

# ***Geography Program Student Learning Outcomes***

## **Student Learning Outcome 1**

Identify the relative location, direction, size, and shape of locales, regions, and the world.

## **Student Learning Outcome 2**

Determine distance, scale, area, density, and distinguish spatial distribution patterns.

- \* Create, interpret, use, and synthesize information from various representations of the earth
- \* Use appropriate resources, data sources, and geographic tools to generate and manipulate charts, graphs, and use maps and to interpret information from resources including atlases, databases, and grid systems
- \* Apply the basic elements of maps, mapmaking, and spatial analysis to special projects and to everyday life
- \* Describe physical and cultural patterns and their interaction
- \* Describe how people create places that reflect culture, human needs, government policy, and current values and ideals
- \* Explain physical earth systems and how physical earth system changes explain geographic phenomena
- \* Explain the relationships among various regional and global patterns of geographic phenomena
- \* Consider the spatial components of human populations and human behavior
- \* Consider the concept of region with a particular emphasis on southwestern Minnesota

## **Student Learning Outcome 3**

Demonstrate knowledge of concepts, methods, and theories designed to enhance understanding of the natural world and human society.

## **Student Learning Outcome 4**

Demonstrate the ability to access, comprehend, compare, and evaluate contemporary scientific and social literature.

## **Student Learning Outcome 5**

Demonstrate an awareness of multiple world views, and how each is shaped by the interaction of physical and social factors.

- \* Evaluate how historical events have been influenced by, and have influenced, physical and human geographic factors in local, regional, national, and global settings.
- \* Consider conditions and motivations that contribute to conflict, cooperation, and interdependence among groups, societies, and nations.

## **Student Learning Outcome 6**

Classify processes of environmental change and evaluate the relationship between human beings and their surroundings, bringing to bear knowledge from many disciplines.

**Student Learning Outcome 7**

Consider changing perceptions, definitions, practices and policies that shape environments and nature.

**Student Learning Outcome 8**

Consider the ethical and physical ramifications of scientific decisions on society and the environment.

**Student Learning Outcome 9**

Evaluate causes, consequences, and possible solutions to persistent, contemporary, and emerging global issues.