

Archdiocese of Philadelphia Secondary School System Social Studies Standards

The Catholic school community strives to make its faith commitment a complement to academic excellence by developing a curriculum that leads all students to Christ as it prepares them for a successful life in the twenty-first century. It is a curriculum that recognizes the sanctity of each human life while affirming the dignity of each person as a unique creation of God. It is a curriculum that is intended to offer all students the opportunity to study the world at many levels of complexity, through a variety of courses.

Vision Statement

The social studies curriculum for the secondary schools of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia is designed to encourage students to become well-informed, active participants in the economic and political affairs of their country, to understand and respect the history and cultures of other countries, and to seek justice, respect and human dignity for all members of the world community.

General Standards for all Social Studies Courses

Schools of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia shall teach, challenge, and support every student to realize his or her maximum potential and to acquire the knowledge and skill to...

- show an understanding and respect for God's world, his people, and the people's use of God's gifts.
- show an understanding of the interdependence of people in families, neighborhoods, nations and the world through the study of historical, political, economic and societal ideas and events.
- demonstrate their understanding of the right to life, and the rights and responsibilities of citizens, nations, and societies.
- demonstrate an ability to make judgments regarding personal decisions based on reliable, unbiased data.
- show that they understand the steps of conflict resolution and can apply these steps to historical data and also to resolve daily life situations.
- properly and ethically use various media, technological resources and language arts skills to gather and sort information in social studies.