

7th Grade Social Studies

7th Grade's Social Studies curriculum is a deep dive into the standards for middle school Civics and Economics. By the end of the year, students will deeply understand the structure of governments and economies, the way our American government and economy functions, the principles and structures of the American political and economic system and the impact of personal responsibilities and decisions on the way these systems work. Teachers will utilize the Delaware Recommended Curriculum (DRC) and TCI Curriculum to teach these standards.

GRADE 7 CIVICS

Civics Anchor Standard One: Students will examine the structure and purposes of governments with specific emphasis on constitutional democracy [Government].

- Governments exist and are instituted for specific purposes and employ a variety of organizational structures to pursue their objectives. Constitutional democracy attempts to balance individual freedom with the needs of the society as a whole. American citizens need a basic understanding of the structure of different forms of government and a detailed knowledge of a constitutional democracy.
 - **6-8a:** Students will understand why governments have the authority to make, enforce, and interpret laws and regulations, such as levying taxes, conducting foreign policy, and providing for national defense.
 - **6-8b:** Students will analyze the different functions of federal, state, and local governments in the United States and examine the reasons for the different organizational structures each level of government employs.

Civics Anchor Standard Two: Students will understand the principles and ideals underlying the American political system [Politics].

- The American political system was intentionally created to rest on a foundation of individual liberty, freedom of religion, representative democracy, equal opportunity, and equal protection under the law. These principles and ideals are codified in the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and other significant documents. Understanding, achieving, and upholding them represents a major challenge to each succeeding generation of American citizens.
 - **6-8a:** Students will understand that the concept of majority rule does not mean that the rights of minorities may be disregarded and will examine and apply the protections accorded those minorities in the American political system.
 - **6-8b:** Students will understand the principles and content of major American state papers such as the Declaration of Independence; United States Constitution (including the Bill of Rights); and the Federalist Papers.

Civics Anchor Standard Three: Students will understand the responsibilities, rights, and privileges of United States citizens [Citizenship].

- The political, religious, and economic freedoms provided to American citizens are accompanied by the responsibility of active civic participation at the individual, community, state, and national levels. Effective citizens need to understand the dedication and commitment necessary to safeguard those rights for themselves and future generations, as well as the potential consequences of inaction. They should also be able to distinguish between rights and privileges.
 - **6-8a:** Students will understand that civil rights secure political freedom while property rights secure economic freedom and that both are essential protections for United States citizens.
 - **6-8b:** Students will understand that American citizenship includes responsibilities such as voting, jury duty, obeying the law, service in the armed forces when required, and public service.

Civics Anchor Standard Four: Students will develop and employ the civic skills necessary for effective, participatory citizenship.

- The intent to participate in the American political system must be matched with the specific skills necessary to be effective. Such skills include but are not limited to: registering to vote; interacting successfully with government agencies; organizing and working in civic groups; researching and advocating a position; or serving in an office of public trust.
 - **6-8a:** Students will follow the actions of elected officials, and understand and employ the mechanisms for communicating with them while in office.

GRADE 7 ECONOMICS

Economics Anchor Standard One: Students will analyze the potential costs and benefits of personal economic choices in a market economy [Microeconomics].

- Individuals, as well as families, communities, and societies as a whole, must make choices in their activities and consumption of goods and services because the resources available to satisfy wants are limited. The availability of these resources in a market economy is dependent on changes in technology, costs, demand, and government intervention. Making effective personal economic choices requires a comparison of the cost of a given resource with the benefits gained by its acquisition.
 - **6-8a:** Students will analyze how changes in supply and demand interact in competitive markets to determine or change the price of goods and services.

Economics Anchor Standard Two: Students will examine the interaction of individuals, families, communities, businesses, and governments in a market economy [Macroeconomics].

- Market economies are dependent on the creation and use of money to facilitate exchange. Such economies are therefore tied to the role of banks and financial institutions, the causes and effects of inflation, unemployment, and business cycles. Government actions such as taxation, spending, regulation, and fiscal policy also influence the operation of market economies. Understanding the interaction of these factors is essential to comprehending the function of market economies as a whole.
 - **6-8a:** Students will analyze the role of money and banking in the economy, and the ways in which government taxes and spending affect the functioning of market economies.

Economics Anchor Standard Three: Students will understand different types of economic systems and how they change [Economic systems].

- Methods of production, distribution, and exchange vary in different economic systems; alternative economic systems will have advantages and disadvantages when compared to each other. Economic systems may change over time, and in the modern world it is important to understand the process of change, especially when non-market economies are in transition to market economies. Such transitions present both opportunities and challenges for American citizens.
 - **6-8a:** Students will demonstrate the ways in which the means of production, distribution, and exchange in different economic systems have a relationship to cultural values, resources, and technologies.

Economics Anchor Standard Four: Students will examine the patterns and results of international trade [International trade].

- Nations with different economic systems often specialize and become interdependent as a result of international trade. This trade is affected by national efforts to encourage or discourage the exchange of commodities, exchange rates, and the flow of international investment. As markets extend beyond political borders, it is essential for American citizens to develop an understanding of international trade in order to make effective choices in allocating their own resources.
 - **6-8a:** Students will examine how nations with different economic systems specialize and become interdependent through trade and how government policies allow either free or restricted trade.

<p align="center">7th Grade Scope & Sequence by Topic Standards addressed in each unit are listed by number & letter in <i>blue</i>.</p>	
<p align="center">Civics <i>September- February</i></p>	<p align="center">Economics <i>March- May</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purposes and Powers of Government <i>(6th Grade Schoology DRC- 1a)</i> ● Civics and Economics in America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Constitution b. The Bill of Rights c. Our Role in the Government d. Shaping America's Economy <i>(TCI America's Past- 2b, 3a & b & 3a)</i> ● The Civils Rights Movement <i>(TCI The United States Through Modern Times, 2a)</i> ● American Life in the 1980s <i>(TCI The United States Through Modern Times, 2a)</i> ● US Domestic Politics at Turn of Century <i>(TCI The United States Through Modern Times, 1a & 4a)</i> ● Expansion of Freedom <i>(7th Grade DRC Schoology - 2a)</i> ● Civil Rights & Political Freedom <i>(7th Grade DRC Schoology- 3a & b)</i> ● Project Participate <i>(7th Grade DRC Schoology- 4a)</i> ● American Principles <i>(8th Grade DRC Schoology - 2b)</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Geographer's World: Economic Systems <i>(TCI Regions & People)</i> ● Canada and the United States: Consumption Patterns in the United States: The Impact of Living Well <i>(TCI Regions & People)</i> ● Why Trade? <i>(7th Grade Schoology DRC- 4a)</i> ● How Markets Work <i>(8th Grade Schoology DRC- 1a)</i> ● Money, Banking, and Taxing <i>(8th Grade Schoology- 2a)</i> ● Performance Task→ How Government Actions Stimulate the Economy <i>(8th Grade Schoology- 2a)</i>

- **Performance Task**→ How Government Responds to a Health Crisis
(8th Grade DRC Schoology - 1a & b)
- Genocide & Holocaust Unit
(7th Grade DRC Schoology- 1a, 2a, 3a)