

Social Studies Curriculum

Grade 12 Participation in Government Economics and Economic Decision Making

Social Studies Practices Grades 9-12

A. Gathering, Interpreting, and Using Evidence

1. Define and frame questions about events and the world in which we live, form hypotheses as potential answers to these questions, use evidence to answer these questions, and consider and analyze counter-hypotheses.
2. Identify, describe, and evaluate evidence about events from diverse sources (including written documents, works of art, photographs, charts and graphs, artifacts, oral traditions, and other primary and secondary sources).
3. Analyze evidence in terms of content, authorship, point of view, bias, purpose, format, and audience.
4. Describe, analyze, and evaluate arguments of others.
5. Make inferences and draw conclusions from evidence.
6. Deconstruct and construct plausible and persuasive arguments, using evidence.
7. Create meaningful and persuasive understandings of the past by fusing disparate and relevant evidence from primary and secondary sources and drawing connections to the present.

B. Chronological Reasoning and Causation

1. Articulate how events are related chronologically to one another in time and explain the ways in which earlier ideas and events may influence subsequent ideas and events.
2. Identify causes and effects using examples from different time periods and courses of study across several grade levels.
3. Identify, analyze, and evaluate the relationship between multiple causes and effects
4. Distinguish between long-term and immediate causes and multiple effects (time, continuity, and change).
5. Recognize, analyze, and evaluate dynamics of historical continuity and change over periods of time and investigate factors that caused those changes over time.
6. Recognize that choice of specific periodizations favors or advantages one narrative, region, or group over another narrative, region, or group.
7. Relate patterns of continuity and change to larger historical processes and themes.
8. Describe, analyze, evaluate, and construct models of historical periodization that historians use to categorize events.

C. Comparison and Contextualization

1. Identify similarities and differences between geographic regions across historical time periods, and relate differences in geography to different historical events and outcomes.
2. Identify, compare, and evaluate multiple perspectives on a given historical experience.

3. Identify and compare similarities and differences between historical developments over time and in different geographical and cultural contexts.
4. Describe, compare, and evaluate multiple historical developments (within societies; across and between societies; in various chronological and geographical contexts).
5. Recognize the relationship between geography, economics, and history as a context for events and movements and as a matrix of time and place.
6. Connect historical developments to specific circumstances of time and place and to broader regional, national, or global processes and draw connections to the present (where appropriate).

D. Geographic Reasoning

1. Ask geographic questions about where places are located, why their locations are important, and how their locations are related to the locations of other places and people.
2. Identify, describe, and evaluate the relationships between people, places, regions, and environments by using geographic tools to place them in a spatial context.
3. Identify, analyze, and evaluate the relationship between the environment and human activities, how the physical environment is modified by human activities, and how human activities are also influenced by Earth's physical features and processes.
4. Recognize and interpret (at different scales) the relationships between patterns and processes.
5. Recognize and analyze how place and region influence the social, cultural, and economic characteristics of civilizations.
6. Characterize and analyze changing connections between places and regions.

E. Economics and Economics Systems

1. Use marginal benefits and marginal costs to construct an argument for or against an approach or solution to an economic issue.
2. Analyze the ways in which incentives influence what is produced and distributed in a market system.
3. Evaluate the extent to which competition between sellers and between buyers exists in specific markets.
4. Describe concepts of property rights and rule of law as they apply to a market economy.
5. Use economic indicators to analyze the current and future state of the economy.
6. Analyze government economic policies and the effects on the national and global economy.

F. Civic Participation

1. Demonstrate respect for the rights of others in discussions and classroom debates; respectfully disagree with other viewpoints and provide evidence for a counter-argument.
2. Participate in activities that focus on a classroom, school, community, state, or national issue or problem.
3. Explain differing philosophies of social and political participation and the role of the individual leading to group-driven philosophies.

4. Identify, describe, and contrast the roles of the individual in opportunities for social and political participation in different societies.
 5. Participate in persuading, debating, negotiating, and compromising in the resolution of conflicts and differences.
 6. Identify situations in which social actions are required and determine an appropriate course of action.
 7. Work to influence those in positions of power to strive for extensions of freedom, social justice, and human rights.
 8. Fulfill social and political responsibilities associated with citizenship in a democratic society and interdependent global community by developing awareness of and/or engaging in the political process.
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Grade 12: Participation in Government Hot Topics

(12.G1) FOUNDATIONS of AMERICAN DEMOCRACY: The principles of American democracy are reflected in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and in the organization and actions of federal, state and local governments. The interpretation and application of American democratic principles continue to evolve and be debated.

- (12.G1a) Historical underpinnings of how American Government came to be
- (12.G1b) The Constitution and state constitutions as the basis of all government understanding
- (12.G1c) Separation of powers and checks and balances
- (12.G1d) The rule of law says no one is above the law
- (12.G1e) Federalism: state vs. national authority and what it means
- (12.G1f) The rigorous amendment process

Social Studies Practices: A (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.) B (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.) C (2, 4, 6.) F (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.)

CCLS: R (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.) W (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.) SL (1a, 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.)

(12.G2) CIVIL RIGHTS and CIVIL LIBERTIES: The Constitution aims to protect individual freedoms and rights that have been extended to more groups of people over time. These rights and freedoms continue to be debated, extended to additional people and defined through judicial interpretation. In engaging issues of civic debate, citizens act with an appreciation of differences and are able to participate in constructive dialogue with those who hold different perspectives.

- (12.G2a) The importance of equality before the law and due process
- (12.G2b, 12.G2f) Individual freedoms and group rights including freedom of speech, press, assembly, petition and religion.
- (12.G2c) The role of the judiciary in the protection of individual liberties and defense of the Constitution.

- (12.G2d, 12.G2e) The meaning and importance of civil liberties and civil rights, including the idea that these rights are not absolute

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(12.G3) RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND DUTIES OF CITIZENSHIP: Active, engaged and informed citizens are critical to the success of our representative democracy. Citizens have certain rights, responsibilities and duties, the fulfillment of which help to maintain the healthy functioning of the national, state, and local communities.

- (12.G3a) The importance of an informed citizenry and how one gets to be that way
- (12.G3b) Voting: how and why it's important
- (12.G3c) How to participate in and influence government and why it's important
- (12.G3d) Running for office

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(12.G4) POLITICAL AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION: There are a number of ways to engage in the political process, from voting, to joining political parties, to engaging in other forms of civic participation. Citizens take advantage of electoral and non-electoral means to participate in the political process.

- (12.G4a) Different voting mechanisms, rules for voting and why they're different
- (12.G4b) Importance of legal and safe elections
- (12.G4c) Participation beyond voting including joining political parties, civic organizations and donating money
- (12.G4d) Role of political parties: their philosophies at the local, state and national levels
- (12.G4e) Volunteering, inquiring, and advocacy as citizens

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(12.G5) PUBLIC POLICY: All levels of government—local, state, and federal—are involved in shaping public policy and responding to public policy issues, all of

which influence our lives beyond what appears in the Constitution. Engaged citizens understand how to find, monitor, evaluate and respond to information on public policy issues.

- (12.G5a) How governments (local, state and national) shape, implement, amend, and enforce public policy
- (12.G5b) How and why the different branches determine policy
- (12.G5c) How levels of government work together
- (12.G5d) Using the media to create an informed citizenry

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Grade 12: Economics, the Enterprise System, and Finance Hot Topics

(12.E1) INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE ECONOMY: People should set personal financial goals, recognize income needs and debt obligations, and know how to use effective budgeting, borrowing and investment strategies to maximize well-being.

- (12.E1a) Economic decision making: resources, opportunities, and ethics
- (12.E1b, 12.E1c) Personal finance including money management, credit, and interest rates
- (12.E1d) Inflation and the relationship of US currency to other currencies

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(12.E2) INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES IN THE PRODUCT AND FACTOR MARKETS: Free enterprise is a pillar of the United States economy and is based on the principle that people and businesses are free to make their own economic choices as they participate in these markets. People buy the goods and services they desire from businesses in the product markets, and they contribute to producing these goods and services by supplying the resources that they own to businesses in the factor markets.

- (12.E2a) Scarcity and how individuals and societies make decisions
- (12.E2b) How decisions buyers and producers make determine demand, supply, and prices
- (12.E2c) How businesses use the factors of production to choose what goods and services to provide and how these decisions affect unemployment

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(12.E3) THE IMPACT OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY: There are various economic systems in the world. The United States operates within a mixed, free market economy that is characterized by competition and a limited role of government in economic affairs. Economic policy makers face considerable challenges within a capitalist system, including unemployment, inflation, poverty, and environmental consequences. Globalization increases the complexity of these challenges significantly and has exerted strong and transformative effects on workers and entrepreneurs in the United States economy.

- (12.E3a) The effect of the changes from farming to industrial to informational economies and how these changes have required changes in how we educate our citizens
- (12.E3b) The role of the government in protecting property rights (physical and intellectual), balance of power between workers and employers, stimulation of economy
- (12.E3c) Entrepreneurship driving the engine of the American economy and the intended consequences (e.g., growth, competition, innovation, improved standard of living, productivity, specialization, trade, outsourcing, class mobility, positive externalities), and unintended consequences (e.g., recession, depression, trade, unemployment, outsourcing, generational poverty, income inequality, the challenges of class mobility, negative externalities.)
- (12.E3d) The costs and benefits of regulation, oversight or government control
- (12.E3e) Economic inequality vs. individual choice, the role of government in dealing with this and poverty

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(12.E4) THE TOOLS OF ECONOMIC POLICY IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY:

Globalization and increased economic interdependence affect the United States economy. The tools the policy makers have available to address these issues are fiscal policy, monetary policy and trade policy.

- (12.E4a) The importance of Gross Domestic Product, Gross National Product, Consumer Price Index and other economic indicators
- (12.E4b) Fiscal policy set by the president and Congress
- (12.E4c) The role of the Federal Reserve in managing monetary supply and interest rates
- (12.E4d) Costs and benefits of trade and trade policies

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