

COURSE OFFERINGS IN SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION**Mandatory:**

Kindergarten: Basic social studies concepts
Grade 1: Home, school, and community
Grade 2: Community, state, and nation
Grade 3: Impact of the individual
Grade 4: Texas in the Western Hemisphere
Grade 5: United States Studies
Grade 6: Contemporary World Societies
Grade 7: Texas Studies
Grade 8: U.S. Studies through Reconstruction

**Mandatory with no specific grade level:
(9 - 12):**

World Geography or World History
(usually grades 9 and 10)
U.S. History since Reconstruction (usually grade 11)
Economics/ Government (1 semester each usually in 12th grade)

Electives:

Sociology
Psychology

Electives, with topics/content largely determined by Local Education Agencies (LEAs): Special Topics Research Methods
Advanced Studies

Comments:

Although the state does not require four years of Social Studies for graduation, most districts do have that requirement.

DESCRIPTION OF STATE TESTING IN SOCIAL STUDIES

Code: (U = in use; D = in development; M = mandated; L = local decision; A = available; S = secure)

M: Grades 8, 10, 11. Passing Grade 11 test will be a diploma requirement beginning in 2004

Comments:

First year for these tests will be 2003

ASSESSMENT IS DEVELOPED BY THE STATE OR PURCHASED FROM TESTING COMPANIES OR OTHER SOURCES.

Texas has a contract with a test development firm, but also has an assessment division that works closely with the test developers.

CHANGES IN SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS, ASSESSMENTS, OR RESOURCES THAT HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED OR ARE PLANNED

Curriculum revision is not yet scheduled, and it may not occur for another three to eight years.

PUBLICATIONS/DOCUMENTS

Full documentation can be found
<http://www.socialstudies.tea.state.tx.us>.

KEY ISSUES IMPACTING SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

Key issues are No Child Left Behind, funding and a lack of assessment at the elementary school level.

CURRENT CURRICULUM PROJECTS

Ongoing Curriculum/Assessment correlations-curriculum study/implementation projects are taking place in Texas.

CONTACT INFORMATION

George Rislov

Director, Social Studies
Curriculum and Professional Development
Texas Education Agency
1701 North. Congress
Austin, TX 78701-1494
Phone: 512-463-9580
Fax: 512-463-8057
E-mail: grislov@tea.state.tx.us

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/tea/curric.html>