



Conference Schedule

9:00-9:30 Check in and exhibitor hall open

9:30-9:55 opening remarks

Harris Payne - Welcome

Presentation of Award

10:00-10:45 - Session 1

11:00-11:45 - Session 2

12:00-12:30 Lunch and exhibitor time

12:30-1:15 Keynote Speaker

1:15-1:20 Award Presentation

1:30-2:15 Session 3

2:30-3:15 - Session 4

3:15-3:30 Check out

Advanced Placement Human Geography (MBSC 306 Council Room)	High School Geography (MBSC 304 Omaha Room)	Interdisciplinary Geography (MBSC 308 Gallery Room)	Middle School and Elementary (MBSC Tower Room)
AP Human Geography Round-table Dr. Chris Dando	Geography and history intertwine to uncover hidden histories of underrepresented groups. Kristine Gerber	Teaching Civic Action Taylor Hamblin	The Updated Student Atlas of Nebraska Dr. Randy Bertolas
Using a Four-Letter "F" Word for Teaching Political Geography: Flag! Chris Turley & Maria Walinski	Religious Literacy in the Social Studies Classroom Institute for Curriculum Studies	2023 Nebraska Story Map Competition Dr. Lesli Rawlings	The Updated Nebraska State Standards Harris Payne and Dr. Karen Graff

Keynote Speaker Dr. Rebecca Theobald - (MBSC Ballroom) 12:30-1:15		
Ukraine Conflict in Context Dr. Michelle Black	Nebraska Geoinquiries Harris Payne and Cory Johnson	Big Nebraska Map Dr. Rebecca Theobald
GeoCivics Dr. Rebecca Theobald	Religion and Politics in the Middle East Institute for Curriculum Studies	Teaching Government at the Elementary Level Dr. Robert Ingram & Dr. Kelly Kingsley

Session Abstracts

KEYNOTE: Observations about Redistricting through the Lens of the 2022 Midterm Elections

Dr. Rebecca Theobald Assistant Research Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Colorado Colorado Springs

Who is still talking about redistricting and elections? What influence does the geography of government have on who is represented? How can you prepare your students to participate in the governance of their communities?

2023 Nebraska Story Map Competition

Dr. Lesli Rawlings (Professor of Geography, Wayne State College)

This session will provide details regarding the 2023 Nebraska Story Map Competition. The top five students with the best maps at the middle school and high school levels can earn a cash prize. This session will also explain where to access mapping (GIS) tutorials and how to get started teaching with online mapping (GIS).

Big Nebraska Map

Dr. Rebecca Theobald Assistant Research Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Colorado Colorado Springs

Explore ways to introduce your students to geographic skills and content using the Giant Map of Nebraska. Be sure to wear socks and be ready to move. This is an interactive session.

Elementary Students Learn About Government

Dr. Robert Ingram & Dr. Kelly Kingsley (Associate Professors of Education, Peru State College)

In this presentation we discuss ways elementary students are involved in community activities using their voices to become agents of change. We highlight a few projects demonstrating getting laws passed isn't just something adults do- kids can help do that too! Exercising their rights using their voices and rolling up their sleeves to become involved in ways that impact their

community, can be one of the many ways schools can encourage students to think critically, then do something about issues they feel passionate about. We also plan to include the SEL component of activism while hearing the perspectives of others, walking in someone else's shoes, and handling discourse from someone that does not agree with the stand of the learner. We will provide space for teacher candidates to share practical ways to integrate the teaching of Social Studies in a crowded schedule by planning creatively.

Geography and history intertwine to uncover hidden histories of underrepresented groups.

Kristine Gerber (Omaha Public Schools)

This session will show how ArcGIS, 3D imaging, and GIS technology was applied in Omaha and can be applied in other cities, to bring hidden history to light. The session highlights a recent project by students and teachers in the Omaha Public Schools focused on the predominantly African American North 24th Street. Using city directories, Sanborn maps, aerial photographs, historic images, oral interviews, and mapping software students and teachers studied and recreated digitally the more than 300 buildings and residences that once lined North 24th Street in 1958. They also interviewed people who lived, worked, and visited North 24th Street in the 1950s and early 1960s. Once completed, people could visualize what North 24th looked like before racial riots and disinvestment changed the landscape in the area. The maps were presented to African American community leaders to inspire continued redevelopment in the area and serve as a local resource for secondary curriculum in economics, geography, and African American history.

Observations about Redistricting through the Lens of the 2022 Midterm Elections: Who is still talking about redistricting and elections? What influence does the geography of government have on who is represented? How can you prepare your students to participate in the governance of their communities?

GeoCivics

Dr. [Rebecca Theobald](#) Assistant Research Professor, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Colorado Colorado Springs

GeoCivics brings together a suite of resources to support educators and community organizers to explore the process of apportionment and redistricting in the United States. Instructors guide students to ask geographic questions about the census, population distribution, redistricting criteria, community characteristics, and the role geospatial technology plays in drawing electoral districts. Participants will explore the Giant Map of Nebraska, use flash cards to understand traditional redistricting principles, describe their communities, and practice drawing maps with online tools. All resources are free and open source, available for immediate use in your classrooms. Participants should wear socks, and if possible, bring their own laptops.

Nebraska GeoInquiries and You

Harris Payne and Cory Johnson (Omaha Public Schools)

Presenters will discuss a selection of six separate Nebraska-themed geoinquiries for use in secondary classrooms. These six geoinquiries combine social studies disciplines like history, economics, and political geography with mapping, giving students the opportunity to concentrate on how Nebraska has factored into current and historical global and regional events.

Protecting Nebraska Waters: Interdisciplinary Curriculum Leading To Student Civic Action

Taylor Hamblin (University of Nebraska Lincoln)

Explore an inquiry-based and interdisciplinary curriculum that focuses on students collecting social and scientific data, developing their civic skills, and committing informed action to address water quality and other environmental issues.

Religious Literacy in the Social Studies Classroom

Erika Lowery (Institute for Curriculum Studies)

Exposure to the world's religious traditions is critical for students as they move toward becoming global citizens. Focusing on the NCSS's C3 Supplement on Teaching about Religion, this interactive session explores the legal foundations in the United States for teaching about religion, uses case studies to consider the very real challenges involved in teaching this topic, and provides both guidelines and digital options for incorporating the study of religion into instruction.

Religion and Politics in the Middle East

Erika Lowery (Institute for Curriculum Studies)

This presentation will provide teachers with fact sheets and primary sources from four Middle Eastern countries - Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, and Iran - along with strategies to help their students to compare the role religion plays in each of their governments. In addition, students will explore and identify how other countries are both similar and different from the United States regarding the role religion plays in government. Lastly, this session will give teachers the tools they need to help their students better understand the diversity of the world.

The Updated Student Atlas of Nebraska

Dr. Randy Bertolas (Professor of Geography, Wayne State College)

The 3rd edition of the *Student Atlas of Nebraska* will be published sometime in late 2022. With printing costs generously funded by Mutual of Omaha, thousands of copies will be distributed through the ESUs to every elementary school in the state. Filled with maps, photos, and figures, this 60-page booklet is designed to be introduced at the 4th grade level in conjunction with

Nebraska Studies material. The latest version of the *Atlas* builds on the success of the Sesquicentennial Edition that came out in 2017. This session will highlight revisions made using recently released 2020 figures from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Teaching the 2019 Nebraska State Social Studies Standards in the Elementary Classroom

Harris Payne and Karen Graff

Presenters will share a matrix that classifies the 2019 Nebraska State Social Studies Standards for elementary grades using the Five Themes of Geography. The Five Themes have been utilized by elementary teachers to successfully explore geography in their classrooms. The Five Themes will be presented in an interactive session. Hands-on elementary lessons will be demonstrated that teachers can utilize in their classrooms. The session is open to anyone who would like to attend.

Ukraine Conflict in Context

Dr. Michelle Black, Associate Professor of Political Science at UNO and Workforce Development Director for NCITE

Dr. Black will briefly present and discuss the current geopolitical situation in Ukraine, answering the important questions of, 'How did we get here, and what will happen next?' Furthermore, and backed by her political science and international security expertise, she will address the implications of the Ukraine conflict for other geopolitical situations.

Using a Four-Letter "F" Word for Teaching Political Geography: Flag!

Chris Turely (Lincoln Public Schools), Maria Walinski (Omaha Public Schools)

Have you ever thought "...one multinational state under the deity of your choice " is more appropriate? Are national/state flags an anchor for patriotism or a portal for fragmentation? We think the answer is "Yes!" Come run something up a flagpole with us; saluting optional.

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