



The mission of C-GEO is to improve and sustain geography education in Oregon

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GeoFest

Save the date! The annual C-GEO GeoFest will be Saturday, March 8, 2025 at Western Oregon University. We will be partnering with the Oregon Council for the Social Studies at the upcoming conference with an added emphasis on climate change. Come join us for additional presentation topics, such as geo-tech sessions, Tribal History/Shared History, ethnic studies strands, and much more. Stay tuned for registration information coming soon.

Student Atlas of Oregon Update

In October, C-GEO Steering Committee members Janelle Wren and Allyson Hamlik, who are heading up C-GEO's *Student Atlas of Oregon* update, attended the National Council for Geographic Education Annual Conference in Tempe, Arizona. They attended sessions

mainly focused on other states' student atlas work, giant maps, digital mapping, and geotech. They also networked with other states such as South Carolina, California, and Nebraska who have done updates to their states' student atlases.

C-GEO is currently in the information gathering and planning stage of the atlas update, and your feedback is essential to help guide our decisions. If you have not yet submitted your feedback about the *Student Atlas of Oregon*, please take the survey, which should only take about 10 minutes to complete. C-GEO wishes to ensure that the updated *Student Atlas of Oregon* will support as many teachers as possible in the best ways possible.

[Take Student Atlas Update Survey](#)



Allyson Hamlik and Janelle Wren

Highlights from Summer 2024 International Travel Programs

Vietnam's Cultural Landscapes

C-GEO's summer 2024 advanced institute participants went to Vietnam. Highlights of the trip included visiting various UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the imperial city of Hue and mystical H  Long Bay, where they spent a night on a traditional junk sailboat. Participants enjoyed rural life in Mai Chau Valley, spent time in the ancient town of Hoi An, navigated the bustle of Hanoi and Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City), and descended into the famed Cu Chi tunnels in Ho Chi Minh City, where Viet Cong guerillas lived during the Vietnam War. The list could go on. For more information on the trip see the Vietnam [story map](#), which incorporates the 5 Themes of Geography, put together by the institute participants.



Vietnam Institute Participants in Hue



Vietnam Participants on a Cycling Tour in Hanoi



Kayaking in Ha Long Bay



Lantern Making Class in Hoi An

Teaching with Primary Sources: Ethnic Studies through a Geographic Lens

C-GEO partnered with the Oregon Historical Society (OHS) for a three-day institute on teaching the new Social Science Standards Integrated with Ethnic Studies through a geographic lens. This institute was held at OHS from July 23-25. A focus of the institute included researching Portland's Japantown– or Nihonmachi in Japanese– through primary source analysis, field work, and museum exhibit visits.



Institute participants at the Oregon Historical Society



Institute participants on their walking tour of Portland's old Japantown



Institute participants learning from OHS Ethnic Studies Specialist Emilie Krutzik

Mapping the Local Landscape with Geospatial Technologies

For our final institute this past summer, C-GEO partnered with PCC-Geography in August for an institute focused on learning to apply Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Geospatial Technologies in the classroom and how they could be leveraged in the classroom across multiple disciplines.



Mapping the Local Landscape participants learning during day 1 of the institute



Participants hearing from ESRI superstar Joseph Kerski

Professional Development

Professional Development from C-GEO

C-GEO Advanced Summer 2025 Institute

Norway: Climate Impacts and Cultural Landscapes, July 6-20, 2025

Participants of this advanced institute will begin their adventure in Svolvær and Lofoten, with a visit to the Lofotr Viking Museum to experience the Viking Age and enjoy an authentic Viking feast. Other experiences will include a Sea Eagle Safari and a visit to Trollfjorden, a 1.2 mile-long fjord known for its natural beauty and wildlife; a guided mountain hike up to Djevelporten (or Devil's Gate); and sailing across the Arctic Circle to Trondheim, passing myriad small islands, skerries and the special mountain Torghatten along the way. They will journey to Oslo and Flam and enjoy a rail journey 'Over the Roof of Norway' to the mountain station of Myrdal and take the Flamsbana Corkscrew Railway, one of the world's steepest railways, which spirals its way down to Flam, and spend their final day exploring the city of Bergen.

The application deadline is December 31, 2024. This is an advanced institute and only educators who have completed a C-GEO introductory multi-day institute and pre-service teachers are eligible to apply.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Teaching with Primary Sources: Tribal Histories/Shared Histories through a Geographic Lens Institute

The Center for Geography Education in Oregon (C-GEO) and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde will offer a three-day local (no lodging provided) institute on teaching Tribal Histories/Shared Histories through a geographic lens. This institute is for current K-12 Oregon educators and will be held at the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde campus from June 24-26, 2025

Stay tuned for application and more information soon.

Professional Development from Other Organizations

NCGE Summer 2025 Travel Institutes

NCGE invites educational professionals and in-service teachers to join them for summer professional development travel in geography. Each trip provides opportunities to experience diverse landscapes, cultures, and ecosystems. For locations and pricing go to <https://ncge.org/professional-development/ncge-around-the-world/>

Community Outreach

Oregon Giant Floor Maps Back in Classrooms

Our Oregon Giant Map was used by a secondary classroom, elementary classroom, and a class of future teachers at Western Oregon University this fall. If you are interested in borrowing one of our 4 giant floor maps of Oregon go to the following link for information

<https://www.pdx.edu/geography-education/c-geo-giant-maps>

C-GEO Steering Committee Meeting

The steering committee will hold its annual steering committee retreat February 15-16 at Oregon Mt. Hood Resort in Welches.

C-GEO Social Media

C-GEO is on **Facebook** and **Instagram (cgeo_oregon)**. If you have any photos of you and students doing distance learning geography education in the classroom and would be willing to let us post those on Instagram to promote geography education you can email the photos to caranok@wou.edu with a brief blurb of what should go in the Instagram post description.

Meet a C-GEO TC

This issue's feature is about C-GEO TC **Anton Mendoza**.

Tell us about yourself?

I'm Anton Mendoza. I teach as part of the Dual Language Social Studies at Oregon City High School. I'm in my first year as a full-time teacher, and I absolutely love it. In my spare time I like to read, play video games, and be outside with my friends.



Anton Mendoza

What has drawn you to geography education?

What I love about geography education is that it encapsulates so many different aspects of social studies. Geography is history, it's culture, it's economics, and especially as someone who teaches in both English and Spanish it's so important to elevate the stories of all different cultures, places, and peoples. Geography education exposes students to new experiences, challenges their perception of the world around them, and asks them to have more cultural relativity.

How are you promoting geography education in the classroom and beyond?

In every unit that we study in my class we incorporate the 5 Themes of Geography. Geography is so much more than "this country is in this continent," and my goal is for my students to come away from my class with a better understanding of how both the physical and human world around them has influenced the course of history and culture.

What have you enjoyed about C-GEO?

C-GEO has been such a great resource, not just for class material, but also for building connections with other incredible educators. As a first-year educator the lessons and

experience I've gained — from attending GeoFest to participating in the professional development trips — has been such a valuable asset. The people who are part of C-GEO have built an incredible resource and I am so excited to continue to take part in the future projects that C-GEO has in store.

Keep Us Informed!

Please let the C-GEO Office geogall@pdx.edu know of any awards, special events or projects that may be of interest to TCs, and announcements. Using the web makes it easy to showcase exemplary student work or students at work. Remember that you will need to have students' permission before posting either student work or their photos in GEOBYTES. Also be sure to inform us of changes in address, school, or email.

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