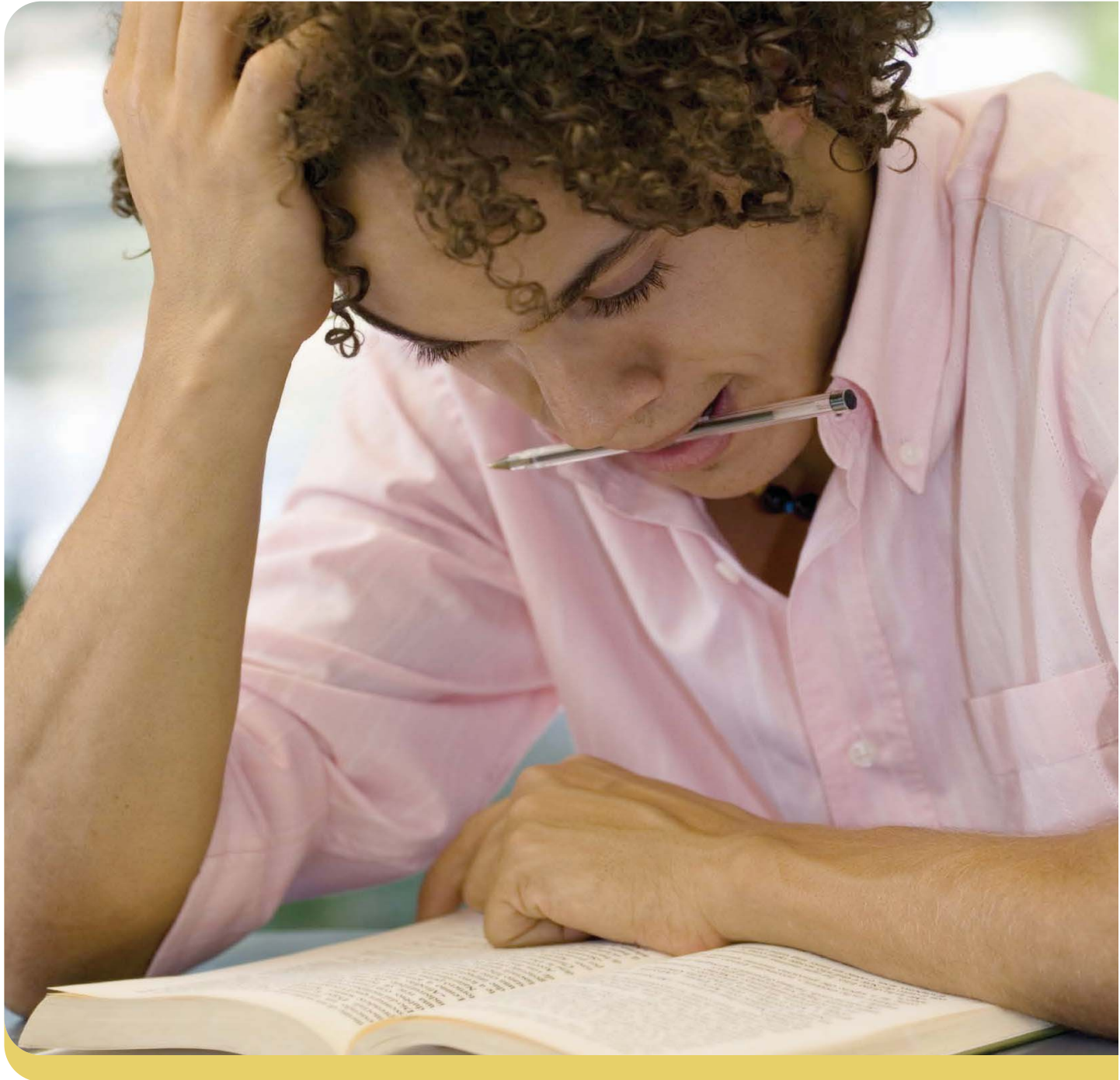


Social Studies Standards

(with performance indicators)



SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

I. Interrelated Disciplines and Skills

A. Spatial analysis of physical and cultural processes that shape the human experience

1. Use the tools and concepts of geography appropriately and accurately.

- examples
- Identify features of the earth's physical and cultural regions (e.g., landforms, bodies of water, linguistic patterns, hemispheric divisions).
 - Create a map from textual information to show movement of people and ideas across space and time.
 - Define the concepts of latitude and longitude and how they are used to determine location.
 - Use maps and diagrams to report physical, cultural, and demographic information from a spatial perspective.

2. Analyze the interaction between human communities and the environment.

- examples
- Compare agricultural and nomadic pastoral societies.
 - Explain the Industrial Revolution and analyze its impact on human societies and the growth of cities.
 - Examine the impact of human migration on culture and the environment.

3. Analyze how physical and cultural processes have shaped human communities over time.

- examples
- Explain how climate has influenced human communities over time.
 - Identify barriers to human exchange (e.g., commercial, cultural, biological) in the past, explain efforts by human communities to overcome them, and analyze how these efforts have influenced historical developments.
 - Analyze how human activities (e.g., irrigation, land use policies) have altered the earth's physical landscape.

4. Evaluate the causes and effects of human migration patterns over time.

- examples
- Identify and explain shifts in urban population centers over time and space.
 - Trace the influence of human migration upon domesticated plant and animal distribution over space and time.
 - Explain how technology and economic forces can influence patterns of migration and population distribution.

5. Analyze how various cultural regions have changed over time.

- examples
- Explain the impact of borderland regions (such as those of the United States and Mexico) on human interaction and cultural development.
 - Examine how human characteristics and cultural elements (e.g., race, ethnicity, language, religion) distinguish specific regions of the world from each other in the past and present.

6. Analyze the relationship between geography and the development of human communities.

- examples
- Explain how desert cultures might develop differently from coastal cultures or others that have ready access to water.
 - Explain how significant physical features and environmental conditions have influenced the cultural, political, and economic characteristics of selected regions in the past and present.

B. Periodization and chronological reasoning

1. Examine how and why historians divide the past into eras.

- Describe the rationale for dividing U.S. history before and after particular dates (e.g., from 1865-1914).
- Evaluate to what extent World War II

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can be described as a significant turning point in American history, examining such issues as the expansion of civil rights, the economic influences of the G. I. Bill, and the international role of the United States.

2. Identify and evaluate sources and patterns of change and continuity across time and place.

examples

- a. Examine how technology has affected culture and community (e.g., the impact of the automobile on the characteristics of cities such as Los Angeles and Houston).
- b. Analyze the impact of immigration on the United States at different times in its history.

3. Analyze causes and effects of major political, economic, and social changes in U.S. and world history.

examples

- a. Examine the sources of the American Revolution and delineate the cultural and political forces that gave rise to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.
- b. Examine how technology and ideas have been diffused from one region to another along historic trade routes and analyze their impact.
- c. Examine how the discovery of oil in such countries as Saudi Arabia and Venezuela has effected economic, political, and cultural change.

C. Change and continuity of political ideologies, constitutions, and political behavior

1. Evaluate different governmental systems and functions.

examples

- a. Explain the key concepts of democracy expressed in the Declaration of Independence and how they shaped the government and culture of the United States.

examples

- b. Compare the Articles of Confederation and the U. S. Constitution and the different views of governance they represent.
- c. Distinguish between different systems of government such as fascism, socialism, and Communism and give examples of each.
- d. Explain differences between the governmental system of the United States and other countries (i.e., Canada, the United Kingdom, China).

2. Evaluate changes in the functions and structures of government across time.

examples

- a. Explain how major historical events such as wars and social and political movements have affected the functions and structure of governments.
- b. Analyze how economic and technological developments have changed the function and structure of governments.
- c. Delineate and explain several changes to the U.S. Constitution in response to political and social movements.
- d. Examine the effects of U.S. court decisions on the Civil Rights Movement over the last 150 years.
- e. Analyze the formation and role of key political parties in U.S. history.
- f. Consider to what extent political events influence Supreme Court appointments and decisions.

3. Explain and analyze the importance of civic engagement.

examples

- a. Identify three extraordinary examples of civic responsibility in American history and evaluate their impact on American culture.
- b. Explain why high levels of civic participation are essential in democratic societies.
- c. Examine the emergence and impact of civil disobedience in different societies and different historical moments.

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D. Change and continuity of economic systems and processes

1. Identify and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of different economic systems.

- examples
- Examine the role of the free enterprise system in the U.S. economy and its general impact on American culture.
 - Compare and contrast a traditional, command, and market economy and give examples of the strengths and weaknesses of each.
 - Explain the influence of mercantilism on European colonization practices and analyze its influence on the development of the American colonies.
 - Identify and evaluate examples of government intervention in the marketplace intended to address market failure.
 - Describe how the New York Stock Exchange works and the central role it plays in the U.S. economy.

2. Analyze the basic functions and structures of international economics.

- examples
- Explain how changes in a country's economic situation affect its foreign exchange rate and its trade relationships with other countries.
 - Analyze the impact of free trade between countries, examining not only economic effects but cultural and political ones as well.
 - Explain the functions of international economic organizations such as the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Trade Organization.

E. Change and continuity of social groups, civic organizations, institutions, and their interaction

1. Identify different social groups (e.g., clubs, religious organizations) and examine how they form and how and why they sustain themselves.

- examples
- Identify at least three social groups or civic organizations in your community and analyze the role they play in shaping social relations, public values, and personal identity.

2. Define the concept of socialization and analyze the role socialization plays in human development and behavior.

- examples
- Identify the major agents of socialization and how they influence individual identity.
 - Analyze how popular culture (e.g., film, television, music) shape public attitudes.

3. Analyze how social institutions (e.g., marriage, family, churches, schools) function and meet the needs of society.

- examples
- Analyze how American universities have played a central role in the formation of American culture and character.
 - Compare and contrast the present-day functions of religious institutions in the United States with those in other parts of the world.
 - Compare and contrast the role of the family in different cultures.

4. Identify and evaluate the sources and consequences of social conflict.

- examples
- Identify and analyze how different religious values have led to social conflict in different regions of the world.
 - Explain how modern governments have attempted to reduce social conflict and evaluate the effectiveness of these efforts.

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F. Problem-solving and decision-making skills

1. Use a variety of research and analytical tools to explore questions or issues thoroughly and fairly.

- examples
- Design a research project that analyzes various points of view on a current controversial issue, such as global climate change.
 - Use both primary and secondary sources to develop a group presentation that analyzes the causes of the U.S. Civil War from the perspectives of residents of both the North and the South.
 - Use both primary and secondary sources to analyze the actions of Abraham Lincoln to end the Civil War and restore national unity.
 - Collect and present visual images (e.g., photographs, paintings, illustrations) that trace shifting attitudes toward women in American culture and analyze changes.
 - Use maps and graphs to compare levels of economic development and standards of living in various countries and suggest reasons for any disparities.

2. Analyze ethical issues in historical, cultural, and social contexts.

- examples
- Examine changes over time in American ethical conventions regarding the expression of views on race, ethnicity, and gender.
 - Identify and evaluate ethical guidelines in professional circumstances such as the practice of law and medical research.
 - Evaluate how science and technology have raised concerns about ethical issues, such as the right of privacy.
 - Identify either a national organization or institution that seeks to promote ethical behavior and analyze its success and impact.

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II. Diverse Human Perspectives and Experiences

A. Multicultural societies

1. **Define a “multicultural society” and consider both the positive and negative qualities of multiculturalism.**

examples

- a. Consider whether the United States is a multicultural society and whether multiculturalism is compatible with the principle, “one nation under God.”
- b. Compare the experience of American multiculturalism with that of other countries with long experiences of immigration.
- c. Analyze the sources of violent cultural conflict in several countries and assess whether these cultural differences can be resolved peacefully.

2. **Evaluate the experiences and contributions of diverse groups to multicultural societies.**

examples

- a. Describe the contributions of various immigrant groups to the culture of the United States.
- b. Trace the growth of minority religious populations in various regions of the world and examine their impact.

B. Factors that influence personal and group identities, (e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, nationality, institutional affiliations, socioeconomic status)

1. **Explain and evaluate the concepts of race, ethnicity, and nationalism.**

examples

- a. Explain how the concepts of race and ethnicity have evolved in the United States and consider where we stand in regard to becoming a “color-blind” and “hyphen-less” nation.
- b. Evaluate the concepts of “assimilation” and “acculturation” and determine the impact of each on efforts to preserve American identity.

examples

- c. Explain how national identity is distinct from both racial and ethnic identities and consider whether it is possible to hold multiple identities simultaneously.
- d. Analyze how national identities are likely to be affected by globalization.

2. **Explain and evaluate the concept of gender.**

examples

- a. Trace changes in notions of gender in U.S. history and explain how those changes have led to the expansion of women’s roles.
- b. Compare and contrast economic opportunities for women in various regions of the world.

3. **Analyze diverse religious concepts, structures, and institutions around the world.**

examples

- a. Explain similarities and differences between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
- b. Use maps to show how religions have diffused across time and space.
- c. Describe the roles that different religious groups played in the founding of the United States.

4. **Evaluate how major philosophical and intellectual concepts influence human behavior or identity.**

examples

- a. Trace the origins of philosophical concepts such as freedom of religion, inalienable rights, and the pursuit of happiness and analyze their influence in the founding of the United States.
- b. Identify and explain the founding philosophical concepts of various countries and societies.
- c. Evaluate the influence of the Protestant Ethic on various countries, including the United States.

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5. Explain the concepts of socioeconomic status and stratification.

examples

- a. Define the concept of class and consider its relationship to race and ethnicity in American history.
- b. Describe the impact of poverty on various measures of economic and social success (e.g., education, social mobility, access to health care).
- c. Define the concept of caste and analyze its legacy in various societies.

6. Analyze how individual and group identities are established and change over time.

examples

- a. Explain how certain religious, political, and philosophical traditions have shaped American identity over time.
- b. Create a visual presentation that demonstrates the changing depiction by the media of social identities.
- c. Analyze how various court decisions or governmental initiatives have shaped individual or group identities over time.

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III. Interdependence of Global Communities

A. Spatial understanding of global, regional, national, and local communities

1. Distinguish spatial patterns of human communities that exist between or within contemporary political boundaries.

examples

- Create a map that identifies areas and regions around the world where major world religions have a significant following.
- Create a map that demonstrates the linguistic diversity of multilingual countries.

2. Connect regional or local developments to global ones.

examples

- List and explain the significance of various technologies developed in a specific location that ultimately shaped world history.
- Analyze how international events can influence regional or local politics and popular culture.
- Create a visual presentation to reflect either a regional or local area's global economic connections (e.g., worldwide distribution of local products).
- Analyze how decisions made by multinational institutions (e.g., OPEC, the International Monetary Fund, the United Nations) affect regional or local circumstances around the world.

3. Analyze how and why diverse communities interact and become dependent on each other.

examples

- Analyze how contact between formerly separate regions has altered societies and their world views.
- Analyze the causes and long-term impact of immigration from a given region to a given country.

B. Global Analysis

1. Apply social science methodologies to compare societies and cultures.

examples

- Compare and contrast the governing policies of the British and Spanish empires over time, explaining how each sought to sustain order and stability.
- Compare and contrast the historic use of forced labor in various societies.
- Examine the roots and consequences of decolonization in Africa over the last 100 years.
- Examine world population trends and recommend ways to reduce infant mortality rates in poor countries.
- Use a variety of sources and methods to hypothesize the possible economic, political, and cultural impact of globalization on multiple regions of the world over the next 50 years.

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

IV. Analysis, Synthesis and Evaluation of Information

A. Critical examination of texts, images, and other sources of information

1. Identify and analyze the main idea(s) and point(s) of view in sources.

- examples
- Read an editorial or opinion column from a major newspaper, periodical, or Internet blog, identify the author's main idea(s) and point(s) of view, and evaluate the credibility of evidence used.
 - Evaluate the message and the techniques used to influence public opinion in a variety of media (e.g., film, television, Internet, editorial cartoons).

2. Situate an informational source in its appropriate contexts (contemporary, historical, cultural).

- examples
- Analyze a film's presentation of a historical event and the factors influencing this interpretation.
 - Analyze a novel's presentation of a historical event and the factors influencing this interpretation.
 - Examine the coverage of an important event in several major newspapers (e.g., *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*) and analyze differences in perspective.

3. Evaluate sources from multiple perspectives.

- examples
- Examine the U. S. Constitution as a living document and why it has been subject to different interpretations.
 - Analyze the Equal Rights Amendment and explain why it generated controversy in the United States.
 - Examine the founding of the United Nations and use sources from different countries to prepare a presentation on its effectiveness at accomplishing its original mission.

4. Understand the differences between a primary and secondary source and use each appropriately to conduct research and construct arguments.

- examples
- Identify and collect credible and high quality primary and secondary sources that are germane to a given topic.
 - Create an argument (e.g., an essay, letter to the editor, verbal presentation) that uses relevant primary sources.

5. Read narrative texts critically.

- examples
- Preview book-length texts by reading introductory material and examining organizational strategies and sources to determine key questions and issues explored.
 - Write a review of a social science text that evaluates the main arguments and the quality of supporting evidence. Conclude with any questions and points of clarification needed to understand the argument.

6. Read research data critically.

- examples
- Analyze the results of a public opinion poll noting the size of the polling sample, the margin of error, the manner in which questions were constructed, and the respondent categories.
 - Examine data in any research document carefully to assure that collected data were gathered in conformity with high standards of research and that borrowed data came from respected sources, such as the U.S. Census Bureau.

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B. Research and methods

1. Use established research methodologies.

examples

- a. Propose or present theories only when they are supported by extensive, credible research and when other possible theories have been eliminated by the evidence.
- b. Understand the concept of independent and dependent variables and apply it correctly in developing hypotheses regarding social phenomena (e.g., crime, divorce rates, and rates of population growth).

2. Explain how historians and other social scientists develop new and competing views of past phenomena.

examples

- a. Compare and contrast two works of history that disagree over the causes of the Cold War rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union, and explain how the authors came to different conclusions.
- b. Demonstrate, using specific examples, how historians or other social scientists can come to different perceptions and conclusions about historical events, such as the Great Depression, by using different types of sources and data.
- c. Analyze a specific event based on the works of various social scientists and develop an essay that demonstrates points of contention and agreement among these scholars.

3. Gather, organize and display the results of data and research.

examples

- a. Display relative quantitative or cartographic information when presenting research analysis in appropriate fashion, such as databases, spreadsheets, GIS, image analysis tools, or graphs.
- b. Create, administer, and report on a survey of fellow classmates' positions on an issue.

- c. Examine the voting data for particular elections and analyze aspects of voter activity.

4. Identify and collect sources.

examples

- a. Collect credible primary and secondary sources that provide various points of view on a selected topic.
- b. Use a library database to identify key academic journals relative to the research question at hand.
- c. Create an annotated bibliography on a specific topic.

C. Critical listening

1. Understand/interpret presentations (e.g., speeches, lectures, less formal presentations) critically.

examples

- a. Analyze a speech of historical importance (such as Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, Ronald Reagan's 1987 Brandenburg Gate speech, or Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech) and summarize its main points.
- b. Listen to a lecture and write down questions that require clarification, either by consulting the lecturer or other students.
- c. Listen to a lecture and connect the new information with previously studied topics.

D. Reaching conclusions

1. Construct a thesis that is supported by evidence.

examples

- a. Develop a thesis statement, outline, and organizational strategy that will be used to support the thesis in a written paper.
- b. Utilize the conventions of the discipline and a variety of sources to write a research paper on a topic germane to a given course.

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2. Recognize and evaluate counter-arguments.

examples

- a. Write a short paper advocating a specific cause or action on an important national issue, such as federal immigration policy. Acknowledge counterarguments and explain why your position is preferable to the counterargument(s). Cite evidence that strengthens your argument.
- b. Identify and summarize relevant primary or secondary sources that pose contradictory arguments on an issue.

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V. Effective Communication

A. Clear and coherent oral and written communication

1. Use appropriate oral communication techniques depending on the context or nature of the interaction.

- a. Debate the pros and cons of a research question.
- b. Prepare for and actively participate in a class discussion on a historical conflict.

2. Use conventions of standard written English.

- examples
- a. Utilize standard written English in formal writing assignments and proof-read to correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors.
 - b. Share drafts of writing assignments with teachers, parents, or other students and then revise as appropriate.

B. Academic integrity

1. Attribute ideas and information to source materials and authors.

- examples
- a. Identify ethical issues and consequences surrounding plagiarism.
 - b. Demonstrate knowledge of copyright and fair use laws by adherence to these laws in all assignments.
 - c. Reference research material using appropriate citation/referencing styles (e.g., *The Modern Language Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, *The University of Chicago Manual of Style*).
 - d. Write an essay that includes citations of both paraphrased material and directly quoted material.
 - e. Identify the code of conduct involving academic honesty at your school, a local college, or university, and list several examples of what constitutes a violation of this code and the punishment for violating it.
 - f. Explain why an academic integrity standard is necessary and the consequences of violating it.