



Department of Teaching & Learning
Parent/Student Course Information

Social Studies Grade 8
(SO 2106)
Civics and Economics

Counselors are available to assist parents and students with course selections and career planning. Parents may arrange to meet with the counselor by calling the school's guidance department.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Social Studies 8 refines and expands basic concepts and skills and assists students in achieving a successful and positive transition from the middle school to the secondary program. Examination of the U.S. and Virginia constitutions provides the basis for the study of governments at the national, state and local levels. The role and responsibilities of informed citizens in the democratic decision-making processes are emphasized.

The development of skills essential to academic success and effective citizenship are the focus of the course. Basic economic, political and geographic concepts and vocabulary are developed through the study of the operation of the American political and economic systems. The activity-based program encourages students to explore current topics and issues and to use their knowledge, ideas and creativity to communicate in a variety of visual, written and oral forms.

Students will take the Standards of Learning test for *Civics and Economics* at the completion of the course. Specific dates for the spring SOL test will be announced by the school.

PREREQUISITE

Social Studies 7

OPTIONS FOR NEXT COURSE

World Geography

World History to 1500 A.D.

World History Since 1500 A.D.

MATERIALS

The teacher will use Classroom in Context (CLiC), which is a set of online resource databases, as well supplementary materials to teach, extend and enrich the students' understanding of course topics. These materials may be drawn from daily newspapers, periodicals, television and other visual media, primary source documents, simulations, computer programs and other online educational resources.

**VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING
CIVICS AND ECONOMICS**

Please follow the link below to view the standards for *Civics and Economics* from the Virginia Department of Education website.

[*Civics and Economics*](#)

Aaron C. Spence, Ed.D., Superintendent
Virginia Beach City Public Schools
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For further information, please call (757) 263-1070.

Notice of Non-Discrimination Policy

Virginia Beach City Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation/gender identity, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, disability, marital status, age, genetic information or veteran status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. School Board policies and regulations (including, but not limited to, Policies 2-33,

4-4, 5-7, 5-19, 5-20, 5-44, 6-33, 6-7, 7-48, 7-49, 7-57 and Regulations 2-33.1, 4-4.1, 4-4.2,

4-4.3, 4-6.1, 5-44.1, 7-11.1, 7-17.1 and 7-57.1) provide equal access to courses, programs, counseling services, physical education and athletic, vocational education, instructional materials and extracurricular activities.

To seek resolution of grievances resulting from alleged discrimination or to report violations of these policies, please contact the Title VI/Title IX Coordinator/Director of Student Leadership at (757) 263-2020, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451 (for student complaints) or the Section 504/ADA Coordinator/Chief Human Resources Officer at (757) 263-1133, 2512 George Mason Drive, Municipal Center, Building 6, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 (for employees or other citizens). Concerns about the application of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act should be addressed to the Section 504 Coordinator/Executive Director of Student Support Services at (757) 263-1980, 2512 George Mason Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23456 or the Section 504 Coordinator at the student's school. For students who are eligible or suspected of being eligible for special education or related services under IDEA, please contact the Office of Programs for Exceptional Children at (757) 263-2400, Laskin Road Annex, 1413 Laskin Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia, 23451.

Alternative formats of this publication which may include taped, Braille, or large print materials are available upon request for individuals with disabilities. Call or write the Department of Teaching and Learning, Virginia Beach City Public Schools, 2512 George Mason Drive, P.O. Box 6038, Virginia Beach, VA 23456-0038. Telephone 263-1070(voice); fax 263-1424; 263-1240 (TDD) or email her at Kristine.Troch@VBSchools.com

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VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CHARTING THE COURSE

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