

FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Instruction**  
**HISTORY-SOCIAL SCIENCE INSTRUCTION**

The County Superintendent and County Board believe that the study of history and other social sciences is essential to prepare students to engage in responsible citizenship, comprehend complex global interrelationships, and understand the vital connections among the past, present, and future, as well as to establish a foundation for the appreciation of different ethnicities, the wise use of natural resources, and the responsible management of personal finance. The County Superintendent/County Board history-social science education program shall include, at appropriate grade levels, instruction in American and world history, geography, economics, political science, anthropology, psychology, and sociology.

The County Superintendent or designee shall adopt academic standards for history-social science which meet or exceed state content standards and describe the knowledge and skills students are expected to possess at each grade level.

The County Superintendent or designee shall develop and submit to the County Board for approval a comprehensive, sequential curriculum aligned with the County Superintendent/County Board standards and consistent with the state's curriculum framework for history-social science. The curriculum shall be designed to develop students' core knowledge in history and social science and their skills in chronological and spatial thinking, research, and historical interpretation. History-social science instruction shall also include an explicit focus on developing students' literacy in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and other language skills.

The County Superintendent or designee shall adopt standards-aligned instructional materials for history-social science in accordance with applicable law, County Superintendent and County Board policy, and administrative regulation. Additionally, teachers are encouraged to supplement the curriculum, in accordance with Superintendent and Board Policy 6161.11 – Supplementary Instructional Materials, by using biographies, original documents, diaries, letters, legends, speeches, other narrative artifacts, and literature from and about the period being studied.

Personal testimony from persons who can provide first-hand accounts of significant historical events is encouraged and may be provided through oral histories, videos, or other multimedia formats. If oral history is used for instruction related to the role of Americans in World War II or the Vietnam War, such testimony shall exemplify the personal sacrifice and courage of the wide range of ordinary citizens who were called upon to participate in the war, provide views and comments concerning reasons for participating in the war, and provide commentary on the aftermath of the war in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. (Education Code 51221.3, 51221.4)

County Superintendent-run high schools shall annually observe, during the week that includes April 28, "Workplace Readiness Week" by providing information to students on their rights as workers, including topics specified in Education Code 49110.5. For students in grades 11 and

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12, the "Workplace Readiness Week" observances shall be integrated into the regular school program, consistent with the history-social science framework. (Education Code 49110.5)

The County Superintendent or designee shall provide a standards-based professional development program designed to increase teachers' knowledge of adopted instructional materials and instructional strategies for teaching history-social science.

Adopted: 10/20/2011

Amended: 11/19/2020, 11/20/2025

**Legal Reference****Education Code**

33540 History-social science curriculum framework

51008-51009 Instruction on farm labor movement

51204 Course of study designed for student's needs

51204.5 History of California; contributions of men, women, and ethnic groups

51220.2 Instruction in legal system; teen or peer court programs

51221 Social science course of study, inclusion of instruction in use of natural resources

51221.3-51221.4 Instruction on World War II and Vietnam War; use of oral histories

51226.3 Instruction on civil rights, genocide, slavery, Holocaust, and deportation to Mexico

51226.7 Ethnic studies

60040-60051 Criteria for instructional materials

60119 Public hearing on the sufficiency of instructional materials

60200-60206 Instructional materials, grades K-8

60400-60411 Instructional materials, grades 9-12

99200-99206 Subject matter projects

**Management Resources****California Department of Education Publications**

History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2016

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History-Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects, 2013

Model Curriculum for Human Rights and Genocide, 2000

History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, October 1998

**National Council for the Social Studies Publications**

College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies State Standards

**Websites**

California Council for History Education: <http://www.csus.edu/al/cche>

California Humanities: <http://www.calhum.org>

California Council for the Social Studies: <http://www.ccss.org>

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California History-Social Science Course Models: <http://www.history.ctaponline.org>

California Subject Matter Project: <http://csmp.ucop.edu/chssp>

National Association for Multicultural Education: <http://www.nameorg.org>

National Council for History Education: <http://www.nche.net>

National Council for the Social Studies: <http://www.socialstudies.org>

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