



Social Studies, Grade 6 (SOCS) 6A Syllabus

Course Name

SOCS 6A

Social Studies, Grade 6 – Semester A

Course Information

SOCS 6A is the first semester of this two-semester course.

In this course, students study the people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. This semester covers the United States and Canada, Latin America, and Europe. Students describe the influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in those societies and identify the locations and geographic characteristics of various societies. Students identify different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems. Students compare institutions common to all societies such as political, economic, geographic, and societal institutions.

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 influence of individuals and groups on historical and contemporary events in various societies;
2. identify the locations and geographic characteristics of various societies;
3. identify different ways of organizing economic and governmental systems;
4. describe the nature of citizenship in various societies;

5. compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religious institutions;
6. explain how the level of technology affects the development of various societies; and
7. identify different points of view about events.

SOCS 6 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.

Materials

No additional materials are required.

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** on the course home page)

Course Organization

This course is organized into seventeen weeks with twenty lessons and a final examination. Each lesson contains the following:

- Introduction and Instructions
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- 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. The assignments are written assignments or activities that your instructor will grade. Each week also has a Current Events assignment for students to connect with and write about current events happening in the world. 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	The P.E.G.S.	Two days
Lesson 2	Think Like a Geographer	Three days
Lesson 3	Past, Present, and Future	One week
Lesson 4	Culture and Culture Traits	One week
Lesson 5	Introduction to the United States and Canada	One week
Lesson 6	Geography of the United States and Canada	Three days
Lesson 7	Governments of the United States and Canada	Two days
Lesson 8	U.S. Citizenship	One week
Lesson 9	The Free Enterprise System	One week
Lesson 10	American and Canadian Culture	Two weeks
Lesson 11	Introduction to Latin America	One week
Lesson 12	Geography of Latin America	Three days
Lesson 13	Indigenous Peoples of Latin America	Two days
Lesson 14	The Columbian Exchange and Latin American Culture	Three days
Lesson 15	Latin American Art	One week
Lesson 16	Introduction to Europe	One week
Lesson 17	Geography of Europe	Two days
Lesson 18	History and Culture of Europe	Three days

Lesson	Topic	Approximate Time for Completion
Lesson 19	The European Union	Two days
Lesson 20	Europe and Immigration	Three days
Final Exam Review	Final Exam Review	One week

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	Checkpoint 1 (Non-graded) Lesson 1 Assignment: The P.E.G.S. Lesson 1 Assignment: P.E.G.S. Vocabulary Sort
2	1-2	Lesson 2 Assignment: Map of the World Lesson 2 Summative Assignment: Mapping Your World Week 1 Current Events Assignment
3	2	Lesson 3 Assignment: Generational Interview Lesson 3 Assignment: Timeline Week 2 Current Events Assignment
4	3	Lesson 4 Assignment: Culture Traits Web Lesson 4 Assignment: Culture Traits Illustrated Dictionary Week 3 Current Events Assignment Checkpoint 2 (Non-graded)
5	4	Lesson 5 Assignment: P.E.G.S. Graphic Organizer Lesson 5 Assignment: Visual Vocabulary Week 4 Current Events Assignment
6	5	Lesson 6 Assignment: Map of the U.S. and Canada
7	5	Lesson 7 Assignment: Venn Diagram and Conversation Week 5 Current Events Assignment
8	6	Lesson 8 Assignment: Naturalization Brochure Lesson 8 Assignment: Civics Practice Test Week 6 Current Events Assignment
9	7	Lesson 9 Assignment: Free Enterprise Poem, Song, or Rap Week 7 Current Events Assignment
10	8-9	Lesson 10 Assignment: American and Canadian Culture Mind Map

Lesson	Weeks	Assignments
		Lesson 10 Summative Assignment: U.S. and Canada Project Week 8 Current Events Assignment Week 9 Current Events Assignment
11	10	Lesson 11 Assignment: P.E.G.S. Graphic Organizer Lesson 11 Assignment: Visual Vocabulary Week 10 Current Events Assignment
12	11	Lesson 12 Assignment: Map of Latin America
13	11	Lesson 13 Assignment: Sensory Figure Week 11 Current Events Assignment
14	12	Lesson 14 Assignment: Recipe for Latin American Culture Week 12 Current Events Assignment
15	12-13	Lesson 15 Summative Assignment: Latin American Art Week 13 Current Events Assignment
16	14	Lesson 16 Assignment: P.E.G.S. Graphic Organizer Lesson 16 Assignment: Visual Vocabulary Week 14 Current Events Assignment
17	15	Lesson 17 Assignment: Map of Europe Week 15 Current Events Assignment
18	15-16	Lesson 18 Summative Assignment: European History & Culture Timeline
19	16	Lesson 19 Assignment: Brexit Letter to the Editor
20	16	Lesson 20 Assignment: Immigration Venn Diagram Week 16 Current Events Assignment
	17	Final Exam Review Checkpoint 3 (Non-graded) Final Exam

Course Credit

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- 50% coursework average;
- 50% summative assessment average (for lessons 1-6), 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.

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 (20% of Course Grade)**
 - Lesson 2 Summative Assignment: Mapping Your World
 - Lesson 10 Summative Assignment: U.S. and Canada Project
 - Lesson 15 Summative Assignment: Latin American Art
 - Lesson 18 Summative Assignment: European History & Culture Timeline
- **Summative Final Exam (30% 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 email. For assignments that require you to upload a PDF or other document, please title your assignment files “lastName_firstName_assignmentName.xxx (.pdf, .doc, .xl, .jpg, etc.)”.

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.