



Social Studies, Grade 4 (SOCS) 4A Syllabus

Course Name

SOCS 4A

Social Studies, Grade 4 – Semester A

Course Information

SOCS 4A is the first semester of this two-semester course.

SOCS 4 follows the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for 4th Grade Social Studies. In this first semester, students will be exploring Texas regions, early Texas Indians, European exploration in Texas, the Spanish colonial government, the Mexican Revolution, the empresario system, and the Texas Revolution. The topics included in this semester are:

- the physical and human geography of the four Texas regions;
- the first Americans and resulting Texas Indian tribes;
- European explorers – Cabeza de Vaca, Coronado, and La Salle;
- the Spanish mission and colonial government system;
- the Mexican Revolution;
- the empresario system; and
- the Texas Revolution.

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. identify, locate, and describe each of the four geographic regions of Texas—Gulf Coastal Plains, Mountains and Basins, Great Plains, and North Central Plains—and their economic activities;
2. describe each Texas Indian tribe including their adaptations to the environment and economic activities;
3. identify and explain the government systems of the Caddo and Comanche tribes in Texas;
4. explain the possible origins of the American Indian groups in Texas;
5. identify and compare the ways of life of American Indian groups in Texas before European Exploration;
6. describe the cultural regions in which American Indians lived;
7. locate American Indian groups remaining in Texas;
8. explain the economic activities various early American Indian groups in Texas used to meet their needs and wants;
9. compare how various American Indian groups governed themselves;
10. organize and interpret a timeline of events leading to and through Texas Revolution and the cause and effect of events that led to Texas winning its independence;
11. explain how physical geographic factors such as climate and natural resources have influenced the location of economic activities in Texas, and how settlement patterns are influenced;
12. summarize motivations for European exploration and settlement of Texas, including economic opportunity, competition, and the desire for expansion;
13. identify the accomplishments and explain the impact of significant explorers, including Cabeza de Vaca; Francisco Coronado; and René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, on the settlement of Texas;
14. explain when, where, and why the Spanish established settlements and Catholic missions in Texas;
15. identify Texas' role in the Mexican War of Independence and the war's impact on the development of Texas;
16. identify the accomplishments and explain the economic motivations and impact of significant empresarios, including Stephen F. Austin and Martín de León, on the settlement of Texas;
17. analyze the causes, major events, and effects of the Texas Revolution, including the Battle of the Alamo, the Texas Declaration of Independence, the Runaway Scrape, and the Battle of San Jacinto;
18. summarize the significant contributions of individuals such as William B. Travis, James Bowie, David Crockett, Juan N. Seguín, Plácido Benavides, José

- Francisco Ruiz, Antonio López de Santa Anna, Susanna Dickinson, and Enrique Esparza; and
19. identify the purposes and explain the importance of the Texas Declaration of Independence and the Texas Constitution.

SOCS 4 addresses the required Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). These can be found at the [Texas Education Agency](http://www.tea.state.tx.us) website.

Textbook and Materials

Textbook(s)

There is no required textbook for this course.

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)

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

This course is organized into seven lessons, a midterm examination, and a final examination. Each lesson contains the following:

- Introduction and Instructions
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Learning Activities
- Assignments

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.

Lesson	Topic	Approximate Time for Completion
Lesson 1	Texas Regions	Three weeks
Lesson 2	Texas Indians	Two weeks
Lesson 3	European Exploration in Texas	Two weeks
Lesson 4	Spanish Colonial Texas	Two weeks
Lesson 5	Mexican Revolution	Two weeks
Lesson 6	Anglo Colonization in Texas	Two weeks
Lesson 7	Texas Revolution	Three weeks
Final Exam		

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.

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
1	1-3	Checkpoint 1 (Non-graded) Lesson 1 Topic 1: Map Skills Pre-Assessment Lesson 1 Topic 2: Texas Regions Lesson 1 Topic 3: Texas Regions: Categories Lesson 1 Topic 4: Texas Map Skills Pre-Assessment Reflection Lesson 1 Discussion Lesson 1 Assessment
2	4-5	Lesson 2 Topic 1: Journal Lesson 2 Topic 2: Texas Indian Regions Lesson 2 Topic 3: Texas Indians Lesson 2 Topic 4: Texas Tribes Today Lesson 2 Discussion Lesson 2 Assessment

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
3	6-7	Lesson 3 Topic 1: Journal Lesson 3 Topic 2: Motivations for European Exploration Lesson 3 Topic 3: Texas Explorers Lesson 3 Topic 4: Spain's Opinion of Texas After La Salle Lesson 3 Discussion Lesson 3 Assessment Checkpoint 2 (Non-graded)
4	8-9	Lesson 4 Topic 1: Journal Lesson 4 Topic 2: Texas Missions and Presidios Lesson 4 Discussion Lesson 4 Assessment
		*Midterm Exam
5	10-11	Lesson 5 Topic 1: Word Map Lesson 5 Topic 2: Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla Lesson 5 Topic 3: Mexican Revolution Lesson 5 Topic 4: The Texas Venture Lesson 5 Discussion Lesson 5 Assessment
6	12-13	Lesson 6 Topic 1: Journal Lesson 6 Topic 2: Texas Empresarios Lesson 6 Topic 3: Journal Lesson 6 Topic 4: Texas Empresarios Venn Diagram Lesson 6 Discussion Lesson 6 Assessment
7	14-16	Lesson 7 Topic 1: Anticipation Guide for the Texas Revolution Lesson 7 Topic 2: Santa Anna's Power Play Reflection Lesson 7 Topic 3: Texas Revolution Timeline Lesson 7 Topic 4: Important People in the Texas Revolution Lesson 7 Discussion Lesson 7 Assessment Checkpoint 3 (Non-graded)
		*Final Exam

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 50% coursework average;
- 50% summative assessment average (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 and checkpoints 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 *multiple choice* 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:

- Coursework (**50% of Course Grade**)
- Summative Assessments (**30% of Course Grade**)
 - Midterm Exam (100 points)
- Summative Final Exam (**20% of Course Grade**)

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.