



Neelsville Middle School Social Studies Department Course Expectations



The goal of the social studies curriculum is to help create historically literate and well informed citizens who actively participate in a democratic society. Below you will find a summary of the curriculum, expectations, and grading policy for Neelsville Middle School's Social Studies Department.

Welcome to 7th grade Social Studies!

Unit	Title	Description	End of Unit Assessment*
1	Foundations of Modern Political Systems	Students will focus on the development of political systems, examining the people, practices, and institutions that form society. The basis of feudal Europe during the Middle Ages and the emergence of nation-states will be studied. Students will have the opportunity to use a variety of materials to increase their knowledge.	Week of October 26 th
2	The Influence of Culture in Africa - The Middle Ages and Today	Students will focus on how the development of trade between African kingdoms and the Islamic world transformed African political, economic, and social systems. They will also study the components of cultural systems and what happens when cultures interact with one another.	Week of January 18 th
3	Geography Shapes Latin America – Past and Present	Students will focus on the effects of geography on the development of cultures. Geography is defined as the study of people, places, and natural environments and the relationship among them. The Aztec and Inca, civilizations from Latin America's past, will be studied. Students will complete the unit with a research project on a modern Latin America nation.	Week of March 22 nd
4	The Impact of Economics: One World Past and Present	Students will focus on the principles of economics – specifically how changes in economic systems affect cultural, political, and social systems. They will complete a simulation activity to help them understand the difference between a traditional economy and a market economy. This unit establishes the foundations for the 8 th grade	Week of June 7 th

*Students and parents will receive more information regarding the end of unit assessments and projects in a timely manner before the scheduled assessment.