

Course Description

6th Grade Social Studies

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Students in grade six expand their understanding of History, Civics and Government, Geography, Economics, and Individuals, Society, and Culture by studying the people and events that ushered in the dawn of the major Western and non-Western ancient civilizations. Geography is of special significance in the development of the human story. Students will have the opportunity to explore civilizations by learning about the history, culture, citizenship, economy, religions, and, government of the different cultures present at that time. In so doing, the students will learn utilize math, science, technology, and critical thinking skills in daily learning. Students analyze the interactions among the various cultures, emphasizing their enduring contributions and the link between or World today and these ancient worlds.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: After completing the course, students will be able to:

1. Describe the life of various civilizations.
2. Compare and contrast the ways of the ancient World to our World today.
3. Sequence, categorize, and identify cause and effect relationships of important events of Ancient times. Explain how resources, belief systems, economic factors, and political decisions have affected different civilizations.
4. Understand, describe, and analyze the similarities and differences within and among cultures that includes the cultures' government, economy, education, and religion.
5. Identify examples of architecture, art, music, and literature of today that have transcending from ancient times.
6. Understand and describes how citizenship varies among different societies.
7. Create written and visual materials such as journals, reports, graphic organizers, outlines, and bibliographies fluently at the 6th grade level with very few grammar or spelling errors.

PRE-REQUISITES: None

COURSE LENGTH: One year

REQUIRED TEXT: None

COURSE OUTLINE:

Unit I: Overview of Ancient Civilizations – Topics include: Identify the locations of human communities that populated the major regions of the world • Describe how humans adapted to a variety of environments.

Unit II: Stone Age – Topics include: Transition from nomadic hunters to agricultural societies • Describe the hunter-gatherer societies including the development of tools and the use of fire

Unit III: Early Civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush – Topics include: Analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations • Mesopotamian civilizations - Sumer 5000 B.C.; Babylon 1800 B.C.; Assyria 1200 B.C.; Persia 539 B.C.; Egypt; Kush

Unit IV: Ancient Hebrews – Topics include: Analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the Ancient Hebrews

Unit V: Ancient Greece – Topics include: Geography • Crete, Minoans, and Mycaeneans • Government and citizenship • Philosophy • Art and literature • Alexander the Great • Hellenism and Judaism • Unit VI: Persian Empire • Geography • Rise and fall of the Persian Empire

Unit VII: Ancient Asian Civilizations of India, China, and Japan – Topics include: India – History; Religion; Hinduism • China – History; Philosophy; Culture; Buddhism; Confucius • Japan - Buddhism

Unit VIII: Ancient Rome – Topics include: Geography • Art, architecture • Religion • Culture • Roman Republic • Roman Empire – Western; Eastern; Fall of the Western Empire