

**West Linn-Wilsonville School District
Middle (Grades 6-8) Social Sciences Curriculum**

Curriculum Foundations		
<u>Important Ideas & Understandings</u>	<u>Significant Content Strands</u>	<u>Significant Skills to be Learned & Practiced</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Stories of Human Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Environmental Adaptation ➤ Technological Advances ➤ Sociological Influences ➤ Cultural Developments • Trends and Relationships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Accelerating Rate of Change ➤ Increasing Complexity ➤ Intensifying Interdependence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography • Economics • History • Civics & Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contextualized Reading • Research & Inquiry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Asking Questions ➤ Following Questions Through a Process (Big6™) • Problem Solving & Decision Making • Expository & Persuasive Writing • Formal & Informal Speaking

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<u>Sixth Grade</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Units & Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
<p>Map Skills/Geography</p> <p><i>Maps are a way of recording the physical world</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do maps represent reality? • What is the purpose of mapping? • What information does a map provide? • What is the relationship between globes and maps? • What different kinds of maps are there? • How do we use maps in our everyday lives? • How are boundaries created on maps? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic Constructs & Terminology • Location & Positioning • Physical/Political/Climate Maps
<p>Archeology & Early Peoples</p> <p><i>Archeology helps us understand how early people met basic needs and developed culture</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we know what we know about the past? • What do artifacts tell us about the past? • How do we interpret the past? • What is prehistory? • How did early peoples adapt to their surroundings? • What basic needs do all people have (in order to survive)? How are these needs met? • What happens once basic needs are met? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dig Process • Oral Tradition • Early Peoples of the Northwest • Paleolithic & Neolithic Lifestyles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Hunting/Gathering Community ➢ Farming/Agriculture Community ➢ Domestication of Plants & Animals • Development of Culture

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<p>First Civilizations</p> <p><i>Geography affects the development of civilization</i></p> <p><i>The development and survival of a civilization is influenced by its geography, economics, history, government and culture</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does physical geography affect a civilization? • How did people develop skills and tools to overcome geographical challenges? • What is the role of geography, economics, history, government, and culture in the development of a civilization? • How does a civilization thrive and survive? • What causes a civilization to deteriorate? • How do the ancient river valley civilizations relate/compare to our “modern” civilization? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Valley Civilizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Mesopotamia ➢ Ancient Egypt ➢ Ancient India ➢ Ancient China • Characteristics of a Civilization • Development of Empires • Advances in Technology • Resource Conflicts Between Groups
<p>Ancient Greece</p> <p><i>The ancient Greeks greatly influenced Western civilization</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What impact did geography, economics, history, government, and culture have on the ancient Greek civilization? • How does the idea of leadership emerge, develop, and influence a civilization? • How have the ancient Greeks influenced Western civilization? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geography • Economics • Political System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ City–State Simulation • Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Olympics ➢ Religion ➢ Education ➢ The Arts • Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Birth of Democracy
<p>Ancient Rome</p> <p><i>The ancient Romans greatly influenced Western civilization</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What enables civilizations to expand and become empires? • What role do geography, economics, history, government, and culture play in the development and expansion of civilizations? • How does the idea of leadership emerge, develop, and influence a civilization? • How have the ancient Romans influenced Western civilization? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Roman Republic • The Roman Empire • Christianity and the Roman Empire

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<p>The Decline & Aftermath of the Roman Empire</p> <p><i>Internal and external forces existed that led to the decline of Rome</i></p> <p><i>Europe was thrown into structural chaos</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the internal issues and external forces that led to the decline of Rome? • How does the fall of Rome connect to other civilizations today? • What governmental structure arose from the remains of the Roman Empire? • What happened with the arts and belief systems during this time? • What was Europe like after the Empire waned? (What filled the void after the end of the Empire?) • In what form and where did Roman ideals continue to exist? What are the contributions of Rome? • How does a civilization depend upon cultural or technological advancement to survive? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Republic & Empire • Geography of the Roman Empire & Surrounding Areas • Economy, Globalization, & Interdependence • Power Shift from Rome to Constantinople • Justinian Code & Relevance to Current Laws • Leadership Concepts & Strengths of Monarchies
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<u>Seventh Grade</u> Curriculum Framework		
<u>Units & Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
<p>Byzantine & Muslim Civilization</p> <p><i>Following Constantine government, beliefs systems, and culture developed</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the belief systems of the Byzantine and Muslim civilizations affect their histories? • How did trade and culture influence the development of the Byzantine and Muslim civilizations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Byzantine Empire • The Beginnings of Islam • The Golden Age of Muslim Civilization
<p>Civilizations of Africa</p> <p><i>Africa today is greatly influenced by its ancient history</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the physical geography of Africa affect the development of different societies? • How does the movement of people through migration and trade influence the development of civilizations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bantu Migrations • West African Kingdoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Savanna: Ghana, Mali, Songhai ➢ Forest: Ile-Ife, Benin • Eastern Coastal Kingdoms & Arabian Trade
<p>Early Civilizations of the Americas</p> <p><i>The early civilizations of the Americas had strong and distinctive cultures</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the physical geography of the Americas affect the development of different societies? • What role did culture and government play in the development of civilizations? • What are some of the patterns of development and decline in the early civilizations of the Americas? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Incan Mountain Empire • Cultures of Middle America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Mayans ➢ Aztecs • Peoples of North America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Mound Builders ➢ Anasazi, Pueblo, & Plains Indians ➢ Woodlands Tribes

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<p>Civilizations of Asia (China, Japan, India)</p> <p><i>The world today is significantly influenced by highly developed Asian civilizations</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do government and religious systems influence the development of civilizations? • How did geographic isolation contribute to the development of culture and technology? • How do eastern civilizations compare to western civilizations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feudal Society of Japan • Contributions of Chinese Dynasties • Multiple Religions of India
<p>The Middle Ages</p> <p><i>Feudal relationships formed the foundation for political order while the manor provided the foundation for economic and social life</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the influence of the Roman Catholic Church on life? • What is the relationship between the rise of the middle class and the development of cities? • What contributed to the reestablishing of European trade connections? • How did feudalism and the church influence the development of monarchy? • What examples of feudal stratification can be seen historically and in society today? • What developments occurred in the arts and architecture during The Middle Ages? • What political structures developed during The Middle Ages? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feudalism, Castles, & Manors • Church Hierarchy and Influence • City Life <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Guilds and Crafts ➢ Apprentices, Troubadours ➢ Disease – The Plague • Medieval Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Chivalry ➢ Literature • The Vikings and The Crusades • Art, Architecture, & Literature • Nation Building and the Power of Monarchy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Charlemagne ➢ Battle of Hastings ➢ King John • The Magna Carta
<p>Renaissance</p> <p><i>During the Renaissance people celebrated individualism and learning and recognized the value of commitment to the community</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does Renaissance mean? What were the ideas and ideals of the Renaissance? • What led to the Renaissance? • How did individualism and commitment to the community and public service emerge during the Renaissance? • How do we see evidence of the Renaissance in our lives today? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trade Routes: Flow of Goods, Services, & Ideas • Changing Nature of Work & Concept of Individual Worth • Reason for and Effects of Exploration • Rise of Central Governments & Monarchies • The Reformation

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<p>Enlightenment and Revolution</p> <p><i>Scientific thinking and reasoning along with recognition of natural rights led to changes in philosophies and government</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the major changes of thinking during the Enlightenment? • Where were the major scientific developments during this time? • How did philosophy and science influence government? • What is revolution? What role does the balance of power play in revolution? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age of Reason • The Scientific Revolution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Galileo ➤ Copernicus ➤ Newton ➤ Kepler • Enlightenment • Philosophers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Locke ➤ Rousseau • Political Revolutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ French Revolution ➤ Louis XVI ➤ American Revolution
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<u>Eighth Grade Curriculum Framework</u>		
<u>Units & Themes</u>	<u>Essential Learning/Questions</u>	<u>Topics/Contexts for Learning</u>
<p>Colonial Period & Revolutionary War</p> <p><i>Reformers developed the colonies which led to conflict with the English</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did colonialism impact early America? • What economic, political, and social forces led to the Revolutionary War? • How did the idea of democracy emerge during this time period? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theocracy in Europe & The Colonies • Mercantilism • Trade Routes & Flow of Goods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Slave Trade • Economic Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Climate ➢ Geography • Forms of Government
<p>Constitution & Government</p> <p><i>The writers of the Constitution grappled with combining European ideas and their own reformist ideals</i></p> <p><i>The Constitution and Bill of Rights influence our lives today</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What were the historical precedents to the American Constitution? What was the process of writing and implementing the constitution? • How do constitutional amendments secure individual rights and freedoms? • How do the three branches of government provide checks and balances? • How are powers and responsibilities distributed and balanced among federal, state, and local governments? • What impact does the Constitution have on our lives today? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historical Events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Continental Congress ➢ Drafting Articles of Confederation ➢ Constitutional Convention • Ideals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Individual and Natural Rights ➢ Federalists/Anti-Federalists ➢ Republic/States Rights ➢ Separation of Powers • Influential Sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Habeas Corpus ➢ English Bill of Rights ➢ Magna Carta • US Constitution <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Bill of Rights ➢ Supreme Court Cases ➢ Mock Trial

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<p>Expansion, Growth, & Reform</p> <p><i>As America expanded westward, its size, population, and economy grew</i></p> <p><i>Technology advanced industry in the North and agriculture in the South</i></p> <p><i>Reform movements—abolitionists, women’s rights, education and social welfare—began</i></p> <p><i>Diversity increased as America expanded and gained international stature</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What caused America to expand westward? • How did natural resources influence the expansion and development of America? • How did changes in technology lead to changes in the economy and culture? • What is the relationship between the ideals of democracy and equality and social reforms? • How did westward expansion lead to conflicts between settlers and Native Americans? • How were rights both extended and limited as America grew? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas About Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ States’ Rights and Federalism ➤ Statehood ➤ Manifest Destiny ➤ Democracy & Spirit of Equality ➤ Political Parties ➤ Suffrage ➤ Increasing Participation (race, gender, economic class, and religious groups) • Plans, policies, and events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Louisiana Purchase ➤ Lewis and Clark Expedition ➤ Indian Removal Act ➤ Trail of Tears ➤ Gold Rush ➤ War with Mexico - Alamo • Technological Advances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cotton Gin ➤ Telegraph ➤ Railroad ➤ Clipper Ship • Industrialization & Immigration
<p>Civil War and Reconstruction</p> <p><i>The Civil War made lasting political, social, and economic changes in America</i></p> <p><i>Reconstruction challenged government and leadership to protect rights and promote economic and cultural progress</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did geographic, economic, and cultural differences in the North and South contribute to conflict? • How did issues about rights, economics, and power lead to conflict? What evidence can we see of these issues in America and the world today? • How do geography, beliefs, and leadership determine approaches, strategies, and outcomes in a conflict? • What are the effects of war on a nation’s economy, politics, and culture? • How did the Constitution frame the Civil War? How did the Civil War change the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rights-Related Issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Slavery ➤ Secession ➤ Emancipation ➤ Amnesty ➤ Segregation • Development of Government & Leadership in America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Two-Party System ➤ Political Philosophies ➤ The Union ➤ Thirteenth, Fourteenth, & Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution • Plans, Policies, and Events

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	<p>Constitution?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How did conflict shape and emerge from the Reconstruction?• What evidence of the gains and limits in rights that emerged during Reconstruction do we see in America today?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Missouri Compromise➤ Dred Scott Decision➤ Emancipation Proclamation
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