

SOCIAL STUDIES

Grade 8 Social Studies Teachers:

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Grade eight social studies involves developing understanding of ancient societies and traditional ways of life and looking at how those structures influenced the development of the modern world. Students learn to draw comparisons between societies and evaluate how the structures and organization of societies impact life for citizens. This course involves the development and use of critical thinking, research skills and communication skills.

Topics Explored Throughout the Year

- Understanding Societies Past and Present
- Early Societies of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and the Indus Valley
- Ancient Societies of Greece and Rome
- Transition to the Modern World (China, Middle East, Africa)
- Shaping the Modern World

*Timeline for topics taught may change slightly throughout the year

Assessment Breakdown:

Students will be assessed on their understanding of the essential learning outcomes under the following categories:

- Active Democratic Citizenship
- Managing Ideas and Information
- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Communication

Teachers will evaluate student understanding using a combination of:

product (assignments, tests, quizzes etc.)

observation (group work, class discussion & participation etc.)

communication (conferencing with students, presentations, discussion etc.)

Each term, essential learning outcomes and skills will be worth:

Knowledge and understanding – 50%

Research and Communication - 20 %

Critical Thinking and Citizenship – 30%

*The final assessment will be worth 20% of the final grade