

# CONTEMPORARY WORLD PROBLEMS

## SCOPE

There are plenty of problems in the world today. War, threats to the environment, hunger and poverty are just some of the problems. You are going to be asked to take the challenge. You will need two things to solve today's world problems. First, you will need to learn about the history and geography behind each problem. Then you need to think creatively to find new solutions to these problems. The rationale of this course can be represented in a formula. This formula is:

Historical Facts + Thinking Strategies = Potential Solutions

## SEQUENCE

### Unit 1 – Poverty and America's Children

1. Important words from the study of economics.
2. Identify and define economic terminology.
3. Explain common causes and consequences of child poverty in the United States.
4. Study government programs to help poor children.
5. Learn problem solving strategies.
6. Learn to read graphs, tables and charts.

### Unit 2 – Homelessness in America

1. Important words from the study of economics.
2. Identify and define economic terminology.
3. Explain common causes and consequences of child poverty in the United States.
4. Study the history of government programs to help people get housing.
5. Calculate the value of government aid for housing.

### Unit 3 – The War on Drugs

1. Explain common cause and consequences of substance abuse in the United States.
2. Learn important words for the study of drugs and the problems of drug abuse.
3. Identify drug abuse terminology.
4. Study the history of government and private legislation and programs to deal with the problem of substance abuse.
5. Learn problem solving strategies.
6. Learn how to help a friend who seeks help.

### Unit 4 – Oil Spills

1. Learn about oil spills.
2. Learn of the death and destruction oil spills bring to the environment.
3. Learn of new renewable sources of energy.
4. Learn important words to study energy and the environment.
5. Define and calculate units of energy.
6. Learn problem solving strategies.

### Unit 5 – The Pesticide Dilemma

1. Learn about pesticides and their uses.
2. Alternatives to pesticides.
3. Learn important words needed to study pesticides and the environment.
4. Identify and define terms related to pesticides.
5. Learn what a dilemma is.
6. Problem solving strategies.