

WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PLANNED INSTRUCTION

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course Title: World Investigations – Middle School Elective

Course Number: 00101

Course Prerequisites: None

Course Description: World Investigations introduces students to current events and world issues through a blend of historical context, geography, and current news stories. Students will explore global themes such as politics, culture, economics, environment, and human rights. The course will focus on developing critical thinking, media literacy, research skills, and a greater understanding of world events.

Suggested Grade Level: Grades 6-8

Length of Course: One Semester

Units of Credit: .5

PDE Certification and Staffing Policies and Guidelines (CSPG) Required Teacher Certifications:

CSPG 70 – Grades 4-8 with 7-8 Social Studies Concentration

CSPG 52 – Middle Level Social Studies 6-9

CSPG 59 – Social Studies 7-12

CSPG 35 – Citizenship Education 7-12

CSPG 104 – Expansion of Secondary (7-12) Certification to Sixth Grade

To find the CSPG information, go to [CSPG](#)

Certification verified by the WCSD Human Resources Department: ☒ Yes ☐ No

WCSD STUDENT DATA SYSTEM INFORMATION

Course Level: Academic

Mark Types: Check all that apply.

☒ F – Final Average ☒ MP – Marking Period ☐ EXM – Final Exam

GPA Type: ☐ GPAEL-GPA Elementary ☒ GPAML-GPA for Middle Level ☐ NHS-National Honor Society

☐ UGPA-Non-Weighted Grade Point Average ☐ GPA-Weighted Grade Point Average

State Course Code: 04305

To find the State Course Code, go to [State Course Code](#), download the Excel file for SCED, click on SCED 6.0 tab, and choose the correct code that corresponds with the course.

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TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Board Approved Textbooks, Software, and Materials:

Title: N/A
Publisher: N/A
ISBN #: N/A
Copyright Date: N/A
WCSD Board Approval Date: N/A

Supplemental Materials: Multimedia resources: online news sources, educational websites, documentaries, podcasts; Field trips to relevant historical sites or museums; Content specific videos/video clips from Swank, PBS, YouTube or other WCSD approved source

Curriculum Document

WCSD Board Approval:

Date Finalized: 5/1/2024
Date Approved: 6/10/2024
Implementation Year: 2024/2025

SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, and GIFTED REQUIREMENTS

The teacher shall make appropriate modifications to instruction and assessment based on a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), Chapter 15 Section 504 Plan (504), and/or Gifted Individual Education Plan (GIEP).

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SCOPE AND SEQUENCE OF CONTENT AND CONCEPTS

Marking Period 1

Introduction to World Events and Media Literacy

Global Geography and Key Countries

Global Politics and Governments

Global Economy and Trade

Marking Period 2

Global Environment and Climate Change

Human Rights and Social Justice

Science, Technology, and Innovation

Global Culture and the Arts

Marking Period 3

See MP1

Marking Period 4

See MP2

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Standards/Eligible Content and Skills

Performance Indicator	PA Core Standard and/or Eligible Content	Marking Period Taught
Explain what a current event is.	CC.8.5.6-8.D	MP1 MP3
Identify accurate and verifiable news content.	CC.8.5.6-8.B,F,H	MP1 MP3
Identify bias and reliability.	5.1.8.F 5.3.8.H 8.1.8.A,B CC.8.5.8.F,G,H,I	MP1 MP3
Identify global geography and key countries that frequently appear in world news.	7.1.8.A 7.2.8.A 7.4.8.A,B	MP1 MP3
Evaluate how geography influences current events.	7.1.8.A,B 7.2.8.A 7.3.8.A 7.4.8.A,B 8.4.8.B,C	MP1 MP3
Examine different forms of government and evaluate their impact on global events.	5.1.8.B 5.2.8.A,B 5.3.8.J 5.4.8.A,B 6.3.8.B,D 8.1.8.A 8.4.8.A-D	MP1 MP3
Examine recent elections and political events.	5.2.8.A,D 5.3.8.H 8.4.8.C CC.8.5.6-8.G	MP1 MP3
Debate current political issues from multiple perspectives.	5.3.8.G 5.4.8.D CC.8.5.6-8.D,H,I	MP1 MP3
Identify basic economic concepts and recognize the importance of global trade.	5.4.8.B 6.1.8.A-D 6.2.8.A-G 6.4.8.A,B,C	MP1 MP3
Examine the concept of globalization and its benefits/downsides.	5.4.8.A 6.4.8.A-D 7.3.8.A	MP1 MP3
Investigate current economic events.	6.1.8.A,B 6.2.8.A,C,E,F 6.3.8.A-D	MP1 MP3

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Examine environmental issues and the impact of climate change.	7.1.8.A,B 7.2.8.A 7.3.8.A 7.4.8.B CC.8.5.6-8.G,H	MP2 MP4
Evaluate international efforts to address climate change.	5.4.8.D 6.4.8.C	MP2 MP4
Explain the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its implications.	5.2.8.A,B 5.4.8.A,B,C 6.3.8.D 6.4.8.C 8.4.8.A,B CC.8.5.6-8.A,B,E	MP2 MP4
Examine human rights issues and social justice movements around the world.	5.4.8.A-D 7.3.8.A 8.1.8.A,B 8.4.8.A-D CC.8.5.6-8.F,G	MP2 MP4
Evaluate the role of science and technology in shaping current events.	6.2.8.F,G 6.3.8.B 6.4.8.C,D 6.5.8.C 8.4.8.C CC.8.5.6-8.F,G	MP2 MP4
Analyze different cultures and their traditions, art, music, and literature.	7.3.8.A 8.4.8.A-D CC.8.5.6-8.F,G	MP2 MP4
Examine how cultural exchange impacts global understanding.	5.2.8.A-D 5.4.8.A-D 6.3.8.D 6.4.8.B,C,D 7.3.8.A 8.4.8.A-D CC.8.5.6-8.B	MP2 MP4
Investigate how art and media reflect or influence current events.	5.3.8.H 6.2.8.C 7.3.8.A 8.1.8.A 8.4.8.B CC.8.5.6-8.F,G	MP2 MP4
Produce an organized product on an assigned current event that presents and reflects on a thesis statement and appropriate primary and secondary sources.	CC.8.5.6-8.G CC.8.6.6-8.A-I	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4
Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.	CC.8.5.6-8.D	MP1 MP2 MP3 MP4

ASSESSMENTS

PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content: The teacher must be knowledgeable of the PDE Academic Standards, Assessment Anchors, and Eligible Content and incorporate them regularly into planned instruction.

Formative Assessments: The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to conduct in-process evaluations of student learning.

Effective formative assessments for this course include but are not limited to:

- Journal Entry
- Entry/Exit Ticket
- Thinking Map
- Verbal Explanation
- Observation
- Artifacts
- Reflection/Summary
- Quiz

Summative Assessments: The teacher will utilize a variety of assessment methods to evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional task, lesson, and/or unit.

Effective summative assessments for this course include but are not limited to:

- Writing a Paper/Essay
- Performance Tasks
- Project
- Tests
- Portfolio