

CSBA Sample Board Policy

History-Social Science Instruction

BP 6142.94

Instruction

Use CSBA Sample with
Revisions

Note: The following optional policy may be revised to reflect district practice. Education Code 51210 and 51220 require that social studies be included in the course of study offered in grades 1-12, including age-appropriate instruction drawing upon the disciplines of anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, and sociology. For specific topics that must be included in the history-social science curriculum, see BP 6143 - Courses of Study.

Note: In addition, Education Code 51225.3 requires completion of three courses of social studies for high school graduation; see BP 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements.

The Governing Board believes 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 district's history-social science education program shall be designed to develop students' knowledge of historical events within a chronological and geographic context and shall include, at appropriate grade levels, instruction in American and world history, geography, economics, political science, anthropology, psychology, and sociology.

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

(cf. 6146.1 - High School Graduation Requirements)

Note: The State Board of Education (SBE) has adopted History-Social Science Content Standards for California Public Schools which covers grades K-12, with the exception of grade 9 which, in current California practice, is traditionally the year in which students choose a history-social science elective. In addition to core content knowledge, the standards describe intellectual reasoning, reflection, and research skills that should be learned through the content standards for grade ranges K-5, 6-8, and 9-12.

The Board shall adopt academic standards for history-social science which meet or exceed state content standards and describe the knowledge and skills that students shall be expected to achieve at each grade level.

(cf. 6011 - Academic Standards)

***Note: The SBE's History-Social Science Framework for California Public Schools, updated in 2005, reflects the state content standards and is organized into three broad categories of curricular goals, each with several "basic learnings" or curriculum strands, as provided in items #1-3

below.***

The Superintendent or designee shall develop a comprehensive, sequential curriculum that is aligned with the district standards and is consistent with the state's curriculum framework. At each grade level, the curriculum shall integrate age-appropriate instruction designed to develop student achievement in the following areas:

1. Knowledge and cultural understanding, including historical, ethical, cultural, geographic, economic, and sociopolitical literacy
2. Democratic understanding and civic values, including an understanding of national identity; constitutional heritage; and an individual's civic values, rights, and responsibilities
3. Skills attainment and social participation, including basic study skills, critical thinking skills, and participation skills that are essential for effective citizenship

(cf. 6141 - Curriculum Development and Evaluation)

(cf. 6142.3 - Civic Education)

(cf. 6142.4 - Service Learning/Community Service Classes)

The district's history-social science curriculum shall include a multicultural education component which is designed to teach students to respect and appreciate cultural diversity and different points of view while also developing their understanding of commonalities and collective experiences. The curriculum shall reflect the experiences of men and women and of various cultural, ethnic, racial, religious, and social groups and their contributions to the history, life, and culture of the local community, California, the United States, and other nations that includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans, and persons with disabilities.

(cf. 6115 - Ceremonies and Observances)

(cf. 6141.2 - Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs)

Note: Instructional materials that will be used by the district must be adopted by the Governing Board in accordance with Education Code 60200-60206 for grades K-8 and Education Code 60400-60411 for grades 9-12.

***Note: Education Code 60119 requires the Board to hold a public hearing on the sufficiency of standards-aligned instructional materials in certain subjects, including history-social science; see BP 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials. ***

Note: The state content standards for history-social science encourage schools to use supplementary materials as provided in the following paragraph.

The Board shall adopt standards-aligned instructional materials for history-social science in accordance with applicable law, Board policy, and administrative regulation. In addition, teachers are encouraged to supplement the curriculum through the use of biographies, original documents, diaries, letters, legends, speeches, other narrative artifacts, and literature from and about the period

being studied that accurately portray the cultural and racial diversity of our society.

Comment [WT1]: EC 60040 –referenced below
updated with SB48

(cf. 0400 - District Technology Plan)
(cf. 1312.2 - Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6161.1 - Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6161.11 - Supplementary Instructional Materials)
(cf. 6162.6 - Use of Copyrighted Materials)
(cf. 6163.1 - Library Media Centers)

Note: Education Code 99200-99206 establish the California History-Social Science Project, a statewide professional development project designed to develop and enhance teachers' knowledge and instructional strategies to improve student achievement in history-social science. Professional development resources also may be located through state and national professional associations, such as the California Council for the Social Studies or the National Council for History Education.

The 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.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)

***Note: The following optional paragraph should be revised to reflect indicators that will be used to evaluate program effectiveness as agreed upon by the Board and Superintendent or designee.

The Superintendent or designee shall evaluate and report to the Board regarding the implementation and effectiveness of the history-social science curriculum, including, but not limited to, the extent to which the program is aligned with state standards, any applicable state student assessment results, and feedback from students, parents/guardians, and staff regarding the program.

Deleted: regularly

Deleted: at each grade level

(cf. 0500 - Accountability)
(cf. 6162.51 - State Academic Achievement Tests)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

33540 History-social science curriculum framework

51204 Course of study designed for student's needs

51204.5 History of California; contributions of men, women, social groups, persons with disabilities, and ethnic and cultural 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

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, rev. 2005

Model Curriculum for Human Rights and Genocide, 2000

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

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>

California Council for the 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>

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

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

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