



# **Social Studies, Grade K (SOCS) KA Syllabus**

## **Course Name**

SOCS KA

Social Studies, Kindergarten – Semester A

## **Course Information**

SOCS KA is the first semester of this two-semester course.

The areas that will be covered in SOCS KA include history; geography; economics; government; citizenship; culture; science, technology, and society; and Social Studies skills. The student will use a journal (spiral notebook, folder, etc.) to write or draw some assignments, while others will be videorecorded for submission. A recording device (smartphone, iPad, etc.) is necessary to record the student's responses. Many books are used in this course, all of which can be found online, at your local library, or at a bookstore. Lessons include read-aloud videos for the books whenever possible. It is important to review the lesson materials needed ahead of time so that you have ample time to locate any books that might be needed for each lesson.

## **Course Delivery Method**

Online

## **Contacting Your Instructor**

You may contact your instructor through the Blackboard messaging system. Technical support is available 24/7 at [www.k12.ttu.edu](http://www.k12.ttu.edu).

## **Course Objectives**

After completing this course, the students should have increased knowledge of

- identify the American and Texas flags;
- recite the pledges to America and Texas with support;
- identify what a community is;

- identify different community helpers;
- understand what jobs are and why they are important;
- identify and use geographic tools that aid in determining location, including maps and globes;
- use spatial terms appropriately (over, under, near, far, left, right);
- understand the importance of having rules/laws and who enforces rules/laws;
- know what a citizen is;
- understand what responsibilities are;
- identify authority figures and their responsibilities;
- understand how historical figures helped shape the state and nation;
- identify national patriotic holidays and the customs associated with them;
- understand that voting is a method for group decision-making;
- locate places on a school campus and describe the locations;
- identify the physical characteristics of a place such as landforms, bodies of water, Earth's resources, and weather;
- identify how geographic location influences human characteristics of places such as shelter, clothing, food, and activities;
- identify national patriotic holidays such as Constitution Day, Presidents' Day, Veterans' Day, and Independence Day;
- identify cultural similarities and differences among individuals and families; and
- explain the importance of family traditions.

SOCS K 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 not a required textbook for this course. However, some of the lessons will include a children's book that ties in with the lesson. These books can be found online, at your local library, or at a bookstore. It is important to review the lesson materials needed ahead of time so that you have ample time to locate any books that might be needed for each lesson.

### ***Materials***

- calendar
- Social Studies journal (spiral notebook, folder, etc.)
- camera and videorecording device (smartphone, iPad, etc.)
- art materials: pencils, crayons or colored pencils, scissors, glue, etc.

## Technical Requirements

- Internet access – preferably high speed (for accessing Blackboard and online HMH textbook materials)
- Email
- Printing capabilities
- Adobe Reader (download from [Adobe.com](http://Adobe.com))
- Audio and video capabilities (for watching/listening to course content)
- Recording device such as a digital camera, camera phone or iPad
- PDF app (free options available)

## Technical Skill Requirements

Be comfortable with the following:

- accessing online learning materials via Blackboard and HMH site
- Internet search engines and browsers
- uploading assignments into Blackboard website (there will be instructions for uploading assignments)

## Course Organization

This course consists of three Units divided into six weeks each. Each week's instruction contains the following:

- List of required books
- Introduction and instructions for parent facilitation
- Learning Objectives and Curriculum Standards
- Daily lessons that consist of accessing books and videos, and completing journal entries and/or other assignments
- Unit Assessment

Each lesson will include the TEKS that are being covered for that specific lesson and what materials are needed for the lesson. All lessons will begin with the pledges. The objective will be posted in each lesson and the student will be expected to recall the lesson's skill through the lesson's product. The product will be a journal entry, video response, or discussion questions.

The student will be completing a journal entry for most of the lessons. The student will need a journal (spiral, folder, notebook, etc.) to complete the expected lesson assignment. Each journal entry will need to have the student's name on it with the date and lesson number included. Once the journal entry has been completed, the adult will take a photograph of the journal entry and upload it into the Weekly Journal assignment.

Some lessons require the student to verbally recall information from the lesson to check for understanding. A recording device (phone, iPad, etc.) will be needed to record the responses, then the video will be uploaded for grading. The student will need to state their name before completing the assignment so that they receive credit for the lesson.

The journal entries and verbal responses will be graded on a rubric scale:

1. **Needs Improvement:** The student’s journal entry/video response did not show mastery of the objective.
2. **Developing:** The student’s journal entry/video response included information required on the topic, but did not show complete mastery of the objective.
3. **Accomplished:** The student’s journal entry/video response showed mastery of the objective and included all the required information needed.

There are three (3) Unit assessments. Adult assistance will be needed to read the questions to the student. The adult will be responsible for uploading the assessments for the student.

## 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	Days	Topic
1	1	1-5	American Flag and Texas Flag, Community, Community Helpers, and Jobs
	2	6-10	Geography: Location
	3	11-15	Government: Rules and Citizenship
	4	16-20	Laws and Responsibility
	5	21-25	Authority Figures
	6	26-30	Review of Rules and Citizenship, Geographic Location, and Laws and Responsibility
2	7	31-35	Historical Figures
	8	36-40	Historical Figures
	9	41-45	National Symbols
	10	46-50	National Symbols
	11	51-55	National Customs: Equality and Independence; and Historical Figures Review

Unit	Week	Days	Topic
	12	56-60	Historical Figures Review; and Map Skills: Describing Locations
<b>3</b>	13	61-65	Map Skills and Physical Characteristics of Landforms
	14	66-70	Physical Characteristics of Landforms; Earth's Resources and Weather; and Geographic Location: Northeast
	15	71-75	Geographic Locations: Southwest, West, Southeast, Midwest; and Special Events: Veteran's Day
	16	76-80	Special Events: Veteran's Day, President's Day, Voting, and Thanksgiving
	17	81-85	Special Events: Thanksgiving; and Christmas Around the World: Italy
	18	86-90	Christmas Around the World: Mexico, Australia, Hong Kong, and America; and Economics: Jobs People Do
			<b>Final Exam</b>

## 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	Weeks	Days	Assignments
<b>1</b>	1-6	1-30	Checkpoint 1 (Non-graded) Day 4 Assignment Upload Day 5 Assignment Upload Week 1 Journal Upload Day 6 Assignment Upload Day 10 Assignment Upload Week 2 Journal Upload Day 12 Assignment Upload Day 13 Assignment Upload Day 14 Assignment Upload Day 15 Assignment Upload Week 3 Journal Upload Day 18 Assignment Upload Day 19 Assignment Upload Week 4 Journal Upload Day 25 Assignment Upload Week 5 Journal Upload Day 28 Assignment Upload

Unit	Weeks	Days	Assignments
			Day 29 Assignment Upload Week 6 Journal Upload *Unit 1 Quiz
<b>2</b>	7-12	31-60	Day 32 Assignment Upload Week 7 Journal Upload Day 39 Assignment Upload Day 40 Assignment Upload Week 8 Journal Upload Day 44 Assignment Upload Day 45 Assignment Upload Week 9 Journal Upload Day 49 Assignment Upload Day 50 Assignment Upload Week 10 Journal Upload Week 55 Assignment Upload Week 11 Journal Upload Day 56 Assignment Upload Day 59 Assignment Upload Day 60 Assignment Upload Week 12 Journal Upload *Unit 2 Quiz Checkpoint 2 (Non-graded)
<b>3</b>	13-18	61-90	Day 61 Assignment Upload Day 62 Assignment Upload Day 64 Assignment Upload Week 13 Journal Upload Day 68 Assignment Upload Day 70 Assignment Upload Week 14 Journal Upload Day 71 Assignment Upload Day 72 Assignment Upload Day 73 Assignment Upload Day 74 Assignment Upload Week 15 Journal Upload Day 76 Assignment Upload Day 79 Assignment Upload Week 16 Journal Upload Week 84 Assignment Upload Week 17 Journal Upload

Unit	Weeks	Days	Assignments
			Week 18 Journal Upload Checkpoint 3 (Non-graded)
			<b>Final Exam</b>

## 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:

- **Summative Assessments (50% of Course Grade)**
  - Unit 1 Quiz (100 points)
  - Unit 2 Quiz (100 points)
  - Final Exam (100 points)

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## Course Completion and Extensions

- 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/Parent Expectations

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

The following are prohibited while using the Blackboard interface:

- spamming;
- hacking; and
- using TTU or Blackboard email for commercial purposes;

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.

In addition to the expectations above, the nature of a kindergarten class requires that parents/adults are actively involved in their student’s instruction. Kindergarten is a time when students are learning to read, so adults will need to read the daily instructions to them and assist them in their activities.

## 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.

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## 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.