

Mt. Calvary-Grace Lutheran School

Social Studies Curriculum Guide

Jesus Christ holds the destiny of all people and nations in His hands. God placed all things under [Christ's] feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church. (Eph 1:22). He directs all events, in which even the activities of the pagan world unknowingly contribute to His glory and the welfare of his kingdom.

Social studies is the integrated study of the social sciences and humanities to equip the citizens of God's kingdom for citizenship on this earth through the promotion of civic competence. Within the curriculum, social studies provides a coordinated, systematic study drawing on such disciplines as anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, history, law, philosophy, political science, psychology, and sociology, as well as content from the humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences.

General Objectives for Social Studies

Through Christ-centered social studies instruction, teachers strive to lead each child to:

- Grow to be a productive citizen with a positive influence in the community--the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world." (Matthew 5:13-16)
- Respect our government and be thankful for our country's blessings.
- Identify a "world-view," that he or she may better understand God's guiding hand in the world, and better function in the home, community, and the nation.
- Analyze the blessings showered on the world by the overwhelming grace of God and therefore be filled with a greater desire to thank and praise, serve and obey our God.
- Evaluate other cultures in our society and throughout the world by the standards of God's Word.
- Realize the need to spread the Gospel to the whole world.

Grade Level Objectives for Social Studies

Early Childhood/Primary

Citizenship/Political Science

- Students will recognize the necessity for rules and laws in society.
- Students will differentiate between the diverse cultures of the world.
- Students will demonstrate a knowledge of and appreciation for their families, school, neighborhood and community.

History

- Students will understand that much can be learned through the study of past events and people.

Economics

- Students will show through their behavior that all have a responsibility to care for the world into which God has placed them.

Elementary

Geography

- Students will understand, interpret, and use graphic descriptors.
- Students will use the 5 themes to make more sense of their world (location, place, human environment interaction, regions).

Citizenship/Political Science

- Students will practice patriotism and display American values.
- Students will exhibit God-pleasing skills in resolving social issues.
- Students will respect government officials as representatives of God.
- Students will identify the presence of many cultures within the United States of America.
- Students will participate in the democratic process.

History

- Students will understand the role history played in the development of the United States of America.
- Students will identify cultures of the past that have influenced the United States of America.
- Students will visualize themselves as history-makers.
- Students will recognize that past and present individuals shape history.
- Students will investigate current events and interpret current events as history in-the-making.

Economics

- Students will observe production and distribution in a global economy.
- Students will examine various regional and national products as God's blessings.
- Students will explain market trading in the United States and abroad.
- Students will identify services of revenue and how to use resources wisely.

Middle School

Geography

- Students will interpret the influence of geography on history.
- Students will establish and evaluate criteria used to define regions.

Citizenship/Political Science

- Students will compare the roles of citizens and governments of various societies.
- Students will evaluate human rights in past and present civilizations.

History

- Students will analyze civilizations over time.
- Students will identify God's hand guiding history.

Economics

- Students will understand the value placed on objects and services by various civilizations.

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