiple perspectives
- Finds comfort with ambiguity and unfamiliar situations
- Reflects on the context and meaning of our lives in relationship to something bigger
- Questions prevailing assumptions
- Adapts to new situations and is cognitively nimble
- Chooses empathy
- Demonstrates humility

Skills

- Investigates the world by framing questions, analyzing and synthesizing relevant evidence, and drawing reasonable conclusions that lead to further inquiry
- Recognizes, articulates, and applies an understanding of different perspectives (including their own)
- Selects and applies appropriate tools and strategies to communicate and collaborate effectively
- Listens actively and engages in inclusive dialogue
- Is fluent in 21st century digital technology
- Demonstrates resiliency in new situations
- Applies critical, comparative, and creative thinking and problem solving

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