

Greensburg Community School Corporation
Curriculum
6th Grade Social Studies/Western Hemisphere

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Greensburg Community Schools

Mission Statement

The mission of the Greensburg Community School Corporation is to provide and promote lifelong learning through its commitment to quality educational programs that prepare the students to be effective, successful, and responsible citizens. This is to be accomplished in a financially prudent manner.

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6th Grade Social Studies/Western Hemisphere

Narrative Description

In 6th grade Social Studies students will study the history, government, geography, economics, and culture of regions in the western hemisphere. Students will begin with world geography focusing on map reading and atlas utilization. They will then study the history of humankind and the timeline of historical development. Students will specifically analyze ancient cultures such as the Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Renaissance Europeans, and Colonial Americans. In their study students will evaluate the various governments, geography, economics, and societal changes in each culture. Students will participate in various educational strategies from hands on role play to repetitive activities. Students will conclude by summarizing what they have learned for the year and how those things influence their daily lives.

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Course Concepts and Generalization

Standard 1 History: Students will examine the key historic movements, events, and figures that contributed to the development of the modern European and American nations from early civilization to early modern times.

Standard 2 Civics and Government: Students will compare and contrast forms of government in different historical periods with contemporary political structures of Europe and the Americas and examine the rights and responsibilities of individuals in different political systems.

Standard 3 Geography: Students will identify the characteristics of climate regions in Europe and the Americas and describe major physical features, countries, and cities of Europe and the Western Hemisphere.

Standard 4 Economics: Students will examine the influence of physical and cultural factors upon the economic systems of countries in Europe and the Americas.

Standard 5 Individuals, Society, and Culture: Students will examine the role of individuals and groups in societies of Europe and the Americas, identify connections among cultures, and trace the influence of cultures of the past on present societies. They will also analyze patterns of change, including the impact of scientific and technological innovations, and examine the role of artistic expression in selected cultures of Europe and the Americas.

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Units of Study

<u>Units of Study</u>	<u>Time</u>
1. Geography	12 weeks
2. Timelines	1 week
3. Ancient Greek History/Culture	4 weeks
4. Ancient Rome History/Culture	3 weeks
5. Byzantine History/Culture	2 weeks
6. Medieval Europe	4 weeks
7. Ancient Americas (Incas, Mayas, Aztecs, etc)	3 weeks
8. European exploration and colonization	2 weeks
9. Colonial America and growth	4 weeks
10. The United States and Canada	2 weeks

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Unit Plan

Geography
Individual Learner Objectives

1. Students will learn the components of maps and various geographical terms.
2. Students will understand how to utilize an atlas.
3. Students will recognize and identify the seven continents, and familiarize themselves with key countries and cities on the continents.
4. Students will learn distinctions between the four hemispheres.
5. Students will develop skills in reading longitude and latitude.
6. Students will evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of various map projections.
7. Students will explore the earth-sun relationship and its influence on ocean currents, wind currents, climate regions, and vegetation.
8. Students will analyze the earth's rotation as it is related to day and night.
9. Students will investigate the earth's revolution around the sun and its effects on seasonal changes.
10. Students will explore different landforms and how they influence population and cultures.
11. Students will analyze population growth and how migration effects population.
12. Students will identify population density and how migration effects population.
13. Students will review what natural resources are and how they influence various regions.
14. Students will compare and contrast cultural patterns and their influence on the earth.

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Subject Outline

- A. Geography
 - a. Introduction to your atlas
 - i. Introduction W.S.
 - ii. Legend/scale/map projections
 - iii. Introduce daily geography questions
 - b. Maps
 - i. World map
 - ii. Seven continents
 - c. Hemispheres
 - d. Longitude and latitude
 - e. Earth/Sun relationship
 - i. Rotation
 - ii. Revolution
 - iii. Climate regions and vegetation
 - f. Geographical Landforms
 - i. Rivers, mountains, plateaus, etc
 - g. Human geography
 - i. Population
 - ii. Migration
 - iii. Culture
 - h. Natural resources
 - i. Country research projects
- B. Timelines
 - a. Introduction: reading skills, relevance, etc
 - b. Personal timeline
- C. Ancient Greek history and culture
 - a. Ancient civilization influence: Mesopotamia
 - b. History
 - c. Achievements
 - d. Culture
 - e. Government: birth of democracy
 - f. Olympics
- D. Ancient Roman history and culture
 - a. History
 - b. Rise of Roman Empire
 - c. Government: development of democracy and dictatorship
 - d. Decline of Roman Empire
 - e. Role play a day at the Forum and Senate
- E. Byzantine history and culture
 - a. Fall of Rome empire in the west

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- b. Rise of Byzantine Empire
 - i. Economics: control of trade routes
 - ii. Fall of Byzantium
- F. Medieval Europe
 - a. Post Roman culture
 - b. History
 - c. Government and Economics: development of feudal system
 - i. Role play feudal system in class
 - d. Reformation and Renaissance
 - e. Rebellion and Revolution in Europe
 - i. Re-institution of democracy
- G. Ancient Americans
 - a. Americas before Europeans
 - i. Mayas history and culture
 - ii. Aztecs history and culture
 - iii. Incas history and culture
 - iv. Mound builders history and culture
 - b. Influence of Europeans
- H. European exploration and colonization
 - a. Early explorers
 - b. European competition and colonization
 - i. Britain, Spain, France, and Portugal
- I. Colonial America
 - a. Spanish influence on Central and South America
 - b. 1st settlements
 - c. War between colonies
 - i. French and Indian War
 - d. Cultural of colonial Americans
 - e. Effects on Native Americans
 - f. Revolution
 - i. United States of America
 - ii. Canada
 - iii. Central and South America
- J. US expansion
 - a. Louisiana Purchase
 - b. Texas Independence
 - c. War with Mexico
 - d. Treaties with Canada
- K. US and Canada
 - a. History

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- b. Economic relationships
- c. Government
 - i. Parliamentary
 - ii. Congress
- d. Cultures of US and Canada

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Modifications

Modifications of instructional content in this course may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Modified pace
- Modified homework assignments
- Modified tests
- Adaptive equipment
- Use of resource staff
- Other modifications as specified in students' IEP