

**URBANDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK OUTLINE**

SUBJECT: Social Studies
COURSE TITLE: World Issues
GRADE LEVEL: 9- 12
PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

World Issues is designed to acquaint the student with a wide range of current worldwide and national issues. Important issues or events in the world will be traced to their historical roots. This course is designed to assist students in becoming more informed world-citizens and to give them the historical background of events necessary to better understand current situations. Students will become familiar with important people, places and events in the world and will be able to hold opinions based on facts and deeper understandings.

UCSD CONTENT STANDARDS:

In order that students achieve the maximum benefit from their talents and abilities, the students of Urbandale Community School District's World Issues program should be able to...

Content Standard I. Make connections among personal behaviors, group behaviors, and social issues to inform opinions and decisions.

Benchmarks: Evaluate current social issues to determine how the individual is able to formulate opinions and responds to those issues.

Content Standard II. Analyze relationships between economic systems and their interdependence in the modern world.

Benchmarks: Identify the role of scarcity and economic trade-offs and how economic conditions impact people's lives.
Summarize the impact of advancing technologies on the global economy.

Content Standard III. Analyze the interrelationship of people, places and environments to understand societies.

Benchmarks: Indicate how human factors and the distribution of resources affect the development of society and the movement of populations.

Content Standard IV. Investigate historical interactions to determine the development and evolution of societies.

Benchmarks: Compare the role of individuals and groups within a society as promoters of change or the status quo.
Analyze the role of innovation on the development and interaction of



societies.

Content Standard V. Apply knowledge of democratic principles and various political systems through life long civic action.

Benchmarks: Relate how various political systems throughout the world define the rights and responsibilities of the individual.

Assess the role of the United States in current world affairs.

Content Standard VI. Evaluate and synthesize information to communicate an understanding of knowledge relative to social science content.

Benchmarks: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social studies.

Evaluate authors' differing points of view on the same historical event or issue by assessing the authors' claims, reasoning, and evidence.

Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.

Conduct research projects and gather relevant information from multiple sources.



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PREREQUISITES: NONE

**CONTENT STANDARDS AND COURSE BENCHMARKS WITH INDICATORS FOR
WORLD ISSUES:**

Standard I: Make connections among personal behaviors, group behaviors, and social issues to inform opinions and decisions.

Benchmark: Evaluate current social issues to determine how the individual is able to formulate opinions and responds to those issues.

Indicators: Illustrate the effects of competition over ideas, resources, and power on the outbreak of conflict.
Examine the role of personal values in decision-making.

Standard II. Analyze relationships between economic systems and their interdependence in the modern world.

Benchmark: Identify the role of scarcity and economic trade-offs and how economic conditions impact people's lives.

Indicators: Recognize the impact of economic changes on social and political institutions and individuals.
Discuss the impact of unemployment on people, government, and societies.

Benchmark: Summarize the impact of advancing technologies on the global economy.

Indicators: Compare the role of technology in the global economy.
Examine the impact of government investment in advancing technologies.

Standard III. Analyze the interrelationship of people, places and environments to understand societies.

Benchmark: Indicate how human factors and the distribution of resources affect the development of society and the movement of populations.

Indicators: Assess the push and pull factors of international migration.
Compare the reuse and recycling of resources throughout the global economy.



Interpret the effects of competition for and conflict over natural resources on populations and economies.

Standard IV. Investigate historical interactions to determine the development and evolution of societies.

Benchmark: Compare the role of individuals and groups within a society as promoters of change or the status quo.

Indicators: Judge the significance of important people, their roles, and their ideas in societies. Describe the significant religious, philosophical, and social movements and their impacts on society and social reform. Appraise the effect of “chance events” on history.

Benchmark: Analyze the role of innovation on the development and interaction of societies.

Indicators: Point out the significant changes caused by technology, urbanization, and population growth and the effects of these changes. Predict the impact of science and technology on historical events.

Standard V. Apply knowledge of democratic principles and various political systems through life long civic action.

Benchmark: Relate how various political systems throughout the world define the rights and responsibilities of the individual.

Indicators: Compare and contrast ideologies, structures, and institutions of different political systems in the world. Analyze essential characteristics of limited and unlimited governments.

Benchmark: Assess the role of the United States in current world affairs.

Indicators: Describe conditions, actions, and motivations that contribute to conflict and cooperation within and among nations. Predict effects of significant world political developments on the United States. Examine American influence abroad and how other countries also influence the United States.

Standard VI. Evaluate and synthesize information to communicate an understanding of knowledge relative to social science content.

Benchmark: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary describing political, social, or economic aspects of history/social studies.



Indicators: Recognize the point of view of sources.
Paraphrase the key ideas of sources.

Benchmark: Evaluate authors' differing points of view on the same historical event or issue by assessing the authors' claims, reasoning, and evidence.

Indicators: Analyze point of views in text.
Evaluate author's purpose in writing.

Benchmark: Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies among sources.

Indicators: Apply a variety of sources to content reading.
Assess how a variety of sources can be used to solve problems.

Benchmark: Conduct research projects and gather relevant information from multiple sources.

Indicators: Summarize information about a topic.
Apply information to a specific question.

