The K-12 Social Science Program

**New for 2015-16 Academic Year**

*Civics in a Snap: K-5 Resources to help students learn about Civics*

*History Labs: K-11 resources to help students analyze primary and secondary sources of information*

*Local History: 4, 5, 8, and 11 to help students learn about and appreciate Miami’s local history*

*Financial Literacy: help students learn about money management*

*Digital Convergence: Help students use technology to learn and prepare for the world of work.*

**Minimum required grade level minutes of instruction at the elementary level per week for Social Studies:**

K-1: 60 minutes of social science instruction a week (this includes minutes for art and music). Content focus: K– Living, Learning and Working Together, 1st– Our Community and Beyond.

2-5: 120 minutes of social science instruction a week Content focus: 2nd– Who are We As Americans, 3rd– North American and the Caribbean, 4th– Florida Studies, 5th– U.S. History.

**Middle School Required Courses**

- 6th Grade U.S. History, 7th Grade Civics, 8th Grade U.S. History (for 2017-18), 8th grade World History (beginning 2018-19)

**High School Required Courses**

- 9th Grade World History, 11th Grade U.S. History*, 12th grade Economics with Financial Literacy .5 credit, 12th grade U.S. Government .5 credit

*Courses with required End of Course Exams. Multiple social science electives are offered at the middle and h.s. levels.

**Florida Social Science Mandates**

*All Student Must Learn About:*
- African American History
- Character Education
- Hispanic Contributions to U.S. History
- Holocaust Education
- Women’s Contribution to U.S. History

**For a Complete List of Programs and Competitions Related to Social Sciences:** please visit: [http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net](http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net)

**Long Standing Competitions**

Elementary/Secondary History & Geography Bees, Secondary Model United Nations Program, Theodore Gibson Oratorical Competition, We the People Simulation, Mock Trials, Project Citizen, Black History Brain Bowl, Content Specific Essay Contests.

**For additional information, contact the Department of Social Sciences at 305-995-1982 or visit our website at [http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net](http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net)
Skills Students Need to Master through the Social Sciences

- Analyze primary and secondary sources of information;
- Interpret historical trends that span across multiple time periods; analyzing governmental responses to society’s changing needs.
- Evaluate social science content from political, economic, and social perspectives;
- Understanding the importance of geography on human interaction with one’s environment.
- Understand, evaluate, and interpret graphic information (e.g., from charts).
- Understand and be able to explain the meaning of political cartoons.
- Draw conclusions from multiple pieces of complex information.
- Research and write about important social science trends and topics.
- THINK LIKE A SOCIAL SCIENTIST! LOOK AT AND ANALYZE SOCIETAL ISSUES FROM MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES!

What can you do at home to assist students?

- Provide a quiet, organized place to study;
- Talk to students about what they are learning in their social studies classes.
- Encourage students to watch the news, read the newspaper, and ask “why or how” questions.