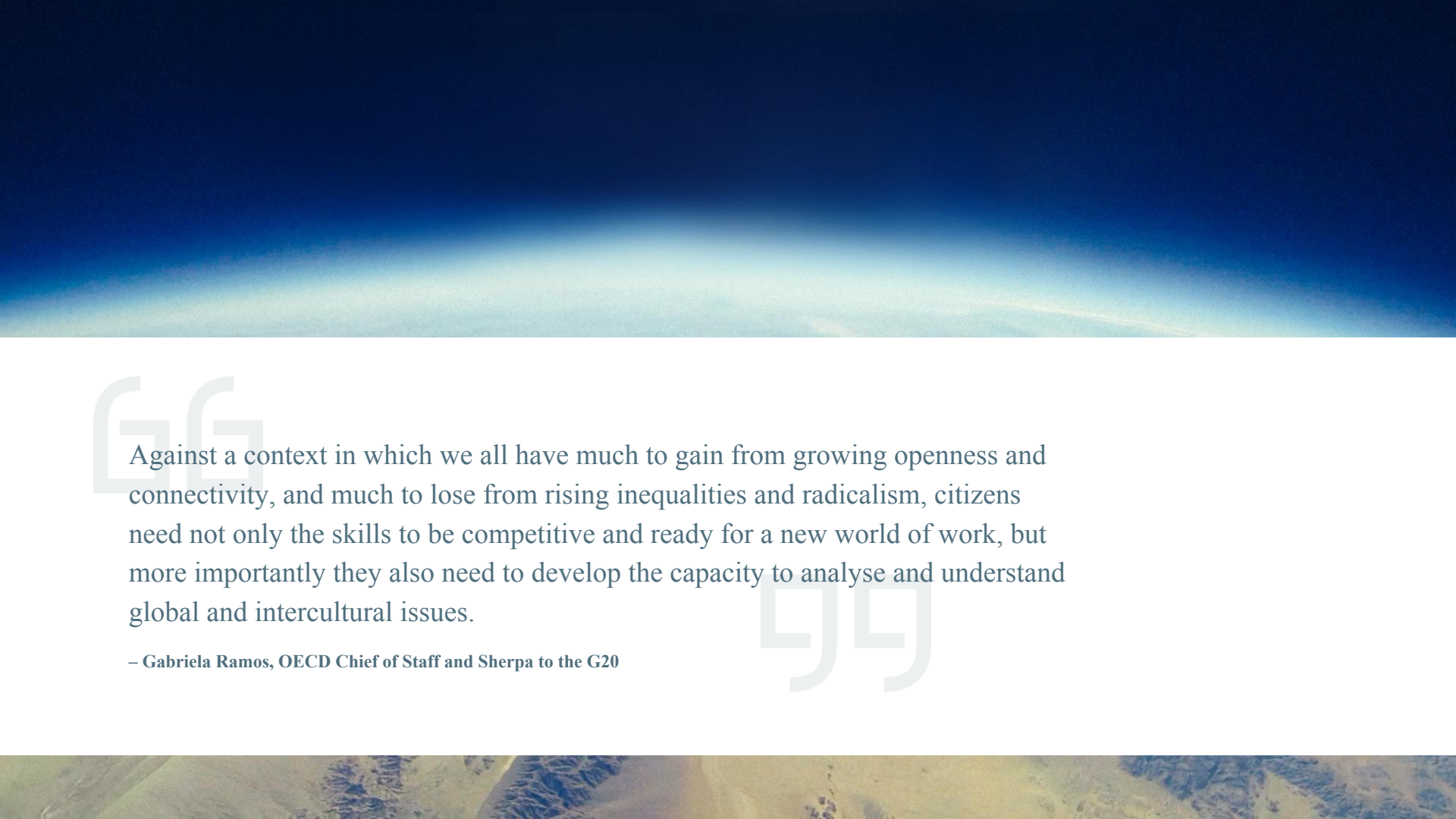


Living in a Connected World



Against a context in which we all have much to gain from growing openness and connectivity, and much to lose from rising inequalities and radicalism, citizens need not only the skills to be competitive and ready for a new world of work, but more importantly they also need to develop the capacity to analyse and understand global and intercultural issues.

– Gabriela Ramos, OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20

What is “Living in a Connected World”?

Living in a Connected World (LICW) is an online curriculum designed to introduce students in middle-school and high-school to global thinking, and help them build global skills and competencies.



Standard Aligned

Designed to meet rigorous academic standards, the online curriculum is aligned to both the US Common Core State Standards (ELA, grades 9-12), and the new international PISA assessment for Global Competence (see “What Will Students Learn” below for details on PISA alignment, see CCSS addendums for common core alignment details).



Flexible & Self-Paced

Students can take the course any time, and on any device. Progress throughout the course is self-paced, with units released weekly to maintain a shared international cohort schedule and facilitate idea sharing and communication. Knovva Academy is committed to meeting diverse partner school needs and schedules.

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Multidisciplinary

The course examines global connectivity through four major lenses: politics, the economy, culture, and the environment. In doing so, it draws on diverse fields of knowledge - from international relations, to world history, to economics and social psychology. By integrating these varying perspectives into a discussion of current events and issues, students learn to think critically and make connections between their learning and their everyday lives.



Experiential

Students who take this course don't only read about global perspectives - they experience them first hand. Students from a multitude of countries are matched into international cohorts, where they share projects and interact weekly on an online discussion board. Discussing course topics with peers from diverse backgrounds has proven to be a very meaningful experience for students, who report it helped them develop an appreciation for diversity, practice perspective taking, and build their abilities to communicate cross-culturally.

What will Students Learn?

The core competencies offered in this curriculum are aligned with the OECD [Programme for International Student Assessment \(PISA\)](#) Global Competence standard, first assessed in 2018. PISA describes Global Competence as a life long learning goal, comprised of 4 dimensions:



Examine issues of local, global and cultural significance.

The course introduces students to global issues, and highlights the interconnectedness of political, economical, cultural and environmental phenomena. Students develop their knowledge about the world, and are encouraged to apply critical reasoning to the issues discussed, form their own opinions, and create content via writing and other creative means to communicate their views to a global audience.

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Understand and appreciate the perspectives and world views of others.

The curriculum examines global problems from multiple viewpoints, and highlights the ways in which students' views are shaped by their cultural backgrounds. Weekly online interactions with global peers allow students to acquire knowledge about other cultures, and challenge their own assumptions.

What will Students Learn?

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Engage in open, appropriate and effective interactions across cultures.

Global competence reflects an ability to adapt one's behaviour and communication in order to interact with individuals from different cultures. In this course, students develop this ability by interacting with global peers on a multimedia discussion board. By sharing of thoughtful projects and comments students enjoy extended opportunities to respectfully engage with others' perspectives, learn about differing cultural norms, and practice articulating their own views.

What will Students Learn?

The core competencies offered in this curriculum are aligned with the OECD [Programme for International Student Assessment \(PISA\)](#) Global Competence standard, first assessed in 2018. PISA describes Global Competence as a life long learning goal, comprised of 4 dimensions:



Take action for collective well-being and sustainable development.

This course empowers students to become active, responsible members of society and take action around personal, local and global issues. Content connects big, real-world issues with small, doable action steps. The final unit, “Going Global”, focuses on applying the topics learned throughout the course to complex, multidimensional issues and global aspirations, and on inspiring and empowering teens to think globally and act locally for the benefit of their communities and the world.

An Immersive English Learning Experience

While not primarily designed for language learning purposes, Living in a Connected World does offer learners with intermediate-to-advanced levels of English an opportunity to practice and improve their English skills. The course content integrates reading, listening and writing skills in diverse and engaging ways.

Over the six course units, students will:



Read roughly **20,000 words** in English, including informational texts, contemporary news articles, and essays and comments on diverse topics written by English-native peers.



Listen to almost **2 hours of audio** content in professionally-produced English language videos, podcasts, and interactive materials on a variety of globally-oriented topics.



Write approximately **6 short essays** on a variety of topics. These essays emphasize skills that are essential to future success in educational and workplace environments - including conducting and synthesizing research, storytelling, and persuasive writing.



Interact with **English-native peers** weekly online and strengthen their social language skills by reading and writing online comments and facing the need to articulate their thoughts and express complex views using the English language.



Thank you.

Contact us with any questions or for more information.

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