

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
AMERICAN CULTURES 1 - GRADE 8
SUMMARY OUTLINE

I. EUROPEAN EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY

- A. The characteristics of societies in the Americas, Western Europe and West Africa that increasingly interacted after 1450
- B. Early European exploration and colonization; the resulting cultural and ecological interactions

II. SETTLEMENT/COLONIZATION

- A. Understand the early arrival of Europeans and Africans in the Americas, and how these people interacted with Native Americans (A brief review with emphasis on the English colonies)
- B. How political institutions and religious freedom emerged in the North American colonies.
- C. How the values and institutions of European economic life took root in the colonies; how slavery reshaped European and African life in the Americas

III. AMERICAN REVOLUTION

- A. The causes of the American Revolution, the ideas and interests involved in forging the revolutionary movement, and the reasons for the American victory.
- B. How the American Revolution involved multiple movements among the new nation's many groups to reform American society

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW NATION

- A. The institutions and practices of government created during the revolution and how they were revised between 1787 and 1815 to create the foundation of the American political system

V. EXPANSION

- A. United States territorial expansion between 1801 and 1861, and how it affected relations with external powers and Native Americans
- B. How the industrial revolution, the rapid expansion of slavery, and the westward movement changed the lives of Americans and led toward regional tensions
- C. The extension, restriction and reorganization of political democracy after 1800
- D. The sources and character of reform movements in the antebellum period and what the reforms accomplished or failed to accomplish

VI. CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

- A. Understand the causes of the Civil War
- B. Understand the course and character of the Civil War and its effects on the American people
- C. Understand how various reconstruction plans succeeded or failed

VII. CURRENT EVENTS

- A. Current Events is an integral part of the Social Studies curriculum

**DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
FOURTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM
SUMMARY OUTLINE**

I. MAP SKILLS

II. REGIONS OF THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- A. The New England Region
- B. The Middle Atlantic Region

III. PENNSYLVANIA

- A. The geography of Pennsylvania
- B. The Historical Development of Pennsylvania
- C. The Government of Pennsylvania
- D. The Economy of Pennsylvania
- E. The Present-Day People and Culture

IV. REGIONS OF THE SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- A. The Southeast Region
- B. The Midwest Region

V. REGIONS OF THE WESTERN UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- A. The southwest Region
- B. The West Region
- C. The Hawaiian Islands and Alaska

VI. CURRENT EVENTS

- A. Current Events is an integral part of the Social Studies curriculum

**DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
FIFTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM
SUMMARY OUTLINE**

I. MAP SKILLS

II. OUR NEIGHBOR TO THE NORTH: CANADA

- A. Physical Geography
- B. Cultural Geography

III. EARLY AMERICANS

- A. Geography
- B. Pre-history
- C. North American Indians

IV. AGE OF EXPLORATION AND COLONIZATION

- A. Vikings
- B. The Crusades
- C. The Travels of Marco Polo
- D. The Portuguese
- E. The Spanish
- F. The French
- G. The Dutch and Swedish
- H. The English

V. THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

- A. Geography
- B. The French and Indian War
- C. The colonies changing role with England
- D. The Revolution
- E. The Revolutionary War

VI. THE CONSTITUTION

- A. The Articles of Confederation
- B. The Constitutional Convention
- C. The Constitution
- D. The Bill of Rights and the Amendment process
- E. Duties of a citizen

VII. CURRENT EVENTS

- A. Current Events is an integral part of the Social Studies curriculum.

**DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
SIXTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM
SUMMARY OUTLINE**

I. THE WORLD

- A. The Earth - Geographic Overview
- B. The people of the world - From Prehistoric to Historic

II. THE CIVILIZATIONS OF THE ANCIENTS

- A. Egypt
- B. The Fertile Crescent
- C. The Indus River Valley
- D. China

III. EUROPE - THE BRIDGE TO THE MIDDLE AGES

- A. The Greeks
- B. The Romans

IV. THE MIDDLE AGES

- A. The Early Middle Ages
- B. The Later Middle Ages
- C. The Renaissance
- D. The Reformation

V. MODERN EUROPE

- A. Exploration and Colonization
- B. The Age of Revolution (Industrial and Military)
- C. Europe in the 20th Century

VI. EUROPE TODAY

- A. Northern Europe
- B. West Central Europe
- C. Southern Europe
- D. Eastern Europe
- E. Russia and Eurasia - From the Soviet Union to the Commonwealth of Independent Nations

VII. CURRENT EVENTS

- A. Current Events is an integral part of the Social Studies curriculum.

**DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN
SEVENTH GRADE SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM
SUMMARY OUTLINE**

I. THE WORLD

- A. Geography - An Overview

II. AFRICA

- A. North Africa
- B. West Africa
- C. East Africa
- D. Central Africa
- E. Southern Africa

III. ASIA

- A. Southwest Asia - The Middle East
- B. South Asia - The Indian Subcontinent
- C. East Asia
- D. Southeast Asia

IV. AUSTRALIA AND OCEANIA

- A. Australia
- B. New Zealand
- C. Oceania

V. MIDDLE AND SOUTH AMERICA

- A. Mexico
- B. Central America and the Caribbean Islands
- C. Caribbean South America
- D. Atlantic South America
- E. Pacific South America

VI. CURRENT EVENTS.

- A. Current Events is an integral part of the Social Studies curriculum.