



Social Studies, Grade 1 (SOCS) 1A Syllabus

Course Name

SOCS 1A

Social Studies, Grade 1 – Semester A

Course Information

SOCS 1A is the first semester of this two-semester course.

In this course, students develop their understanding of basic concepts and ideas from civics, economics, geography, and history. The context for social studies learning in first grade is the family and the ways they choose to live and work together. To develop students' understanding of the basic social studies concepts, students are asked to think about families nearby and those far away.

- Throughout **Unit 1**, students will learn how to relate to each other in the classroom and school. As students become familiar with how the classroom operates, they learn that rules and authority figures contribute to the overall operation of the classrooms, homes, and communities as well as help people get along. Being a good citizen in the classroom, home, and community involves making choices, choices that can have positive or negative consequences.
- In **Unit 2**, students will understand the concept of citizenship. They will study the characteristics of good citizenship which provides students with a foundational understanding of the responsibilities expected of Americans. Students will also study about the characteristics of good citizenship and the role of citizens in a constitutional republic, including the importance of voting.
- In **Unit 3**, students will understand that each family and community have their own customs, beliefs, and ways of meeting basic needs. Traditions and customs are important for understanding values in America. This unit bundles student expectations that emphasize the importance of cultural traditions in communities. Students are going to study about important American celebrations and holidays,

about symbols, mottos and anthems which are important to Americans and about family and community traditions.

Course Delivery Method

Online

Contacting Your Instructor

You may contact your instructor through the Blackboard messaging system. Technical support is available 24/7 at [TTU K-12](#).

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to:

1. describe the origins of customs, holidays, and celebrations of the community, state, and nation;
2. compare the observance of holidays and celebrations;
3. explain the purpose for rules and laws in the home, school, and community;
4. identify rules and laws that establish order, provide security, and manage conflict;
5. identify the responsibilities of authority figures in the home, school, and community;
6. identify and describe the roles of public officials in the community, state, and nation;
7. identify characteristics of good citizenship (truthfulness, justice, equality, respect for others, responsibility, and participation);
8. identify historical figures and other individuals who have exemplified good citizenship such as Benjamin Franklin;
9. explain state and national patriotic symbols, including the United States and Texas flags, the Liberty Bell, the Statue of Liberty, and the Alamo;
10. recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag and the Pledge to the Texas Flag;
11. identify anthems and mottos of Texas and the United States;
12. explain and practice voting as a way of making choices and decisions;
13. describe the importance of various beliefs, customs, and family traditions;
14. explain the way folktales and legends reflect beliefs, language, and traditions of communities;
15. use a simple timeline to distinguish among past, present, and future;
16. use a calendar to describe and measure time in days, weeks, months, and years;
17. express ideas orally based on knowledge and experiences;
18. create and interpret visual and written material;
19. use social studies terminology correctly; and

20. use a problem-solving process to identify a problem and come up with possible solutions.

SOCS 1 addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the [Texas Education Agency](http://www.teks.org) website.

Textbook and Materials

Textbook(s)

There is no required textbook for this course.

Materials

- scissors
- glue
- pencils
- crayons

Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard)
- Email
- Word processing software such as Microsoft Word
- Adobe Reader (download from [Adobe.com](http://adobe.com))
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- PDF app (free options available)
- Digital camera or camera phone

Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- using a word processor
- Internet search engines and browsers
- creating PDFs (see **Requirements for Creating PDFs** in the Syllabus section of your course)

Course Organization

The course is structured in Units, Weeks, and Lessons. Each Unit covers content for the period of six weeks, and in each week, you will find approximately five lessons. Complete each lesson in its entirety before moving on to the next lesson.

Each lesson contains some of the following:

- Introduction and Instructions
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Assignments
- End of lesson tests

Each lesson includes several activities that present content knowledge. Each lesson also includes multiple graded assignments to ensure that you learn the content that has been presented in the activities. Some of the assignments are automatically-graded quizzes, and some are written assignments or activities that your instructor will grade. Be sure you read all instructions carefully and ask your instructor for help if something is not clear.

Course Outline

Please note that some assignments will be hidden from you when you start the course. As you move through the lessons and complete assignments, more will unlock for you.

Unit	Week	Topic
1	1	Classroom, Community, and Citizenship
	2	Timelines
	3	Rules vs. Laws
	4	Authority Figures
	5	Public Officials Review & Celebrate Freedom
	6	Benjamin Franklin
2	7	Historical Figures that Exemplify Good Citizenship (Eleanor Roosevelt & Francis Scott Key)
	8	Fire Safety
	9	Voting
	10	The US & Texas Pledges and Flags
	11	Voting & Citizenship
	12	Unit 2 Review
3	13	Family Traditions
	14	Veterans Day
	15	Thanksgiving
	16	American Symbols
	17	Holidays Around the World
	18	Holidays (continued)

Assignment Schedule

Each of the following must be completed to complete the course. Items with an asterisk (*) indicate that these are summative assessments for the course.

Unit	Week	Assignments
1	1	Checkpoint 1 (Non-graded) Lesson 1.1: Open Card Sort Lesson 1.2: Matching Activity Lesson 1.4: Book Review Lesson 1.5: Good Citizenship Review
	2	Lesson 2.2: Lily's Timeline Questions Lesson 2.3: Jack's Timeline Lesson 2.5: Blank Calendar Activity
	3	Lesson 3.1: Why Do We Need Rules questions Lesson 3.4: My School Authority Figures
	4	Lesson 4.4: Mayor's Review Lesson 4.5: Governor's Review Lesson 4.6: President's Review
	5	Lesson 5.1: Following Rules Lesson 5.1: Local, State, and National Officials Lesson 5.4: Four Sketch Boxes
	6	Lesson 6.1: Ben Franklin Draw & Label Lesson 6.2: I would like to invent! Lesson 6.3: Benjamin Franklin Quiz *Unit 1 Summative Assessment
2	7	Lesson 7.1: All about: Eleanor Roosevelt Lesson 7.3: Eleanor Roosevelt Vocabulary Flipbook Lesson 7.5: Favorite Historical Figure
	8	Lesson 8.4: Fire Safety True or False Lesson 8.5: Fire Safety Poster
	9	Lesson 9.3: Voting and the Law Quiz Lesson 9.4: Voting Process Performance Assessment
	10	Lesson 10.2: Echo-read the Pledge Lesson 10.2: Color It! The Pledge of Allegiance Lesson 10.5: The Texas Pledge Lesson 10.5: Flag of Texas Research

Unit	Week	Assignments
	11	Lesson 11.1: A Star-Spangled Song quiz Lesson 11.2: Texas Motto: "Friendship" Poem Lesson 11.5: Voting Acrostic Poem
	12	Lesson 12.2: Exemplifying Good Citizenship 3-Way-Match Cards *Unit 2 Summative Assessment Checkpoint 2 (Non-graded)
3	13	Lesson 13.1: About My Family Lesson 13.2: Culture Bag Assignment Lesson 13.5: How Your Family Traditions Got Started
	14	Lesson 14.2: Veterans Thank You Note Lesson 14.3: Veterans True or False Quiz Lesson 14.5: I see... I think... I wonder... Activity Lesson 14.5: Veterans Day Poem
	15	Lesson 15.1: I see... I think... I wonder... Activity Lesson 15.3: Thanksgiving Then and Now Sort quiz Lesson 15.4: Thanksgiving Timeline Lesson 15.5: Thanksgiving Writing
	16	Lesson 16.1: "Friend" Poem Lesson 16.1: Friendship Flag Lesson 16.4: Statue of Liberty Poem Lesson 16.5: My Favorite American Symbol
	17	No graded assignments
	18	Lesson 18.1: Kwanzaa Holiday Craft Lesson 18.2: Holidays Discussion Map Lesson 18.3: Favorite Holiday Checkpoint 3 (Non-graded) *Unit 3 Summative Assessment (Final Exam)

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 50% coursework;
- 50% summative assessment (for Units 1-3), including the final exam;
- A passing course grade is 70 or higher.

Students must attempt all assignments in the course. The final exam will not be available until all assignments have been accepted and graded by the teacher.

Students who score below 70% on the final exam will be eligible for one re-exam opportunity.

Coursework

The graded assignments within each lesson are formative in nature. This means that they are designed to assist you in applying and demonstrating the lesson concepts, as well as identifying areas in which you need additional review. You may use all the lesson's learning activities to assist you as you complete the graded assignments.

Summative Assessments

Summative assessments are those that allow you to demonstrate mastery of the course objectives. For summative assessments, you will NOT be allowed to use the learning materials. These are opportunities for you to show what you have learned by that point in the course.

Summative assessments may be proctored using the online proctoring system Proctorio. Information about Proctorio is provided in **Remote Proctoring** in the Syllabus section of your course. The summative assessments for this course are as follows:

- **Summative Assessments (50% of Course Grade)**
 - Unit 1 Summative Assessment
 - Unit 2 Summative Assessment
 - Unit 3 Summative Assessment

Course Completion

- Students may not complete the course in less than 30 days.
- All courses expire six months after the enrollment date.

Academic Integrity

It is the aim of the faculty of Texas Tech University to foster a spirit of complete honesty and high standard of integrity. The attempt of students to present as their own any work not honestly performed is regarded by the faculty and administration as a most serious offense and renders the offenders liable to serious consequences, possibly suspension.

“Scholastic dishonesty” includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, collusion, falsifying academic records, misrepresenting facts, and any act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student (such as, but not limited to, submission of essentially the same written assignment for two courses without the prior permission of the instructor) or the attempt to commit such an act.

Student Expectations

You will be expected to log into the Blackboard course regularly to be aware of possible announcements/reminders and to pace your progress in the course.

Students are expected to maintain an online environment conducive to learning, which includes “netiquette” (Internet etiquette). Please review the basic rules for [Online Discussion Netiquette](#). Ensure that your email messages, discussion board postings, and other electronic communications are thoughtful and respectful. Diverse opinions are welcome in this course, and you are expected to demonstrate an open mind and courtesy when responding to the thoughts and ideas of others.

The following are prohibited:

- making offensive remarks in email or the discussion board;
- using inappropriate language or discussing inappropriate topics online;
- spamming;
- hacking;
- using TTU or Blackboard email or discussion boards for commercial purposes;
- using all caps (considered shouting in online communications); and
- cyber-bullying or online harassment of any type.

Inappropriate behavior shall result in consequences ranging from a request to correct the problem, to removal from the course or even the university, depending on the severity of the behavior. Disciplinary actions will be taken according to the TTU K-12 Student Handbook.

Communication

- You can expect a reply from your instructor within 2 business days.
- Use the Blackboard Course Messages tool for sending messages to your instructor.

Submitting Assignments

You will submit all assignments through the Blackboard Assignment Tool, rather than by mail or email.

Technical Difficulties

Getting Help

For student assistance with Blackboard, visit [TTU K-12 Support](#).

Computer Problems

A working computer is necessary for online coursework. Computer problems will not be accepted as a valid reason for failure to complete course activities within the allotted

time frame. Identify a second computer, before the course begins, that you can use if you experience computer problems.

Server Problems

When the Blackboard server needs to be taken down for maintenance, the Blackboard administrator will post an announcement in your course informing you of the time and date. If the server experiences unforeseen problems, your course instructor will notify you.

Lost or Corrupted Files

You must keep/save a copy of every project/assignment on an external disk or personal computer. In the event of any kind of technology failure (e.g., Blackboard server crash or virus infection, students' own computer problems, loss of files in cyberspace, etc.) or any disputes, the instructor may request or require you to resubmit the files. In some instances, the instructor may need to open another attempt within Blackboard, so communication with your instructor is critical in these circumstances.