GRADE LEVEL CONTENT EXPECTATIONS

4th Grade
Welcome to Michigan’s Grade Level Content Expectations for Social Studies

The purpose of social studies instruction is to develop social understanding and civic efficacy. The Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE) balance disciplinary content and processes and skills that contribute to responsible citizenship and form a foundation for high school social studies coursework.

The disciplinary knowledge found in this document can be used by students to construct meaning through understanding of powerful ideas drawn from the disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics. These ideas can be best supported by assessment and instruction that focuses on the Standards for Assessment and the Standards for Teaching and Learning found in the Michigan Curriculum Framework.

Effective social studies instruction and assessment incorporate methods of inquiry, involve public discourse and decision making, and provide opportunities for citizen involvement. Each year, students should receive instruction that allows them to think and act as historians, geographers, political scientists, and economists. For this type of thinking to occur, teachers should utilize the following disciplinary processes with their students:

- acquiring, organizing, and presenting social studies information
- conducting investigations on social studies questions
- analyzing public issues in our various communities
- engaging in constructive conversation around social studies topics
- composing cohesive essays expressing a position on public issues
- participating constructively as community members

Respect for the underlying values of a democratic society is developed through effective social studies education. Rigorous standards provide a framework for designing curriculum, assessment, and effective classroom instruction, that result in relevant learning experiences.

These content expectations provide the necessary framework for deliberate professional development. Working collaboratively, teachers, administrators, university personnel, government officials, parents, community organizations, and businesses will prepare Michigan students to become productive 21st century citizens.

The K-8 Social Studies GLCE were developed to meet the following criteria:

Rigor
- challenging enough to equip students to succeed at the next grade level
- represent the essential core content of a discipline – its key concepts and how they relate to each other

Clarity
- more than just plain and jargon-free prose
- widely understood and accepted by teachers, parents, school boards, and others who have a stake in the quality of schooling
- provide guidance for university faculties who will prepare teachers to convey the expectations, and who later receive those teachers’ students

Specificity
- enough detail to guide districts in developing curricula and teachers in planning instruction
- address available time for instruction

Focus
- prioritize facts, concepts, and skills that should be emphasized at each grade level

Progression
- move from simple to complex, from concrete to abstract
- delineate a progression of knowledge and skills, rather than repetition from grade to grade

Coherence
- reflect a coherent structure of the discipline and/or reveal significant relationships among the strands, and how the study of one complements the study of another
- represent a “back-mapping” from the high school expectations to a progression of benchmarks that middle and elementary school students would need to reach in order to be “on track” for success in college and work
The Challenges of Developing Content Expectations in Social Studies

At the national level and in just about every state, establishing standards and benchmarks in the social studies has been a challenging endeavor, filled with political and pedagogical controversy. Three enduring educational issues have challenged the creation of standards/content expectations to guide instruction and assessment in Michigan: (1) The challenge of integrating separate disciplines, (2) The challenge of representing both thinking and substance, and (3) The challenge of determining an effective K-12 scope and sequence.

First, while everyone recognizes that social studies is an amalgam of four or more disciplines including history, civics, economics and geography, there is no consensus concerning the appropriate mix of these or the appropriate place of each in the curriculum. Critical questions about the relationship among the content areas or even the relative amount of each area in the standards and eventually in the curriculum have not been resolved. Therefore, one critical challenge is to find ways to make connections within and across content areas.

Second, social studies educators face a problem in trying to reflect both disciplinary “thinking” and “substance” in standards documents. This is particularly true in history and civics where people want students to develop more sophisticated ways to think about contemporary issues and to draw upon specific knowledge of the past and the present in their thinking. So, standards and content expectations must include both thinking and knowledge expectations in such a combination that can effectively guide teachers, curriculum designers, and, of course, assessors.

When standards documents stress “thinking” at the expense of “substance,” teachers and educational critics often argue these appear vague and offer little guidance for deciding what content should be taught and tested. Teachers often complain that the mandated tests assess content not specified in standards or benchmarks.

On the other hand, standards that specify more substantive detail face their own critics who argue that such detail is too prescriptive and gives too much content to be effectively assessed in large-scale, multiple-choice dominated exams. A second challenge, therefore, is to provide more substance to meet the criticism that Michigan’s standards were too vague without losing sight of the central purposes for offering social studies to our students.

Finally, there is the challenge of creating a sensible and educationally sound K-12 scope and sequence. For many years, states required the full run of U.S. history in grades 5, 8 and 11. Critics argued this privileged breadth over depth, and urged dividing historical content into three sections for students to study in more depth in 5th, 8th and 11th grades. Still others argued that this arrangement was asking very young students (e.g., 5th graders) to study, remember, and be able to use very sophisticated concepts and events five or six years later when they were studying U.S. history in high school. Most advanced courses rely upon earlier grades to develop foundational skills and knowledge, but do not expect earlier grades to help students achieve the sophisticated study possible in high school. Thus they begin their studies of U.S. history at the “beginning.” In short, social studies educators have developed three different and compelling patterns for structuring the scope and sequence in social studies.

The standards and expectations that follow represent the best efforts of the various writing and review committees to provide the integration, coherence, and the scope and sequence that will guide instruction and assessment in Michigan.
DESIGNING AN ALIGNED CURRICULUM

This document is intended to support dialogue at the school and district level that results in rigorous and relevant curriculum that will prepare students for college and the workplace.

As stakeholders (e.g., teachers, administrators, school board members, parents, community members, students, local legislative representatives) work with these standards, they should consider the following questions:

• How are these content standards and expectations reflected in our curriculum and instruction already?
• Where may the curriculum and instruction be strengthened to more fully realize the intent of these standards and expectations?
• What opportunities do these standards and expectations present to develop new and strengthen existing curriculum, leading to instructional excellence?
• How might the standards and expectations be implemented as we take into account what we know about our students, school, and community?
• How might the effectiveness with which our students and schools are meeting the standards and content expectations be assessed?
• How might school-based assessments (e.g., student portfolios, school-based writing assessments, teacher or classroom research, district-level assessments) be used to make data-driven decisions about teaching and learning?

Through dialogue about questions such as these, and building upon the multitude of existing strengths in our current high schools, voices of all stakeholders will participate in the important and continuing process of shaping instructional excellence in Michigan schools and preparing students for college and the workplace.

In 2002, the Michigan State Board of Education adopted the Policy on Learning Expectations. These Expectations and the High School Content Expectations are intended to work together to prepare Michigan’s students to face new challenges in an ever-changing world, and provide them with the knowledge and skills needed for future success and to be productive citizens. Students will be prepared to:

• Gather Information
• Understand Information
• Analyze Issues
• Draw and Justify Conclusions
• Organize and Communicate Information
• Think and Communicate Critically
• Learn and Consider Issues Collaboratively
• Learn Independently
• Create Knowledge
• Act Ethically

THE GOALS OF SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies is the integrated study of the social sciences to prepare young people to become responsible citizens. Responsible citizens display social understanding and civic efficacy. Social understanding includes knowledge of the human condition, how it has changed over time, the variations that occur in different physical environments and cultural settings, and the emerging trends that appear likely to shape the future in an interdependent world. Civic efficacy is the readiness and willingness to assume responsibilities of citizenship, knowing how, when, and where to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good in a pluralistic, democratic society.
ACTIVE RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

Our constitutional democracy requires active citizens. Responsible citizenship requires students to participate actively while learning in the classroom. Instruction should provide activities that actively engage students so that they simultaneously learn about civic participation while involved in the civic life of their communities, our state, and our nation. The social studies curriculum prepares students to participate in political activities, to serve their communities, and to regulate themselves responsibly.

The Responsible Citizen

• Uses knowledge of the past to construct meaningful understanding of our diverse cultural heritage and inform his/her civic judgments (Historical Perspective)
• Uses knowledge of spatial patterns on earth to understand processes that shape both the natural environments and the diverse societies that inhabit them (Geographic Perspective)
• Uses knowledge of American government and politics to make decisions about governing his/her community (Civic Perspective)
• Uses knowledge of the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services to make personal, career and societal decisions about the use of scarce resources (Economic Perspective)
• Uses methods of social science investigation to answer questions about society (Inquiry)
• Knows how, when, and where to construct and express reasoned positions on public issues (Public Discourse and Decision Making)
• Acts constructively to further the public good (Citizen Involvement)

USING SOCIAL STUDIES TO DEVELOP DIGITAL-AGE PROFICIENCIES

The use of technology is critical for responsible citizenship. Citizens must know how to read and comprehend narratives from a variety of sources, understand and use data effectively, as well as know how to compile and present valid and reliable data. The development of vocabulary, critical to understanding and communication, is an important component of the social studies curriculum. Finally, writing, especially expository, informational and persuasive writing, is an empowering skill needed by all citizens. The ability to clearly communicate one’s ideas and reasoned viewpoints is the hallmark of a responsible citizen.

“The current and future health of America’s 21st Century Economy depends directly on how broadly and deeply Americans reach a new level of literacy—21st Century Literacy—that includes strong academic skills, thinking, reasoning, teamwork skills, and proficiency in using technology.” —21st Century Workforce Commission National Alliance of Business

In order to thrive in a digital economy, students will need digital-age proficiencies. These proficiencies include:
• Basic, scientific, technological, financial, economic, and civic literacy
• Visual and information literacy
• Cultural literacy and global awareness
• Adaptability, ability to manage complexity, and self-direction
• Curiosity, creativity, and risk-taking
• Higher order thinking and sound reasoning
• Teaming and collaboration
• Personal and social responsibility
• Interactive communication
• Prioritizing, planning, and managing for results
• Effective use of real-world tools
• High quality results with real-world application
Understanding the Organizational Structure

The Grade Level Content Expectations for Grades K-8 and the High School Content Expectations for Social Studies are organized by discipline and standard using national standards structures as indicated in the chart below.

### K-12 Organizational Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>History</th>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Civics/Government</th>
<th>Economics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>National Standards for Historical Thinking</strong></td>
<td><strong>National Geography Standards</strong></td>
<td><strong>National Civics Standards</strong></td>
<td><strong>National Economics Standards (NAEP Categories)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H1 The World in Temporal Terms: Historical Habits of Mind</td>
<td>G1 The World in Spatial Terms: Geographical Habits of Mind</td>
<td>C1 Conceptual Foundations of Civic and Political Life</td>
<td>E1 The Market Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Temporal Thinking</td>
<td>1.1 Spatial Thinking</td>
<td>1.1 Nature of Civic Life</td>
<td>1.1 Individual, Business, and Government Choices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Historical Analysis and Interpretation</td>
<td>1.2 Geographical Inquiry and Analysis</td>
<td>1.2 Forms of Government</td>
<td>1.2 Competitive Markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Historical Inquiry</td>
<td>1.3 Geographical Understanding</td>
<td>C2 Values and Principles of American Democracy</td>
<td>1.3 Prices, Supply, and Demand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Historical Understanding</td>
<td>Places and Regions</td>
<td>2.1 Origins</td>
<td>1.4 Role of Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Historical Issues-Analysis and Decision Making</td>
<td>2.2 Human Characteristics of Place</td>
<td>2.2 Foundational Values and Principles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Themes Representing National Standards (K-4)</strong></td>
<td><strong>C3 Structure and Functions of Government</strong></td>
<td><strong>C4 Relationship of the United States to Other Nations and World Affairs</strong></td>
<td><strong>E2 The National Economy</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H2 Living and Working Together in Families and Communities, Now and Long Ago</td>
<td>3.1 Structure and Functions</td>
<td>4.1 U.S. Foreign Policy</td>
<td>2.1 Understanding National Markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H3 The History of Michigan and the Great Lakes Region</td>
<td>3.2 Powers and Limits</td>
<td>4.2 International Institutions and Affairs</td>
<td>2.2 Role of Government in the United States Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H4 The History of the United States</td>
<td>3.3 State and Local Governments</td>
<td>4.3 Conflict and Cooperation Between and Among Nations</td>
<td>E3 International Economy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H5 The History of Peoples from Many Cultures Around the World</td>
<td>3.4 System of Law and Laws</td>
<td>3.5 The Policy Process</td>
<td>3.1 Economic Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Eras Representing National Standards (5-12)</strong></td>
<td>3.6 Characteristics of Nation States</td>
<td>3.2 Economic Interdependence – Trade</td>
<td>E4 Personal Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Analysis of World History Eras 1-8 from three perspectives</td>
<td><strong>G4 Human Systems</strong></td>
<td><strong>C5 Citizenship in the United States</strong></td>
<td>4.1 Decision Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cross-temporal/Global</td>
<td>4.1 Cultural Mosaic</td>
<td>5.1 The Meaning of Citizenship</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Interregional/Comparative</td>
<td>4.2 Patterns of Human Settlement</td>
<td>5.2 Becoming a Citizen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Regional</td>
<td>4.3 Forces of Cooperation and Conflict</td>
<td>5.3 Rights</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W1 Beginnings of Human Society</td>
<td>4.4 Economic Interdependence</td>
<td>5.4 Responsibilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W2 Early Civilizations and Cultures and the Emergence of Pastoral Peoples</td>
<td>G5 Environment and Society</td>
<td>5.5 Dispositions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W3 Classical Traditions, World Religions, and Major Empires</td>
<td>5.1 Humans and the Environment</td>
<td><strong>C6 Citizenship in Action</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W4 Expanding and Intensified Hemispheric Interactions</td>
<td>5.2 Physical and Human Systems</td>
<td>6.1 Civic Inquiry and Public Discourse (P3)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W5 Emergence of the First Global Age</td>
<td>G6 Global Issues Past and Present</td>
<td>6.2 Participating in Civic Life (P4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W6 An Age of Global Revolutions</td>
<td>6.1 Global Topic Investigation and Issue Analysis (P2)</td>
<td><strong>Social Studies Knowledge, Processes, and Skills</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W7 Global Crisis and Achievement</td>
<td><strong>K1 General Knowledge [College-Readiness]</strong></td>
<td><strong>P1 Reading and Communication [Close and Critical Reading; Analysis; Interpret Primary and Secondary Sources; Argumentation]</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W8 The Cold War and Its Aftermath (P3, P4)</td>
<td><strong>P2 Inquiry, Research, and Analysis [Information Processing; Conducting Investigations; Problem-Solving; Technology Use]</strong></td>
<td><strong>P3 Public Discourse and Decision Making</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>P3.1 Identifying and Analyzing Public Issues</strong></td>
<td><strong>P3.2 Discourse Regarding Public Issues</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>P3.3 Persuasive Writing on a Public Issue</strong></td>
<td><strong>P4 Citizen Involvement</strong></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Understanding Social Studies GLCE Coding**

Each Social Studies GLCE is made up of four parts: the grade, the standard category, the standard, and the expectation.

![GLCE Coding Example](image)

**K-4 Expectations** are organized by discipline and standard category, standard, and expectation.

*Kindergarten Example*  
K – G1.0.2 = Kindergarten, 1st Geography Standard Category, 2nd Expectation

*4th Grade Example*  
4 – C5.0.3 = Grade 4, 5th Civics Standard Category, 3rd Expectation

(The “0” is used as a place holder and indicates that K-4 expectations are organized using the standards categories, and do not use the standard codes listed in the K-12 organizational chart.)

**5th and 8th Grades** focus on an integrated study of United States History. The expectations are organized by U.S. History and Geography (USHG) Era. The code indicates the era, the standard, and the expectation.

*5th Grade Example*  
5 – U3.2.1 = Grade 5, 3rd USHG Era, 2nd Standard, 1st Expectation

**6th and 7th Grades** focus on an integrated study of the world. The expectations are organized by discipline and standard category (or World History and Geography (WHG) Era), standard, and expectation.

*6th Grade Example*  
6 – E2.3.1 = Grade 6, 2nd Economics Standard Category, 3rd Standard, 1st Expectation

*7th Grade Example*  
7 – W2.2.4 = Grade 7, 2nd WHG Era, 2nd Standard, 4th Expectation

A parenthesis at the end of an expectation presents a reference to the National Geography Standards or the civics, economics, or history standards that are used in the document (C1, E3, etc., as listed on page 6). The references indicate integration of the content.

**SEQUENCE OF STUDY**

![Sequence of Study Chart](image)
Using the K-8 Social Studies GLCE: Things to Remember

There are a number of important considerations for teachers to keep in mind as they use Grade Level Content Expectations to plan instruction. It is important to remember that this document

• **Uses historical, spatial, civic, and economic thinking** – The expectations require students to think – compare, contrast, argue – using social studies concepts and habits of mind. The expectations call upon students to use such thinking to analyze and interpret information in developing their understanding. These expectations do not intend to stress memory over meaning or coverage over understanding. While knowledge of names and definitions is essential, high quality teaching and learning demands a great deal more than just the mastery of discrete collections of facts or terms.

• **Requires active, social studies inquiry** – In using social studies concepts and habits of mind, students should engage in active, disciplined inquiry, analysis, and argumentation. Learning involves purposeful investigations within a community that has established goals, standards, criteria, and procedures for study. It entails learning how to read, write, and use the social studies to understand and participate in the world around us. This calls upon students to frame important social studies problems and questions; to locate and analyze appropriate evidence and data; and to apply social studies concepts and principles to build reasoned and evidence-based interpretations, arguments, or decisions. In short, social studies instruction should provide Michigan students with the kind of reasoned and informed decision making that should characterize each citizen’s participation in American society.

• **Represents Content Expectations and not Pedagogical Organization** – This document lists content expectations for students. It does not establish suggested organization for teaching or learning this content. For example, this document is not presenting expectations in a suggested instructional sequence. The expectations do not represent single lessons, a day’s worth of instruction, or even a unit. Michigan teachers and curriculum coordinators can combine expectations to structure meaningful learning experiences for their students. For example, a teacher could use a compelling historic, geographic, civic, or economic issue or problem to organize weeks of study, while coherently employing many content expectations.

• **Differentiates between required and suggested (e.g.) content** – The expectations specify teachable content in two different ways. On numerous occasions, the expectations will offer examples for teachers to help clarify teachable content. Typically, these examples or suggestions appear in parentheses. The document always identifies such optional content with an “e.g.” or “for example.” These are simply suggestions and teachable options. Teachers may use other examples to meet the expectations. In short, these examples are not required content. In other places, the expectations identify specific content that students should study. This content is never preceded by “e.g.” or “for example.” Unlike the optional examples, a statewide assessment might assess the required content.
## K-5 Grade-Specific Contexts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td><strong>Myself and Others</strong></td>
<td>Using a familiar context for five and six year olds, kindergartners learn about the social studies disciplines (history, geography, civics and government, and economics) through the lens of “Myself and Others.” Accordingly, each discipline focuses on developing rudimentary understandings through an integrated approach to the field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First</td>
<td><strong>Families and Schools</strong></td>
<td>In first grade, students continue to explore the social studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics through an integrated approach using the context of school and families. This is the students’ first introduction to social institutions as they draw upon knowledge learned in kindergarten to develop more sophisticated understandings of each discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second</td>
<td><strong>The Local Community</strong></td>
<td>In second grade, students continue the integrative approach to social studies through the context of the local community. This the first time students are introduced to a social environment larger than their immediate surroundings and they draw upon knowledge learned in previous grades to develop more sophisticated understandings to explore the social studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third</td>
<td><strong>Michigan Studies</strong></td>
<td>Third grade students explore the social studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics through the context of Michigan studies. Building on prior social studies knowledge and applying new concepts of each social studies discipline to the increasingly complex social environment of their state, the third grade content expectations help prepare students for more sophisticated studies of their country and world in later grades.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth</td>
<td><strong>United States Studies</strong></td>
<td>Using the context of the United States, fourth grade students learn significant social studies concepts within an increasingly complex social environment. They examine fundamental concepts in geography, civics and government, and economics through the lens of Michigan history and the United States.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth</td>
<td><strong>Integrated American History</strong></td>
<td>The fifth grade social studies content expectations mark a departure from the social studies approach taken in previous grades. Building upon the geography, civics and government, and economics concepts of the United States mastered in fourth grade and historical inquiry from earlier grades, the fifth grade expectations begin a more disciplinary-centered approach concentrating on the early history of the United States. Students begin their study of American history with American Indian peoples before the arrival of European explorers and conclude with the adoption of the Bill of Rights in 1791. Although the content expectations are organized by historical era, they build upon students’ understandings of the other social studies disciplines from earlier grades and require students to apply these concepts within the context of American history.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## K-5 Social Studies Overview Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>History</th>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Civics and Government</th>
<th>Economics</th>
<th>Public Discourse, Decision Making, and Citizen Involvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use historical thinking to understand the past in the local community.</td>
<td>Use geographic representations to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.</td>
<td>Explain why people create governments.</td>
<td>Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in a market economy.</td>
<td>Clearly state a problem as a public policy issue, analyze various perspectives, and generate and evaluate possible alternative resolutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan History</td>
<td>Places and Regions</td>
<td>Values and Principles of American Democracy</td>
<td>National Economy</td>
<td>Persuasive Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use historical thinking to understand the past in Michigan.</td>
<td>Understand how regions are created from common physical and human characteristics.</td>
<td>Understand values and principles of American constitutional democracy.</td>
<td>Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the United States.</td>
<td>Communicate a reasoned position on a public issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States History</td>
<td>Human Systems</td>
<td>Structure and Function of Government</td>
<td>International Economy</td>
<td>Citizen Involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use historical thinking to understand the history of the United States in the following eras:</td>
<td>Understand how human activities help shape the Earth’s surface.</td>
<td>Describe the structure of government in the United States and how it functions to serve citizens.</td>
<td>Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the global economy.</td>
<td>Act constructively to further the public good.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Beginnings to 1620</td>
<td>Environment and Society</td>
<td>Role of the Citizen in American Democracy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Colonization and Settlement</td>
<td>Understand the effects of human-environment interactions.</td>
<td>Explain important rights and how, when, and where American citizens demonstrate their responsibilities by participating in government.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Revolution and the New Nation to 1791</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **History**
- **Geography**
- **Civics and Government**
- **Economics**
- **Public Discourse, Decision Making, and Citizen Involvement**
Using the context of the United States, fourth grade students learn significant social studies concepts within an increasingly complex social environment. They examine fundamental concepts in geography, civics and government, and economics through the lens of Michigan history and the United States. Expectations that particularly lend themselves to being taught through a historic, geographic, civic, or economic lens are denoted.

History
Fourth grade students use examples from Michigan history (from statehood to the present) as a case study for learning about United States geography, economics, and government. Teachers are encouraged to use examples from Michigan history beyond statehood to teach geographic, civic, and economic concepts.

Geography
Students draw upon their knowledge of spatial awareness, regions, human systems, and human-environment interactions to create more sophisticated understandings of these concepts within the context of the United States. By focusing on the work of geographers, students explore the types of questions geographers ask and the tools they use to answer these questions. Students learn that maps can be used to describe elevation and climate, as well as to analyze patterns of population density. In preparation for the study of American history, students concentrate on the geography of the United States. Students expand their knowledge of human systems using case studies and stories to understand push and pull factors of migration and the influence of migration on culture within the United States. Students deepen their understanding of human-environment interactions by assessing positive and negative effects of human activities on the physical environment of the United States. The firm understanding of United States geography established in fourth grade prepares students for the study of American history in fifth grade and world geography in grades six and seven.

Civics and Government
Fourth grade students learn how the United States government works. Students examine the purposes of government as set forth in the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution, how our current form of government functions to serve those purposes, and the probable consequences of not having government, rules, or laws. Building upon their understanding of the structure and functions of government in Michigan, students use examples to explore how the powers of the federal government are limited. Students also begin to understand that the federal and state governments have different powers as a foundation for learning about federalism in fifth grade. Concepts of governmental taxing and spending are expanded from previous grades as students apply these concepts to the federal government. Students explore how key concepts such as popular sovereignty, rule of law, checks and balances, separation of powers, and individual rights serve to limit the power of government and how these ideas are manifested in the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Students learn how government affects their daily lives by identifying examples of rights guaranteed by the Constitution and Bill of Rights. Students explain why all rights have limits, describe the relationship between rights and responsibilities, and investigate ways people can work together to promote the values and principles of American democracy.

Economics
Fourth grade students continue to deepen their understanding of economic principles with a focus on the characteristics of market economies. They move beyond applying the economic concepts of scarcity, choice, and opportunity costs in personal economic decisions and begin to think like an economist, identifying the types of questions economists ask. Economic decision making is examined by applying the concepts of price, competition, and incentives. Students develop an understanding of specialization, division of labor, competition, and interdependence and explore their effects on productivity. Moreover, the circular flow model is introduced in fourth grade, providing a foundation for future studies in economics. Students build upon their knowledge of governmental taxing and spending as they explore why certain public goods are not privately owned. Students also take an increasingly sophisticated look at the global economy as the expectations explore the impact of global competition on the national economy.

Public Discourse, Decision Making, and Citizen Involvement
Students deepen their understanding of public issues and the importance of citizen action in a democratic republic. Using the context of the United States, fourth grade students identify public policy issues facing citizens in the United States, use graphic data and other sources to analyze information about the issue, and evaluate alternative resolutions. By utilizing examples, students expand their understanding of how conflicts among core democratic values often lead people to want different resolutions to a public policy question. Students demonstrate competency in expressing their own opinions relative to a public issue in the United States and justify their opinions with a reasoned argument with increasing complexity. This foundational knowledge is built upon throughout the grades as students use their knowledge of how, when, and where to communicate and become more proficient in communicating positions on sophisticated public issues with a reasoned argument.
HISTORY

H3  History of Michigan (Beyond Statehood)

Use historical thinking to understand the past.

4 – H3.0.1  Use historical inquiry questions to investigate the development of Michigan’s major economic activities (agriculture, mining, manufacturing, lumbering, tourism, technology, and research) from statehood to present. (C, E)
  • What happened?
  • When did it happen?
  • Who was involved?
  • How and why did it happen?
  • How does it relate to other events or issues in the past, in the present, or in the future?
  • What is its significance?

4 – H3.0.2  Use primary and secondary sources to explain how migration and immigration affected and continue to affect the growth of Michigan. (G)

4 – H3.0.3  Describe how the relationship between the location of natural resources and the location of industries (after 1837) affected and continues to affect the location and growth of Michigan cities. (G, E)

4 – H3.0.4  Draw upon stories, photos, artifacts, and other primary sources to compare the life of people in towns and cities in Michigan and in the Great Lakes region during a variety of time periods from 1837 to the present (e.g., 1837-1900, 1900-1950, 1950-2000). (G)

4 – H3.0.5  Use visual data and informational text or primary accounts to compare a major Michigan economic activity today with that same or a related activity in the past. (E)

4 – H3.0.6  Use a variety of primary and secondary sources to construct a historical narrative about the beginnings of the automobile industry and the labor movement in Michigan. (G, E)

4 – H3.0.7  Use case studies or stories to describe the ideas and actions of individuals involved in the Underground Railroad in Michigan and in the Great Lakes region. (See 8-U4.2.2; 8-U4.3.2; 8-U5.1.5; USHG 7.2.4) (G, C, E)

4 – H3.0.8  Describe past and current threats to Michigan’s natural resources; describe how Michigan worked in the past and continues to work today to protect its natural resources. (G, C, E)

4 – H3.0.9  Create timelines (using decades after 1930) to sequence and describe important events in Michigan history; annotate with connections to the past and impact on the future.
GEOGRAPHY

G1  The World in Spatial Terms
Use geographic representations to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.

4 – G1.0.1  Identify questions geographers ask in examining the United States (e.g., Where is it? What is it like there? How is it connected to other places?).

4 – G1.0.2  Use cardinal and intermediate directions to describe the relative location of significant places in the United States.

4 – G1.0.3  Identify and describe the characteristics and purposes (e.g., measure distance, determine relative location, classify a region) of a variety of geographic tools and technologies (e.g., globe, map, satellite image).

4 – G1.0.4  Use geographic tools and technologies, stories, songs, and pictures to answer geographic questions about the United States.

4 – G1.0.5  Use maps to describe elevation, climate, and patterns of population density in the United States.

G2  Places and Regions
Understand how regions are created from common physical and human characteristics.

4 – G2.0.1  Describe ways in which the United States can be divided into different regions (e.g., political regions, economic regions, landform regions, vegetation regions).

4 – G2.0.2  Compare human and physical characteristics of a region to which Michigan belongs (e.g., Great Lakes, Midwest) with those of another region in the United States.

G4  Human Systems
Understand how human activities help shape the Earth’s surface.

4 – G4.0.1  Use a case study or story about migration within or to the United States to identify push and pull factors (why they left, why they came) that influenced the migration. (H)

4 – G4.0.2  Describe the impact of immigration to the United States on the cultural development of different places or regions of the United States (e.g., forms of shelter, language, food). (H)

G5  Environment and Society
Understand the effects of human-environment interactions.

4 – G5.0.1  Assess the positive and negative effects of human activities on the physical environment of the United States.
CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT

C1 Purposes of Government

*Explain why people create governments.*

4 – C1.0.1 Identify questions political scientists ask in examining the United States (e.g., What does government do? What are the basic values and principles of American democracy? What is the relationship of the United States to other nations? What are the roles of the citizen in American democracy?).

4 – C1.0.2 Explain probable consequences of an absence of government and of rules and laws.

4 – C1.0.3 Describe the purposes of government as identified in the Preamble of the Constitution.

C2 Values and Principles of American Democracy

*Understand values and principles of American constitutional democracy.*

4 – C2.0.1 Explain how the principles of popular sovereignty, rule of law, checks and balances, separation of powers, and individual rights (e.g., freedom of religion, freedom of expression, freedom of press) serve to limit the powers of the federal government as reflected in the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

4 – C2.0.2 Identify situations in which specific rights guaranteed by the Constitution and Bill of Rights are involved (e.g., freedom of religion, freedom of expression, freedom of press).

C3 Structure and Functions of Government

*Describe the structure of government in the United States and how it functions to serve citizens.*

4 – C3.0.1 Give examples of ways the Constitution limits the powers of the federal government (e.g., election of public officers, separation of powers, checks and balances, Bill of Rights).

4 – C3.0.2 Give examples of powers granted to the federal government (e.g., coining of money, declaring war) and those reserved for the states (e.g., driver's license, marriage license).

4 – C3.0.3 Describe the organizational structure of the federal government in the United States (legislative, executive, and judicial branches).

4 – C3.0.4 Describe how the powers of the federal government are separated among the branches.

4 – C3.0.5 Give examples of how the system of checks and balances limits the power of the federal government (e.g., presidential veto of legislation, courts declaring a law unconstitutional, congressional approval of judicial appointments).

4 – C3.0.6 Describe how the President, members of the Congress, and justices of the Supreme Court come to power (e.g., elections versus appointments).

4 – C3.0.7 Explain how the federal government uses taxing and spending to serve the purposes of government.

C5 Roles of the Citizen in American Democracy

*Explain important rights and how, when, and where American citizens demonstrate their responsibilities by participating in government.*

4 – C5.0.1 Explain responsibilities of citizenship (e.g., initiating changes in laws or policy, holding public office, respecting the law, being informed and attentive to public issues, paying taxes, registering to vote and voting knowledgeably, serving as a juror).

4 – C5.0.2 Describe the relationship between rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

4 – C5.0.3 Explain why rights have limits.

4 – C5.0.4 Describe ways citizens can work together to promote the values and principles of American democracy.
**ECONOMICS**

**E1  Market Economy**

*Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in a market economy.*

4 – E1.0.1 Identify questions economists ask in examining the United States (e.g., What is produced? How is it produced? How much is produced? Who gets what is produced? What role does the government play in the economy?).

4 – E1.0.2 Describe some characteristics of a market economy (e.g., private property rights, voluntary exchange, competition, consumer sovereignty, incentives, specialization).

4 – E1.0.3 Describe how positive and negative incentives influence behavior in a market economy.

4 – E1.0.4 Explain how price affects decisions about purchasing goods and services (substitute goods).

4 – E1.0.5 Explain how specialization and division of labor increase productivity (e.g., assembly line). (H)

4 – E1.0.6 Explain how competition among buyers results in higher prices and competition among sellers results in lower prices (e.g., supply, demand).

4 – E1.0.7 Demonstrate the circular flow model by engaging in a market simulation, which includes households and businesses and depicts the interactions among them.

4 – E1.0.8 Explain why public goods (e.g., libraries, roads, parks, the Mackinac Bridge) are not privately owned. (H)

**E2  National Economy**

*Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the United States.*

4 – E2.0.1 Explain how changes in the United States economy impact levels of employment and unemployment (e.g., changing demand for natural resources, changes in technology, changes in competition). (H)

**E3  International Economy**

*Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the global economy.*

4 – E3.0.1 Describe how global competition affects the national economy (e.g., outsourcing of jobs, increased supply of goods, opening new markets, quality controls).
PUBLIC DISCOURSE, DECISION MAKING, AND CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT (P3, P4)

P3.1 Identifying and Analyzing Public Issues

Clearly state a problem as a public policy issue, analyze various perspectives, and generate and evaluate possible alternative resolutions.

- P3.1.1 Identify public issues in the United States that influence the daily lives of its citizens.
- P3.1.2 Use graphic data and other sources to analyze information about a public issue in the United States and evaluate alternative resolutions.
- P3.1.3 Give examples of how conflicts over core democratic values lead people to differ on resolutions to a public policy issue in the United States.

P3.3 Persuasive Communication About a Public Issue

Communicate a reasoned position on a public issue.

- P3.3.1 Compose a brief essay expressing a position on a public policy issue in the United States and justify the position with a reasoned argument.

P4.2 Citizen Involvement

Act constructively to further the public good.

- P4.2.1 Develop and implement an action plan and know how, when, and where to address or inform others about a public issue.
- P4.2.2 Participate in projects to help or inform others.