

Social Studies 6

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students in grade 6 expand their understanding of History, Civics and Government, Geography, Economics, and Individuals, Society, and Culture by studying the people and events that ushered in the dawn of the major Western and non-Western ancient civilizations. Geography is of special significance in the development of the human story. Students will have the opportunity to explore civilizations by learning about the history, culture, citizenship, economy, religions, and government of the different cultures present at that time. In so doing, the students will learn and utilize math, science, technology, and critical thinking skills in daily learning. Students analyze the interactions among the various cultures, emphasizing their enduring contributions and the link between our World today and these ancient worlds.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

After completing the course, students will be able to:

- Describe the life of various civilizations
- Compare and contrast the ways of the ancient World to our World today
- Sequence, categorize, and identify cause and effect relationships of important events of Ancient times; explain how resources, belief systems, economic factors, and political decisions have affected different civilizations
- Understand, describe, and analyze the similarities and differences within and among cultures that includes the cultures' government, economy, education, and religion
- Identify examples of architecture, art, music, and literature of today that have transcended from ancient times
- Understand and describe how citizenship varies among different societies
- Create written and visual materials such as journals, reports, graphic organizers, outlines, and bibliographies fluently at the 6th grade level with very few grammar or spelling errors

PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE LENGTH: Two semesters

REQUIRED TEXT: None

COURSE OUTLINE:

Overview of Ancient Civilizations

- Identify the locations of human communities that populated the major regions of the world
- Describe how humans adapted to a variety of environments

Stone Age

- Transition from nomadic hunters to agricultural societies
- Describe the hunter-gatherer societies including the development of tools and the use of fire

Social Studies 6 (continued)

COURSE OUTLINE (continued):

Early Civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush

- Analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations
- Mesopotamian civilizations: Sumer 5000 BC, Babylon 1800 BC, Assyria 1200 BC, Persia 539 BC, Egypt, Kush

Ancient Hebrews

- Analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the Ancient Hebrews

Ancient Greece

- Geography
- Crete, Minoans, and Mycaeneans
- Government and citizenships
- Philosophy
- Art and literature
- Alexander the Great
- Hellenism and Judaism

Persian Empire

- Geography
- Rise and fall of the Persian Empire

Ancient Asian, Civilizations of India, China, and Japan

- India – history, religion, Hinduism
- China – history, philosophy, culture, Buddhism, Confucius
- Japan – Buddhism

Ancient Rome

- Geography
- Art, architecture
- Religion
- Culture
- Roman Republic
- Roman Empire – Western, Eastern, Fall of the Western Empire