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. 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. In addition, teachers are encouraged to supplement the curriculum 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)

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
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
51210  Course of study, grades 1-6
51220  Course of study, grades 7-12
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
51225.3  High school graduation requirements
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
60640-60649  California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress
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
California English Language Development Standards, 2012
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

Websites
CSBA: http://www.csba.org
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
California Department of Education: http://www.cde.ca.gov
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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