

Middle School Social Studies Curriculum

Our middle school Social Studies program is designed to enlighten students in the geography, cartography, civics, political science, economics, sociology, and history of our world. Each of our Social Studies curriculums for grades 5 through 8 have been developed using the standards of the Diocese of Charleston. These standards were developed using the *Ten Themes of the National Council of Social Studies*, *The Seven Catholic Social Principles*, *The South Carolina Education Standards for Social Studies*, and the preceding *Diocesan Social Studies Guide*.

It is imperative that students build a foundation in the middle school years for understanding geopolitical events, diverse cultures and ideas, and the students' own unique relationships to their surroundings. Resources used in each class will include textbooks, maps, supplemental readings, Discovery Streaming, and other audio-visual presentations. A heavy emphasis is placed on the student's ability to express their thoughts through essay style writing. Our curriculums are designed to maximize each student's ability to be a successful contributing member of not only our United States society but also our World.

Areas covered in all middle school classes:

- Civics and Citizenship Skills
- Reading and Comprehension Skills
- Writing and Creativity Skills
- Study and Research Skills
- Public Speaking Skills

5th Grade Social Studies Curriculum "Continuing Development of the United States"

**Texts: *The American Nation Beginnings Through 1877*
*The American Nation Civil War to The Present***

- Geography and Cartography
- Research and Comprehension Skills
- Colonization of America
- American Revolution
- American Expansion
- America Expands Westward
- Industrial Revolution
- Growing Tensions in America
- A Nation Divided Over Slavery
- The American Civil War
- Reconstruction
- Modernization of the West
- America Becomes a World Power
- World War I
- Roaring Twenties
- Great Depression
- World War II
- Cold War and the Rise of Communism
- Civil Rights and Equal Rights Movements
- Vietnam War
- Collapse of the Soviet Block
- Persian Gulf War

- Expansion of Global Trade and Technology
- Global War on Terrorism

6th Grade Social Studies Curriculum "Ancient World Cultures to 1600"
Text: *"History of Our World"* Ancient Civilizations through the Reformation

- Geography & Cartography
- Research and Comprehension Skills
- The Beginnings of Human Society
- The Fertile Crescent
- Ancient Egypt and Nubia
- Ancient India
- Ancient China
- The Rise of Ancient Greece
- The Glory of Ancient Greece
- The Rise of Ancient Rome
- The Fate of Ancient Rome
- Byzantine and Muslim Civilizations
- Civilizations of Africa
- Early Civilizations of the Americas
- Civilizations of Asia
- Europe in the Middle Ages
- The Renaissance and Reformation
- European Exploration and the New World
- Market Concepts and Global Interdependence
- Influence of the Ancient World on Modern Society

7th Grade Social Studies Curriculum "Modern World Cultures: 1600 to the Present"
Text: *"History of Our World"* European Exploration to the World Today

- Geography & Cartography
- Research and Comprehension Skills
- European Exploration of Asia
- European Expansion in the Americas and Africa
- Emergence of Capitalism
- Monarchies and Constitutional Governments
- Age of Revolution
- Rise of Nationalism and Imperialism
- Japan as a World Power
- World War I
- Great Depression
- Rise of Totalitarian Governments
- World War II
- The Holocaust
- Post-World War II Middle East
- Cold War and the Rise of Communism
- The World Today/Europe
- The World Today/Asia
- The World Today/Latin America

- The World Today/Africa
- The World Today/Middle East
- The World Today/North America

8th Grade Social Studies Curriculum "South Carolina: It's Place in American History"

Text: *South Carolina: The History of an American State*

- Geography & Cartography
- Research and Comprehension Skills
- Settlement of America/South Carolina
- Discontent in the Colonies
- Declaration of Independence
- The American Revolution
- A New State and a New Nation
- Constitution and the Bill of Rights
- Structure of the Federal Government
- Early National Period
- Democracy, States Rights, Sectionalism
- The Antebellum South/A Nation Divided Over Slavery
- The American Civil War/Impact on South Carolina
- Reconstruction/Impact on South Carolina
- Social, Political, Economic Development of South Carolina
- World War I/Impact on South Carolina
- Great Depression/New Deal/Impact on South Carolina
- World War II/Impact on South Carolina
- Cold War/Korean War
- Civil Rights & Equal Rights Movements
- American Society in Transition
- Current Affairs in the United States and South Carolina