

IA_Core Curriculum - Social Studies (2010)

High School

Content Area 1 Behavioral sciences include, but are not limited to, the areas of sociology, anthropology and psychology. In addressing these disciplines the actions and reactions of humans are studied through observational and experimental methods.

Concept or Skill 1.1 Understand the historical development of the behavioral sciences and the changing nature of society.

Details and Examples 1.1.a Understand the fields of psychology and sociology developed in response to social and economic changes.

Details and Examples 1.1.b Understand the role of major social institutions of American society.

Details and Examples 1.1.c Understand the role of social institutions as well as individual and group behaviors, in bringing about social change.

Details and Examples 1.1.d Understand that mass media, migrations, and conquest have affected social change by exposing one culture to another.

Details and Examples 1.1.e Understand change and development in institutions further both continuity and change in societies.

Concept or Skill 1.2 Understand the influences on individual and group behavior and group decision making.

Details and Examples 1.2.a Understand the components of social structure and how social structure affects the individual in society.

Details and Examples 1.2.b Understand society practices social control through the use of norms and sanctions.

Details and Examples 1.2.c Understand the role of deviance in society and its effects on individual and group behavior.

Details and Examples 1.2.d Understand that a group may act, hold beliefs, and/or present itself as a cohesive whole, and yet individual members may hold varying beliefs.

Details and Examples 1.2.e Understand that people might ignore evidence that challenges their beliefs and more readily accept evidence that supports them.

Concept or Skill 1.3 Understand the appropriate research procedures and skills of the behavioral scientist.

Details and Examples 1.3.a Understand the appropriate uses of the research methods used by behavioral scientists.

Details and Examples 1.3.b Understand the types of research methods used by behavioral scientists to study human behavior, social groups, social issues and problems.

Concept or Skill 1.4 Understand current social issues to determine how the individual is able to formulate opinions and responds to those issues.

Details and Examples 1.4.a Understand past and current cultural, religious, and social reform movements.

Details and Examples 1.4.b Understand that differences in the behavior of individuals arise from the interaction of heredity and experience.

Details and Examples 1.4.c Understand that conflict between people or groups may arise from competition over ideas, resources, power, and/or status.

Details and Examples 1.4.d Understand that personal values influence the types of conclusions people make.

Details and Examples 1.4.e Understand that even when the majority of people in a society agree on a social decision, the minority who disagree must be protected from oppression.

Details and Examples 1.4.f Understand ideas and modes of inquiry drawn from behavioral science and social theory in the examination of persistent issues and social problems.

Concept or Skill 1.5 Understand how social status, social groups, social change, and social institutions influence individual and group behaviors.

Details and Examples 1.5.a Understand the concept of stratification.

Details and Examples 1.5.b Understand gender, age, health, and socioeconomic status affect social inequality.

Details and Examples 1.5.c Understand changes in social and political institutions reflect and affect individuals' values and behaviors.

Concept or Skill 1.6 Understand the process of how humans develop, learn, adapt to their environment, and internalize their culture.

Details and Examples 1.6.a Understand that heredity, culture, and personal experience interact in shaping human behavior.

Details and Examples 1.6.b Understand the stages of physical, perceptual, and intellectual development that humans experience from infancy to old age.

Details and Examples 1.6.c Understand the concept of culture.

Details and Examples 1.6.d Understand that peoples' values and behavior are shaped by their culture.

Details and Examples 1.6.e Understand the processes of cultural transmission and cultural change.

Concept or Skill 1.7 Understand how personality and agents of socialization impact the individual.

Details and Examples 1.7.a Understand the factors that shape personality and identity.

Details and Examples 1.7.c Understand groups and institutions sometimes promote social conformity.

Details and Examples 1.7.b Understand the process of socialization leads individuals to become functioning members of society.

Content Area 2 Economics addresses the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. The concept of scarcity is understood to mean that available resources are insufficient to satisfy the wants and needs of everyone. Economics is therefore founded upon the alternative use of available resources and the study of choices.

Concept or Skill 2.1 Understand the function of common financial instruments.

Details and Examples 2.1.a Understand the cost of borrowing money over long periods of time.

Details and Examples 2.1.b Understand the concept of insurance.

Details and Examples 2.1.c Understand credit cards.

Details and Examples 2.1.d Understand the role of personal taxes in society.

Details and Examples 2.1.e Understand different financial investments, such as mutual funds, stocks and bonds.

Details and Examples 2.1.f Understand saving for retirement.

Concept or Skill 2.2 Understand the role of scarcity and economic trade-offs and how economic conditions impact people's lives.

Details and Examples 2.2.a Understand the concepts of marginal benefit and marginal cost in connection to economic actions.

Details and Examples 2.2.b Understand increases and decreases in productivity are influenced by positive and negative incentives.

Details and Examples 2.2.c Understand production possibilities curves.

Details and Examples 2.2.d Understand the impact of increases in wages or a change in government policy (new taxes, interest rate, subsidies) on consumers, producers, workers, savers and investors.

Details and Examples 2.2.e Understand the role of business plans.

Details and Examples 2.2.f Understand long-term unintended consequences of economic choices made by individuals, businesses, and governments.

Details and Examples 2.2.g Understand the unemployment rate.

Concept or Skill 2.3 Understand the functions of economic institutions.

Details and Examples 2.3.a Understand the basic functions of money.

Details and Examples 2.3.b Understand the composition of the money supply.

Details and Examples 2.3.c Understand that economic institutions have different goals, rules, and constraints.

Details and Examples 2.3.d Understand banks and other financial institutions affect the economy.

Details and Examples 2.3.e Understand government policies affect economic institutions.

Details and Examples 2.3.f Understand the role of non-profit organizations.

Concept or Skill 2.4 Understand how governments throughout the world influence economic behavior.

Details and Examples 2.4.a Understand the role of fiscal and monetary policies in governments.

Details and Examples 2.4.b Understand government regulation of industries.

Details and Examples 2.4.c Understand the economic trade-offs of government assistance programs.

Details and Examples 2.4.d Understand the impact of the federal budget on the economy at the individual, household, and business levels.

Details and Examples 2.4.e Understand changes in spending and taxation affect national deficits, surpluses, and debt.

Details and Examples 2.4.f Understand the role of the Federal Reserve.

Concept or Skill 2.5 Understand how universal economic concepts present themselves in various types of economies throughout the world.

Details and Examples 2.5.a Understand the law of supply and demand affects the price of products.

Details and Examples 2.5.b Understand major world economic systems.

Details and Examples 2.5.c Understand factors that influence Gross Domestic Product for specific countries.

Details and Examples 2.5.d Understand different policies and actions that combat inflation, deflation, and recession.

Details and Examples 2.5.e Understand economic self-interest influences economic decisions.

Concept or Skill 2.6 Understand the local, state, regional, national, and international factors that create patterns of interdependence in the global economy.

Details and Examples 2.6.a Understand the difference between domestic and global economic systems and how the two interact.

Details and Examples 2.6.b Understand absolute and comparative advantage.

Details and Examples 2.6.c Understand the costs and benefits of free trade among countries.

Details and Examples 2.6.d Understand trade barriers imposed by the United States from a historical perspective and the impact of those actions.

Details and Examples 2.6.e Understand the role of exchange rates between countries and their effect on purchasing power.

Details and Examples 2.6.f Understand government subsidies to industries and the effect on global trade.

Concept or Skill 2.7 Understand the impact of advancing technologies on the global economy.

Details and Examples 2.7.a Understand the role of technologies that interlock the global economy.

Details and Examples 2.7.b Understand the role of investment and government support in advancing technologies.

Details and Examples 2.7.c Understand the impact of green technologies in the global economy.

Content Area 3 Geography is the study of the interaction between people and their environments. Geography therefore looks at the world through the concepts of location, place, human-environmental interaction, movement, and region.

Concept or Skill 3.1 Understand the use of geographic tools to locate and analyze information about people, places, and environments.

Details and Examples 3.1.a Understand the characteristics and uses of geographic technologies.

Details and Examples 3.1.b Understand geographic representations and tools used to analyze, explain and solve geographic problems.

Details and Examples 3.1.c Understand the use of mental maps of physical and human features of the world to answer complex geographic questions.

Details and Examples 3.1.d Understand perspective and point of view in interpreting data on maps.

Details and Examples 3.1.e Understand the value of using maps from different sources and points of view.

Concept or Skill 3.2 Understand how physical and human characteristics create and define regions.

Details and Examples 3.2.a Understand culture as an integrated whole that explains the function and interactions of language, literature, the arts, traditions, beliefs and values and behavior patterns.

Details and Examples 3.2.b Understand regional boundaries change.

Details and Examples 3.2.c Understand places and regions are important to individual human identity and as symbols for unifying or fragmenting society.

Details and Examples 3.2.d Understand external forces can conflict economically and politically with internal interests in a region.

Concept or Skill 3.3 Understand how human factors and the distribution of resources affect the development of society and the movement of populations.

Details and Examples 3.3.a Understand population issues.

Details and Examples 3.3.b Understand international migrations are shaped by push and pull factors.

Details and Examples 3.3.c Understand the impact of human migration on physical and human systems.

Details and Examples 3.3.d Understand the impact of policy decisions regarding the use of resources in different regions of the world.

Details and Examples 3.3.e Understand issues related to the reuse and recycling of resources.

Details and Examples 3.3.f Understand the physical and human factors that have led to famines and large-scale refugee movements.

Details and Examples 3.3.g Understand competition for and conflict over natural resources.

Concept or Skill 3.4 Understand how physical and human processes shape the Earth's surface and major ecosystems.

Details and Examples 3.4.a Understand relationships between soil, climate, plant and animal life affect the distributions of ecosystems.

Details and Examples 3.4.b Understand the importance of ecosystems in understanding the environment.

Details and Examples 3.4.c Understand physical processes affect different regions of the United States and the world.

Details and Examples 3.4.d Understand social, cultural and economic processes shape the features of places.

Details and Examples 3.4.e Understand the effects of human and physical changes in ecosystems both locally and globally.

Concept or Skill 3.5 Understand how human actions modify the environment and how the environment affects humans.

Details and Examples 3.5.a Understand competition for control of the Earth's surface can have a positive or negative effect on the planet and its inhabitants.

Details and Examples 3.5.b Understand the global impact of human changes in the physical environment.

Details and Examples 3.5.c Understand programs and positions related to the use of resources on a local to global scale.

Concept or Skill 3.6 Understand how culture affects the interaction of human populations through time and space.

Details and Examples 3.6.a Understand technology and human mobility have changed various cultural landscapes.

Details and Examples 3.6.b Understand the processes of spatial change have affected history.

Details and Examples 3.6.c Understand the role culture plays in incidences of cooperation and conflict in the present day world.

Details and Examples 3.6.d Understand the causes of boundary conflicts and internal disputes between culture groups.

Details and Examples 3.6.e Understand diverse cultural responses to persistent human issues.

Concept or Skill 3.7 Understand how cultural factors influence the design of human communities.

Details and Examples 3.7.a Understand the impact of changing global patterns of trade and commerce on the local community and predict the future impact of these patterns.

Details and Examples 3.7.b Understand cultures influence the characteristics of regions.

Details and Examples 3.7.c Understand people create places that reflect culture, human needs, government policy, and current values and ideals as they design and build places.

Content Area 4 History is the study and analysis of the past. Built upon a foundation of historical knowledge, history seeks to analyze the past in order to describe the relationship between historical facts, concepts, and generalizations. History draws upon cause and effect relationships within multiple social narratives to help explain complex human interactions. Understanding the past provides context for the present and implications for the future.

Concept or Skill 4.1 Understand historical patterns, periods of time, and the relationships among these elements.

Details and Examples 4.1.a Understand concepts such as chronology, causality, change, conflict, and complexity to explain, analyze, and show connections among patterns of historical change and continuity.

Details and Examples 4.1.b Understand significant historical periods and patterns of change within and across cultures, such as the development of ancient cultures and civilizations, the rise of nation states, and social, economic, and political revolutions.

Details and Examples 4.1.c Understand patterns of social and cultural continuity in various societies.

Concept or Skill 4.2 Understand how and why people create, maintain, or change systems of power, authority, and governance.

Details and Examples 4.2.b Understand different political systems from historical periods.

Details and Examples 4.2.a Understand the purpose of government and how its powers have been acquired, used, and justified.

Details and Examples 4.2.c Understand from a historical perspective the purpose and effects of treaties, alliances, and international organizations that characterize today's interconnected world.

Concept or Skill 4.3 Understand the role of culture and cultural diffusion on the development and maintenance of societies.

Details and Examples 4.3.a Understand the ways groups, societies, and cultures have addressed human needs and concerns in the past.

Details and Examples 4.3.b Understand societal patterns for preserving and transmitting culture while adapting to environmental or social change.

Details and Examples 4.3.c Understand the value of cultural diversity, as well as cohesion, within and across groups.

Details and Examples 4.3.d Understand the origins, central ideas, and global influence of world religions.

Details and Examples 4.3.e Understand cultural factors that have promoted political conflict.

Concept or Skill 4.4 Understand the role of individuals and groups within a society as promoters of change or the status quo.

Details and Examples 4.4.a Understand the significance of important people, their work, and their ideas in the areas of political and intellectual leadership, inventions, discoveries, and the arts.

Details and Examples 4.4.b Understand the role the values of specific people in history played in influencing history.

Details and Examples 4.4.c Understand the significant religious, philosophical, and social movements and their impacts on society and social reform.

Details and Examples 4.4.d Understand the effect of 'chance events' on history.

Concept or Skill 4.5 Understand the effect of economic needs and wants on individual and group decisions.

Details and Examples 4.5.a Understand how economic issues have influenced society in the past.

Details and Examples 4.5.b Understand connections between the cultural achievements of early civilizations and the development of political and economic institutions.

Details and Examples 4.5.c Understand that choices made by individuals, firms, or government officials often have unintended consequences that can offset the initial effects of the decision.

Details and Examples 4.5.d Understand that the introduction of new products and production methods by entrepreneurs has impacted economic growth, competition, technological progress, and job opportunities.

Details and Examples 4.5.e Understand the historical relationship between economic growth, higher production levels, new technologies, and standard of living.

Concept or Skill 4.6 Understand the effects of geographic factors on historical events.

Details and Examples 4.6.a Understand ways that historical events have been influenced by, and have influenced, physical and human geographic factors in local, regional, national, and global settings.

Details and Examples 4.6.b Understand reasons for changes in the world's political boundaries.

Details and Examples 4.6.c Understand the historic reasons for conflicts within specific world regions.

Details and Examples 4.6.d Understand past government policies designed to change a country's population characteristics.

Concept or Skill 4.7 Understand the role of innovation on the development and interaction of societies.

Details and Examples 4.7.a Understand significant changes caused by technology, industrialization, urbanization, and population growth and the effects of these changes.

Details and Examples 4.7.b Evaluate the impact of new technologies on societies.

Details and Examples 4.7.c Understand the historical impact of the interaction and interdependence of science, technology, and society in a variety of cultural settings.

Concept or Skill 4.8 Understand cause and effect relationships and other historical thinking skills in order to interpret events and issues.

Details and Examples 4.8.a Understand processes such as using a variety of sources, providing, validating, and weighing evidence for claims, checking credibility of sources, and searching for causality.

Details and Examples 4.8.b Understand relationships between and among significant events.

Details and Examples 4.8.c Understand facts and concepts drawn from history, along with methods of historical inquiry, to inform decision-making about and action-taking on public issues.

Details and Examples 4.8.d Understand the process of critical historical inquiry to reconstruct and reinterpret the past.

Details and Examples 4.8.e Understand multiple viewpoints within and across cultures related to important events, recurring dilemmas, and issues.

Details and Examples 4.8.f Understand how and why events may be interpreted differently depending upon the perspectives of participants, witnesses, reporters, and historians.

Content Area 5 Political science is the study of power and authority through the examination of political processes, governmental institutions, and human behavior in a civil society. In this context the study of civics is understood to include the form and function of government. Civic literacy encompasses civics but also addresses the individual's social and political participation.

Concept or Skill 5.1 Understand the rights and responsibilities of each citizen and demonstrate the value of lifelong civic action.

Details and Examples 5.1.a Understand rights, roles, and status of the individual in relation to the general welfare.

Details and Examples 5.1.b Understand that constitutional democracy requires the participation of an attentive, knowledgeable, and competent citizenry.

Details and Examples 5.1.c Understand personal, political, and economic rights are secured by constitutional government, the rule of law, checks and balances, an independent judiciary, and a vigilant citizenry.

Details and Examples 5.1.d Understand ways citizens participate in the political process at local, state, and national levels.

Details and Examples 5.1.e Understand the importance of becoming knowledgeable about public affairs.

Details and Examples 5.1.f Understand the importance of voluntarism as a characteristic of American society.

Concept or Skill 5.2 Understand how the government established by the Constitution embodies the enduring values and principles of democracy and republicanism.

Details and Examples 5.2.a Understand the central ideas of American constitutional government and how this form of government has shaped the character of American society.

Details and Examples 5.2.b Understand the role of government in major areas of domestic and foreign policy.

Concept or Skill 5.3 Understand the purpose and function of each of the three branches of government established by the Constitution.

Details and Examples 5.3.a Understand the purpose of government and how its powers are acquired, used and justified.

Details and Examples 5.3.b Understand the necessity of politics and government.

Details and Examples 5.3.c Understand the purposes, organization, and functions of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches and the independent regulatory agencies.

Concept or Skill 5.4 Understand the differences among the complex levels of local, state and national government and their inherent, expressed, and implied powers.

Details and Examples 5.4.a Understand the design and features of the Constitution prevent the abuse of power by aggregating power at the national, state, and local levels and using a system of checks and balances.

Details and Examples 5.4.b Understand provisions of the Constitution and principles of the constitutional system help to insure a government that will not exceed its limits.

Details and Examples 5.4.c Understand the limits the United States Constitution places on the powers of the states and on the powers of the national government over state governments.

Details and Examples 5.4.d Understand the policies of state and local governments provide citizens with ways to monitor and influence the actions of members of government and hold them responsible for their actions.

Concept or Skill 5.5 Understand strategies for effective political action that impact local, state, and national governance.

Details and Examples 5.5.a Understand participation in civic and political life can help citizens attain individual and public goals.

Details and Examples 5.5.b Understand the role of diversity in American life and the importance of shared values, political beliefs, and civic beliefs in an increasingly diverse American society.

Concept or Skill 5.6 Understand how law and public policy are established at the local, state, and national levels of government.

Details and Examples 5.6.a Understand the purposes and functions of law.

Details and Examples 5.6.b Understand the processes by which public policy concerning a local, state, or national issue is formed and carried out.

Details and Examples 5.6.c Understand issues concerning the relationship between state and local governments and the national government.

Concept or Skill 5.7 Understand how various political systems throughout the world define the rights and responsibilities of the individual.

Details and Examples 5.7.a Understand ideologies, structures, institutions, processes and political cultures of different political systems in the world.

Details and Examples 5.7.b Understand the essential characteristics of limited and unlimited governments.

Concept or Skill 5.8 Understand the role of the United States in current world affairs.

Details and Examples 5.8.a Understand conditions, actions and motivations that contribute to conflict and cooperation within and among nations.

Details and Examples 5.8.b Understand the significance of foreign policies and events in the United States' relations with the world.

Details and Examples 5.8.c Understand the idea of national interest and how it is used as a criterion for shaping American foreign policy.

Details and Examples 5.8.d Understand the effects that significant world political developments have on the United States.

Details and Examples 5.8.e Understands the influence that American ideas about rights have had abroad and how other peoples' ideas about rights have influenced Americans.