

ALL PRINCIPALS/APs/TEACHERS: Social Sciences- change in Social Studies course sequence for Middle Schools/K-8 Centers

Category: For Your Information

Audience: All Principals/APs, All Teachers

Due Date: Feb 12, 2016

Meeting Date: n/a

To announce a change in Social Studies course sequence for Middle Schools/K-8 Centers beginning in school year 2016-17.

- In order to better align student content and skills between elementary, middle, and senior high school Social Studies courses, the Department of Social Sciences is changing the sequence of required courses for Social Studies at the middle school level.
- The targeted sequence for required courses for Social Studied is as follows:
 - 6th grade U.S. History
 - 7th grade Civics
 - 8th grade World History.
- Rationale for this change is as follows:
 - Building upon the 5th grade U.S. History course required in elementary schools allows 6th grade students to continue learning U.S. History in a more rigorous and in-depth level. In addition, much of the historical content emphasized in early U.S. History can later assist students with often abstract and complex content addressed in 7th grade Civics (e.g., the era of the American Revolution and the Creation of the U.S. Constitution); and
 - Placing the middle school World History course in 8th grade aligns the two required World History courses in 8th grade (Early humans through the Middle Ages) and the World History course in 9th grade (Byzantine Empire through Modern Times).
- To transition to this targeted sequence of courses for required middle school Social Studies courses, the following sequence will be followed for the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years:
 - 6th grade U.S. History
 - 7th grade Civics
 - 8th grade U.S. History.
 - Please note: This transition sequence of courses ensures that middle school students who entered 6th grade during the 2015-16 academic year will have the three required courses for Social Studies in middle school (and not repeat the World History course that they are currently enrolled in during the 2015-16 academic year).
- For the 2016-17 and 2017-18 academic years, one of the following course codes are to be used for the new 6th grade U.S. History course:
- **School Year 2016-17 and 2017-18 – Grade 6 M/J US History Courses**
 - 2100010G6 M/J United States History
 - 2100010R6 M/J United States History (M/J Course Credit Recovery)
 - 2100015G6 M/J United States History & Career Planning
 - 2100020G6 M/J United States History, Advanced
 - 2100020GG M/J United States History, Advanced, Gifted
 - 2100025G6 M/J United States History, Advanced & Career Planning
 - 2100025GG M/J United States History Advanced & Career Planning Gifted.

