



Department of Social Sciences

Engaging a Responsible Citizenry



The K-12 Social Science Program

Elementary

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

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.



Programs and Competitions

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 a Complete List of Programs and Competitions Related to

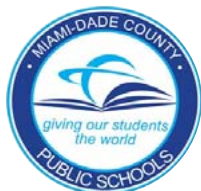
Social Sciences: please visit: <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net>

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 additional information, contact the Department of Social Sciences at 305-995-1982 or visit our website at <http://socialsciences.dadeschools.net/>



GETTING OUR STUDENTS READY!

GETTING OUR STUDENTS READY Creating an Engaged Citizenry

Department of Social Sciences Main Webpage:
<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!



Social Sciences home page

Community Service

- [Community Service Implementation Guidelines](#)

Contacts

- [Middle & K-8 Social Studies Department Chairpersons Contact List](#)
- [Senior High Social Studies Department Chairpersons Contact List](#)

Online Resources

- [Free Online Resources from the Khan Academy](#)

Professional Organizations- Join Now!

- [Florida Council for the Social Studies](#)
- [MDCSS Membership Form](#)
- [National Council for the Social Studies](#)

Department of Social Sciences

Traditionally, the overarching goal of social studies instruction has been to prepare students to be knowledgeable, informed, and active citizens in an increasingly diverse community and nation and interdependent world. Social Studies programs exist to promote civic competence and ensure that the values and ideals that have shaped our democratic republic continue to be instilled in our youth.

Department of Social Sciences, has identified six best practices to serve as the foundation as to how to reach this goal. These are:

1. The social studies K-12 curriculum is rigorous, standards-based and supports improved student achievement.
2. Teachers are provided professional development opportunities designed to enrich their content knowledge and strengthen their pedagogical approaches to teaching social studies.
3. Co-curricular programs, activities, and academic competitions are designed to provide students with opportunities to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they acquired through social studies instruction.
4. Quality instructional resources are available to support the K-12 social studies instructional program and the District's efforts to improve student achievement.
5. Social Sciences works collaboratively with other District offices, government agencies, community and not-for-profit organizations, and colleges and universities to enrich the K-12 social studies instructional program.
6. Social Sciences effectively communicates information regarding curriculum and instruction to all schools in the District.

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.