Driscoll ISD

7th Grade Social Studies - Syllabus

Campus: Driscoll Middle School

Course and Grade Level: 7th Grade Social Studies - Texas History

Course Description: This 7th Grade Texas History course explores our state's rich heritage from early indigenous cultures to the modern day. Aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), students investigate key eras, including Spanish colonization, the Texas Revolution, the Republic, and 20th-century industrialization, while analyzing local geography, civics, and diverse cultural contributions. Seventh-grade social studies is a chronological and thematic study of Texas. Students will examine the impact of individuals, events, and issues on the state's development. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking, analysis of primary and secondary sources, and an understanding of how geographic factors have shaped economic and cultural growth across Texas.

First Semester

Unit 1 - Natural Texas and Its People: Geography and Native Texans

- Natural Texas: Physical Geography
- Natural Texas: Human Geography

Unit 2 - Exploration and Early Colonization

- European Exploration of Texas
- European Colonization of Texas

Unit 3 - Mexican National Era: Colonization and the Empresario System

- Filibustering and Mexican Independence
- Methods of Settlement: Empresarios and Land Grant Colonies

Unit 4 - Texas Revolution

- Road to Revolution
- Key Individuals and Events of the Revolution

Unit 5 - Republic of Texas and Early Statehood

- The Republic of Texas
- Immigration: Changing Demographics
- Early Statehood

Unit 6 - Civil War and Reconstruction

- Causes of the Civil War
- Events of the Civil War in Texas
- Effects of the Civil War: Reconstruction

Second Semester

Unit 7 - Texas Government

- Principles of the Constitution
- Structure and Function of Government
- Rights and Responsibilities of Citizenship

Unit 8 - Cotton, Cattle, Railroads, and Westward Expansion

- Expansion of the Frontier
- Development of Agriculture

Unit 9 - Age of Oil

- Boom and Bust: Oil
- Urbanization
- Progressivism and Populism
- World War I

Unit 10 - Great Depression and World War II

- The Great Depression and Dust Bowl
- Texas During World War II

Unit 11 - Civil Rights and Conservatism

- Changing Demographics in Texas
- Civil Rights in Texas
- The Conservative Movement

Unit 12 - Contemporary Texas

- The Texas Economy Today: Innovation in Industry
- Immigration and Migration in Texas Today
- Texas Art and Culture Today
- Texas Politics Today

*Subject to Change