

Course Syllabus

Social Studies, Social Studies-Grade 6

Morgan County Curriculum 4.1 Middle Sch., Final
Morgan County School District

Government & Civics

- The learner will be able to compare purposes and sources of power in the most common forms of government (monarchy, democracy, republic, dictatorship) in the present day.
- The learner will be able to describe and give examples to support how present day democratic governments function to preserve and protect the rights (e.g., voting), liberty, and property of their citizens by making, enacting, and enforcing appropriate rules and laws.

Culture & Society

- The learner will be able to explain how the elements of culture (e.g., language, the arts, customs, beliefs, literature) define specific groups in the global world of the present day and may result in unique perspectives.
- The learner will be able to compare how cultures (present day) develop social institutions (family, religion, education, government, economy) to respond to human needs, structure society, and influence behavior.
- The learner will be able to explain how conflict and competition (e.g., political, economic, religious, ethnic) occur among individuals and groups in the present day.
- The learner will be able to explain how compromise and cooperation are possible choices to resolve conflict among individuals and groups in the present day.

Economics

- The learner will be able to explain and give examples of how scarcity requires individuals, groups, and governments in the present day to make decisions about how productive resources (natural resources, human resources, and capital goods) are used.
- The learner will be able to compare present day economic systems (traditional, command, market, mixed).

- The learner will be able to explain how in present day market economies, the prices of goods and services are determined by supply and demand.
- The learner will be able to explain how money (unit of account) can be used to express the market value of goods and services and how money makes it easier to trade, borrow, invest, and save in the present day.
- The learner will be able to explain how competition among buyers and sellers impacts the price of goods and services in the present day.
- The learner will be able to explain ways in which the basic economic questions about the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services are addressed in the present day.
- The learner will be able to describe how new knowledge, technology/tools, and specialization increase human productivity in the present day.
- The learner will be able to explain how international economic activities are interdependent in the present day.

Geography

- The learner will be able to use a variety of geographic tools (maps, photographs, charts, graphs, databases, and satellite images) to interpret patterns and locations on Earth's surface in the present day.
- The learner will be able to describe how different factors (e.g., rivers, mountains, plains) affect where human activities are located in the present day.
- The learner will be able to describe how regions in the present day are made distinctive by human characteristics (e.g., dams, roads, urban centers) and physical characteristics (e.g., mountains, bodies of water, valleys) that create advantages and disadvantages for human activities (e.g., exploration, migration, trade, settlement, development).
- The learner will be able to describe and give examples of how places and regions in the present day change over time as technologies, resources, and knowledge become available.

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- The learner will be able to describe patterns of human settlement in the present day and explain how these patterns are influenced by human needs.
- The learner will be able to explain why and give examples of how human populations may change and/or migrate because of factors such as war, famine, disease, economic opportunity, and technology in the present day.
- The learner will be able to explain how technology in the present day assists human modification (e.g., irrigation, clearing land, building roads) of the physical environment in regions.
- The learner will be able to describe ways in which the physical environment (e.g., natural resources, physical geography, natural disasters) both promotes and limits human activities (e.g., exploration, migration, trade, settlement, development) in the present day.
- The learner will be able to explain how the natural resources of a place or region impact its political, social, and economic development in the present day.
- The learner will be able to explain how individual and group perspectives impact the use of natural resources (e.g., urban development, recycling) in the present day.

Historical Perspective

- The learner will be able to use a variety of tools (e.g., primary and secondary sources) to describe and explain historical events and conditions, and to analyze the perspectives of different individuals and groups (e.g., gender, race, region, ethnic group, age, economic status, religion, political group) in present day regions.