Michigan K-12 Standards
Social Studies
3rd Grade
THE GOALS OF SOCIAL STUDIES

Introduction
Michigan’s Social Studies Content Expectations describe what students should know and be able to do in order to succeed in college, career, and civic life. In 2013, the State of Michigan began revising the content expectations and involved educators from local, ISD, university, and state-level organizations. The project was focused on updating the existing 2007 standards around the charge of “clearer, fewer, and higher” and the result of this work is presented here.

Writing teams met on a regular basis throughout the revision process and several opportunities for public review and commentary were provided. Sessions took place around the state in 2015, 2018, and again in 2019. As a result, a diverse representation of Michigan’s educators and citizens provided additional feedback, which was used to shape the final version of this document.

This document is not intended to be a state curriculum. The revised content in the standards is coupled with the Arc of Inquiry and skills delineated in the C3 Framework. In a “local control” state such as Michigan, each district can use the document as it sees fit to revise curriculum and create a foundation from which it can continue to improve instruction.

Purpose of Social Studies
The purpose of social studies is to promote the knowledge, skills, intellectual processes, and dispositions required of people to be actively engaged in fulfilling their responsibility of civic participation. As members of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world, young people need to learn how to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good. Social studies fosters a renewed and reinvigorated commitment to the ideal, “government of the people, by the people, and for the people,” as expressed by President Lincoln in his Gettysburg Address. The expectations outlined below are designed to fulfill that purpose.

Literacy in Social Studies
The digital revolution has fostered a sizable shift not only in how students acquire information, but how educators make social studies more relevant and meaningful. Teachers are welcoming into their classrooms students who have grown up in a world where multiple modes of communication and interaction are an indispensable part of everyday life. Instant communication has made distances between locations practically invisible; the pace of change is now at a staggering rate, and there is a sizable and expanding role of civic participation. As a result, students need to be equipped with a more sophisticated level of literacy than ever before — one that transcends basic technical and functional knowledge and skills.

For many, literacy means different things from a wide variety of perspectives. One constant, however, is that the notion of literacy is often associated with the mastery of the technical skills of oral and written communication, dialogue, and questioning. Today’s society demands an urgent need to move beyond content-based teaching and the application of discipline-specific skill sets (e.g., thinking like a historian, geographer, economist). Critical literacy is the next cerebral step as students move toward an approach to see and “read” themselves and the world.

Embedded in literacy practices, critical literacy provides opportunities for students to utilize an integrated approach. Critical literacy has been defined as “learning to read and write as part of the process of becoming conscious of one’s experiences as historically constructed within specific power relations” (Anderson & Irvine, 1982). In simpler terms, critical literacy is about how students evaluate society and possess the necessary abilities and the desire to interact with the world. The combined approach of the skill sets of disciplinary literacy along with the tools of critical literacy for critical thinking empowers students with multiple perspectives and questioning habits. It encourages them to think and take informed action on their decisions through dialogue, civic participation, and their daily decisions about how to live so that they can help make their world better.
The Responsibilities of Civic Participation

Responsible citizenship requires active participation in our communities. Therefore, social studies instruction should engage students so they simultaneously learn about civic participation while being involved in the civic life of their communities, our state, and our nation. Social studies prepares students to participate in political life, to serve their communities, and to conduct themselves responsibly.

Being a responsible student in and beyond the classroom means:

- Using knowledge of the past to construct meaningful understanding of our diverse cultural heritage and inform their civic judgments. (Historical Perspective)

- Using knowledge of spatial patterns on earth to understand processes that shape both the natural environments and the diverse societies that inhabit them. (Geographic Perspective)

- Understanding American government and politics to make informed decisions about governing and their community. (Civic Perspective)

- Using knowledge of the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services to make personal, career, and societal decisions about the use of resources. (Economic Perspective)

- Using methods of social science investigation to answer questions about society. (Inquiry)

- Knowing how, when, and where to construct and express reasoned positions on public issues. (Public Discourse and Decision Making)

- Acting constructively to further the public good (Civic Participation)

The College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework

The College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework was developed by more than twenty-six state agencies and social studies organizations over the course of several years. It introduces an Arc of Inquiry that a teacher may find valuable when planning social studies instruction. Inquiry, as an instructional practice, can be a powerful tool for local- or site-level curriculum planning and development, or for teachers in refining their practice.

The Guiding Principles of the C3 Framework

The following principles about high-quality social studies education guided the development of the C3 Framework.

Social studies prepares the nation’s young people for college, careers, and civic life. The third “C” — representing civic life — is an essential component of preparation for the future of the United States.
It is in the K-12 social studies classrooms that the youth comprising our future will learn about civil
discourse, the history of our families, schools, communities, state, nation and world, and how to be a
productive member of society.

Inquiry is at the heart of social studies. It is through identification of questions and problems, studying
various disciplinary lenses, learning to use and evaluate sources and evidence, and communicating
possible conclusions that students can be prepared to face the challenges of the modern world.

Social studies is composed of deep and enduring understandings, concepts, and skills from the disciplines.
From studying questions like “Who makes up a community?” to grappling with bigger issues like “Can one
person change the world?”, the acquisition of both content knowledge and skills is essential.

Social studies emphasizes skills and practices as preparation for democratic decision making. Strong
content knowledge, like the standards outlined in the Michigan Social Studies Standards, is only one part
of preparing students for life beyond the walls of a school. That content knowledge must be coupled with
strong, foundational skills that prepare students to navigate a complex and ever-changing world.

Social studies education should have direct and explicit connections to other standards, both local and
national. The Michigan Social Studies Standards outline content that can be further developed at the local
level with the addition of local examples. By including portions of the C3 Framework alongside Michigan’s
revised standards, districts now have a blueprint for the integration of literacy, social studies content, and
other disciplines such as science, art, and the humanities.

The Critical Component: Instructional Shifts of the Frameworks

The C3 Framework represents a substantial shift in the way that social studies was most commonly taught
in the past. To meet the changing needs of students in the Information Age, and to prepare them for the
challenges of a dynamic world environment, the following instructional shifts are necessary:

1. Inquiry should be a primary form of instruction in all social studies classes.
2. Students (and teachers) should craft investigative questions that matter.
3. Teachers should establish a collaborative context to support student inquiry.
4. Teachers should integrate content and skills meaningfully and in a rigorous manner.
5. Teachers should help students articulate disciplinary literacy practices and outcomes (thinking,
   reading, writing, speaking like a historian, like a geographer, like an economist, etc.).
6. Teachers should provide, and help students develop, tangible opportunities to take informed
   action.

Inquiry can be a powerful tool for teaching the content outlined in Michigan’s Grade Level Content
Expectations. As humans, we are naturally prone to questioning as we try to make sense of the world
around us. While the C3 Framework is not assessed on state-level assessments, such as the M-STEP, it
provides guidance for teachers and students on how to practice structured inquiry at the classroom level.
It is set up around an instructional arc outlined below, with more information available by downloading
the full document from the National Council for the Social Studies. A full copy of the C3 Framework can be
found online.

Inquiry Arc

The inquiry arc highlights the structure of and rationale for the organization of the C3 Framework’s four
dimensions. The arc focuses on the nature of inquiry in general and the pursuit of knowledge through
questions in particular. The C3 Framework, alongside the Michigan Social Studies Content Expectations,
connect with the Michigan ELA Standards.

Dimensions and Subsections

The C3 Framework is organized into the four dimensions, which support a robust social studies program
rooted in inquiry.

Dimensions 2, 3, and 4 are further broken down into subsections. For example, Dimension 2, Applying
Disciplinary Concepts and Tools, includes four subsections, one for each of the major social studies disciplines — civics, economics, geography, and history — which include descriptions of the structure and tools of the disciplines as well as the habits of mind common in those disciplines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Developing Compelling and Supporting Questions and Planning Inquiries</td>
<td>Civics</td>
<td>Gathering and Evaluating Sources</td>
<td>Communicating and Critiquing Conclusions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Developing Claims and Using Evidence</td>
<td>Taking Informed Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>History</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Unique Structure of Dimension 2**

Dimension 2 has an additional layer of three to four categories within each disciplinary subsection. These categories provide an organizing mechanism for the foundational content and skills within each discipline. For example, within the subsection of economics, there are four categories: (1) Economic Decision Making; (2) Exchange and Markets; (3) The National Economy; and (4) The Global Economy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CIVICS</th>
<th>ECONOMICS</th>
<th>GEOGRAPHY</th>
<th>HISTORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Civic and Political Institutions</td>
<td>Economic Decision Making</td>
<td>Geographic Representations: Spatial Views of the World</td>
<td>Change, Continuity, and Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation and Deliberation: Applying Civic Virtues and Democratic Principles</td>
<td>Exchange and Markets</td>
<td>Human-Environment Interaction: Place, Regions, and Culture</td>
<td>Perspectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processes, Rules, and Laws</td>
<td>The National Economy</td>
<td>Human Population: Spatial Patterns and Movements</td>
<td>Historical Sources and Evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Global Economy</td>
<td>Global Interconnections: Changing Spatial Patterns</td>
<td>Causation and Argumentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MICHIGAN’S SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS

The purpose of social studies instruction is to develop social understanding and civic efficacy. The Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE) balance disciplinary content with processes and skills that contribute to responsible citizenship and form a foundation for high school social studies coursework.

The disciplinary knowledge found in this document can be used by students to construct meaning through understanding of powerful ideas drawn from the disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics.

Effective social studies instruction and assessment incorporate methods of inquiry, involve public discourse and decision making, and provide opportunities for citizen involvement. These methods in the updated standards fit well with the four dimensions of the C3 Framework.

The K-12 Social Studies GLCE was revised to meet these goals:

Increasing rigor and ensuring they were challenging enough to equip students with necessary skills to succeed at the next grade level, while still representing the essential core content of a discipline.

Providing more clarity to teachers and educational stakeholders. Standards need to be widely understood and accepted by teachers, parents, school boards, and others who have a stake in the quality of schooling.

Specific enough to provide sufficient detail for districts who are developing curricula and teachers planning instruction, while providing enough focus to delineate which facts, concepts, and skills should be emphasized at each grade level.

Moving from simple to complex, from concrete to abstract, the Michigan standards needed to clearly delineate a progression of both knowledge and skills across grade levels, with each grade level providing a brick on the road toward mastery of the high school content.

Reflecting a coherent structure of the discipline and/or revealing significant relationships among the strands, as appropriate.

Accurate enough for all Michigan students to see themselves.

UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL STUDIES GLCE CODING

In use since the 2007 standards, each social studies GLCE code is made up of four parts: the grade, the standard category, the standard, and the expectation. In grades K-4, the “standard category” is described by discipline; in grades 5 through high school, “standard category” is described by topic. As a result, K-4 expectations are organized using the standard categories, and do not use the standard codes listed in the K-12 organizational chart.

6 – E2.3.1

K-4 expectations are organized by discipline and standard category, standard, and expectation.

Kindergarten example:  K – G1.0.2 = Kindergarten, 1st Geography Standard Category, 2nd Expectation

4th Grade example:  4 – C5.0.3 = Grade 4, 5th Civics Standard Category, 3rd Expectation

(The “0” is used as a place holder and indicates that K-4 expectations are organized using the standard categories, and do not use the standard codes listed in the K-12 organizational chart).

5th and 8th grades focus on an integrated study of United States history. The expectations are organized by U.S. History and Geography (USHG) era. The code indicates the era, the standard, and the expectation.

5th Grade example:  5 – U3.2.1 = Grade 5, 3rd USHG Era, 2nd Standard, 1st Expectation

6th and 7th grades focus on an integrated study of the world. The expectations are organized by discipline and standard category (or World History and Geography [WHG] era), standard, and expectation.
**6th Grade example:** 6 – G4.4.1 = Grade 6, 4th Geography Standard Category, 4th Standard, 1st Expectation

**7th Grade example:** 7 – W2.1.5 = Grade 7, 2nd WHG Era, 1st Standard, 5th Expectation

**MICHIGAN’S PROCESS AND SKILLS STANDARDS**

Michigan’s Process and Skills Standards identify the inquiry, communication, evaluation, and decision-making abilities that can be developed in all disciplines and at many grade levels. Local districts and teachers integrate work on inquiry processes and communication skills throughout the curriculum in ways that best respond to the needs of the district’s children.

Michigan’s Process and Skills Standards align well with the C3 Arc of Inquiry, as shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dimension 1: Develop Questions and Plan Investigations</th>
<th>Dimension 2: Apply Disciplinary Concepts and Tools</th>
<th>Dimension 3: Evaluate Sources and Use Evidence</th>
<th>Dimension 4: Communicate Conclusions and Take Informed Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>P2: Inquiry, Research, and Analysis</strong></td>
<td><strong>P1: Reading and Communication – Read and communicate effectively</strong></td>
<td><strong>P3: Public Discourse and Decision Making</strong></td>
<td><strong>P4: Citizen Involvement</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2.1 Apply methods of inquiry to investigate social scientific problems.</td>
<td>P1.1 Use appropriate strategies to read and analyze social science tables, graphs, graphics, maps, and texts.</td>
<td>P3.2 Discuss public policy issues, clarifying issues, considering opposing views, applying Democratic Values or Constitutional Principles, and refining claims.</td>
<td><strong>P4.1 Act out of respect for the rule of law and hold others accountable to the same standard.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2.2 Evaluate data presented in social science tables, graphs, graphics, maps, and texts.</td>
<td>P1.2 Interpret primary and secondary source documents for point of view, context, bias, and frame of reference.</td>
<td>P3.3 Construct arguments expressing and justifying decisions on public policy issues.</td>
<td><strong>P4.2 Assess options for individuals and groups to plan and conduct activities intended to advance views on matters of public policy.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2.3 Find, organize, and interpret information from a variety of sources.</td>
<td>P1.4 Express social studies ideas clearly in written, spoken, and graphic forms.</td>
<td>P3.4 Plan, conduct, and evaluate the effectiveness of activities intended to advance views on matters of public policy.</td>
<td><strong>P4.3 Plan, conduct, and evaluate the effectiveness of activities intended to advance views on matters of public policy.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2.4 Use resources from multiple perspectives to analyze issues.</td>
<td>P1.5 Present an argument supported with evidence.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MICHIGAN CONTENT EXPECTATIONS**

Michigan Process and Skills Standards have been changed from the 2007 standards in several ways. First, they are fewer and clearer to provide teachers with more focused guidelines. Second, Process and Skill Standards have now been included for elementary, middle school, and high school in a developmentally appropriate manner instead of just for high school. Last, they specifically include the development of compelling and supporting questions.
Several considerations are important as teachers use the GLCE to plan instruction.

Integrate acquisition of content (in the GLCE) with process and skill development. Development of basic skills in interpreting text, data, graphs, and maps in elementary and middle schools is important for success in high school. Development of basic citizenship and discussion skills, while never tested on state exams, is nonetheless critical for success in and out of high school.

Active social studies inquiry is essential. The Arc of Inquiry from College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) is a description of a process that helps students develop the kind of reasoned and informed decision-making skills needed for active participation in American society. Using the Arc of Inquiry begins with the development of compelling questions. Exemplars for the use of compelling questions will be included in the instructional material being developed to accompany the revised standards.

The GLCE is a content guide, not a curriculum organizer; it does not specify lessons, units, or a curriculum sequence. World Geography can be taught regionally or thematically. History can be taught past to present, or present to past. One teacher may develop a community activity at the beginning of the year to help develop a sense of purpose, and another might wait until year’s end as part of a capstone project.

On numerous occasions, the expectations will include examples to help clarify teachable content. These specific examples are suggestions. Educators may use other examples to meet the expectations or to guide instruction and the creation of a local curriculum and resources. Specific examples included for each standard are clearly labeled underneath each standard by using the language “examples may include but are not limited to.” These examples are not assessable outside of a stimulus text on state summative assessments. The focus of a state assessment question will be the language and content delineated in the content expectation itself. In the example below, the content standard is about the origins of the American education system. Benjamin Franklin, Benjamin Rush, Noah Webster, and Horace Mann are just four of the many examples that could be used when teaching the standard.

8 – U4.3.1 Explain the origins of the American education system.

Examples may include but are not limited to: Benjamin Franklin, Benjamin Rush, Noah Webster, and Horace Mann.
THE SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS AND MICHIGAN LAW:

Michigan Public Act No. 170 of 2016 states: “Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, the board of a school district or board of directors of a public school academy shall ensure that the school district’s or public school academy’s social studies curriculum for grades 8 to 12 includes age- and grade-appropriate instruction about genocide, including, but not limited to, the Holocaust and the Armenian Genocide. The legislature recommends a combined total of 6 hours of this instruction during grades 8 to 12.”

Careful attention, review, and revision work was conducted to ensure that the mandate of Public Act No. 170 of 2016 was met with the revisions to the Michigan K-12 Standards for Social Studies. The law also states that genocide instruction may take place over time, between grade levels, and across classes and disciplines. A student may read a compelling novel such as *Night* by Elie Wiesel and learn about the Holocaust in both the context of their English/Language Arts class and either their high school World History and Geography Course (HS-WHG 7.2.3, 7.2.6) or their high school United States History and Geography course (HS-US 7.2.4). A student may also study the Armenian Genocide in both courses, with complementary social studies instruction found in HS-WHG 7.2.1 and 7.2.6.

Opportunities to meet the requirement of this law exist both within the confines of the revised Michigan K-12 Standards for Social Studies and beyond the boundaries of the social studies classroom.
### 3rd-5th Grade Overview

#### 3rd-5th Grade-Specific Contexts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Michigan Studies</td>
<td>Students explore the social studies disciplines of history, geography, civics and government, and economics through the context of Michigan studies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>U.S. Studies</td>
<td>Using the context of the state of Michigan post statehood and the United States, 4th grade students learn significant social studies concepts within an increasingly complex social environment. They examine fundamental concepts in geography, civics and government, and economics organized by topic, region, or issue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Integrated U.S. History</td>
<td>Building upon the geography, civics and government, and economics concepts of the United States mastered in 4th grade and historical inquiry from earlier grades, the 5th grade expectations begin a more discipline-centered approach concentrating on the early history of the United States. Students begin their study of American history with Indigenous Peoples before the arrival of European explorers and conclude with the adoption of the Bill of Rights in 1791. Although the content expectations are organized by historical era, they build upon students’ understanding of the other social studies disciplines from earlier grades and require students to apply these concepts within the context of American history.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 3rd-4th Grade Social Studies Overview Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3rd-4th Grade Social Studies Overview Chart</th>
<th>History</th>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Civics and Government</th>
<th>Economics</th>
<th>Public Discourse, Decision Making, and Citizen Involvement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Living and Working Together</td>
<td>The World in Spatial Terms</td>
<td>Purpose of Government</td>
<td>Market Economy</td>
<td>Identifying and Analyzing Public Issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan History</td>
<td>Use historical thinking to understand the past in the local community.</td>
<td>Explain why people create governments.</td>
<td>Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in a market economy.</td>
<td>Clearly state a problem as a public policy issue, analyze various perspectives, and generate and evaluate possible alternative resolutions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Michigan History</td>
<td>Democratic Values and Principles of American Government</td>
<td>National Economy</td>
<td>Persuasive Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Structure and Function of Government</td>
<td>International Economy</td>
<td>Civic Participation</td>
<td>Civic Participation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Describe the structure of government in the United States and how it functions.</td>
<td>Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the global economy.</td>
<td>Act constructively to further the public good.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Civic Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Explain important rights and how, when, and where people can demonstrate their responsibilities by participating in government.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental and Society</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Understand the effects of human-environment interactions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 5th Grade Integrated U.S. History Overview Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5th Grade Integrated U.S. History Overview Chart</th>
<th>History</th>
<th>Geography</th>
<th>Civics and Government</th>
<th>Economics</th>
<th>Public Discourse, Decision Making, and Civic Participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U1 USHG Era 1 Beginnings to 1620</td>
<td>G Geographic Perspective</td>
<td>C Civic Perspective</td>
<td>E Economic Perspective</td>
<td>P Public Discourse, Decision Making, and Civic Participation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U2 USHG Era 2 Colonization and Settlement</td>
<td>• The World in Spatial Terms</td>
<td>• Purposes of Government</td>
<td>• Individual, Business, and Government Choices</td>
<td>• Identifying and Analyzing Public Issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U3 USHG Era 3 Revolution and the New Nation</td>
<td>• Places and Regions</td>
<td>• Roles and Functions of Government</td>
<td>• Economic Systems</td>
<td>• Persuasive Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Physical Systems</td>
<td>• Democratic Values and Constitutional Principles in American Democracy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Human Systems</td>
<td>• Civic Participation</td>
<td>Civic Participation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Environment and Society</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Dimension 1: Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries** Central to a rich social studies experience is the capability for developing questions that can frame and advance an inquiry. Those questions come in two forms: compelling and supporting questions.

**Individually and collaboratively, students construct compelling questions and:**
- explain why compelling questions are important to others (e.g., peers, adults).
- identify disciplinary concepts and ideas associated with a compelling question that are open to different interpretations.
- identify the disciplinary concepts and ideas associated with a supporting question that are open to interpretation.
- explain how supporting questions help answer compelling questions in an inquiry.
- determine the kinds of sources that will be helpful in answering compelling and supporting questions, taking into consideration the different opinions people have about how to answer the questions.

**Dimension 2: Applying Disciplinary Concepts and Tools** The four disciplines within social studies provide the intellectual context for studying how humans have interacted with each other and with the environment over time. Each of these disciplines — civics, economics, geography, and history — offers a unique way of thinking and organizing knowledge as well as systems for verifying knowledge. Dimension 2 focuses on the disciplinary concepts and tools students need to understand and apply as they study the specific content described in Michigan’s state standards.

**Dimension 3: Evaluating Sources and Using Evidence** Dimension 3 includes the skills students need to analyze information and come to conclusions in an inquiry. These skills focus on gathering and evaluating sources, and then developing claims and using evidence to support these claims.

**Individually and collaboratively, students:**
- gather relevant information from multiple sources while using the origin, structure, and context to guide the selection.
- use distinctions among fact and opinion to determine the credibility of multiple sources.
- identify evidence that draws information from multiple sources in response to compelling questions.
- use evidence to develop claims in response to compelling questions.

**Dimension 4: Communicating Conclusions and Taking Informed Action** Students should construct and communicate claims for a variety of purposes and audiences. These audiences may range from the school classroom to the larger public community.

**Individually and collaboratively, students:**
- construct arguments using claims and evidence from multiple sources.
- construct explanations using reasoning, correct sequence, examples, and details with relevant information and data.
- present a summary of arguments and explanations to others outside the classroom using print and oral technologies (e.g., posters, essays, letters, debates, speeches, and reports) and digital technologies (e.g., Internet, social media, and digital documentary).
- critique arguments.
- critique explanations.
- draw on disciplinary concepts to explain the challenges people have faced and opportunities they have created, in addressing local, regional, and global problems at various times and places.
- explain different strategies and approaches students and others could take in working alone and together to address local, regional, and global problems, and predict possible results of their actions; use listening, consensus-building, and voting procedures to decide on and take action in their classrooms.
- use a range of deliberative and democratic procedures to make decisions about and act on civic problems in their classrooms and schools.
### Sample 3rd-5th Grade Compelling and Supporting Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Standards Connection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 3rd   | What makes Michigan special?  | 1) How is the geography of Michigan similar to or different from the geography of other states?  
2) How is the geography different in different places in Michigan?  
3) How does Michigan's location in North America influence its resources? | 3 – G2.0.1, 3 – G2.0.2, 3 – G4.0.1, 3 – G4.0.2, 3 – G4.0.3, 3 – G4.0.4 |
| 4th   | How does the U.S. economy work?| 1) What are the characteristics of a market economy?  
2) How does a market economy work?  
3) How does specialization and division of labor increase productivity?  
4) How is the U.S. economy impacted by global competition? | 3 – E1.0.1, 3 – E1.0.2, 3 – E1.0.3, 3 – E1.0.4, 3 – E1.0.5, 3 – E1.0.6, 3 – E1.0.7, 3 – E1.0.8, 3 – E2.0.1 |
| 5th   | Does geography determine destiny? | 1) What conditions and connections determine the fate of a settlement?  
2) How did Europeans benefit from the Triangular Trade and what impact did it have on the lives of West Africans?  
3) How and why did different colonial regions develop differently? | 5 – U2.1.1, 5 – U2.1.2, 5 – U2.1.3, 5 – U2.1.4 |
P1 READING AND COMMUNICATION – READ AND COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY
P1.1 Use appropriate strategies to read and interpret basic social science tables, graphs, graphics, maps, and texts.
P1.2 Differentiate between primary and secondary source documents.
P1.3 Express social science ideas or information in written, spoken, and graphic forms including tables, line graphs, bar graphs, and maps.
P1.4 Identify point of view and bias.

P2 INQUIRY, RESEARCH, AND ANALYSIS
P2.1 Use compelling and supporting questions to investigate social studies problems.
P2.2 Differentiate between compelling questions and supporting questions.
P2.3 Use supporting questions to help answer compelling social studies questions.
P2.4 Know how to find relevant evidence from a variety of sources.
P2.5 Use data presented in social science tables, graphs, graphics, maps, and texts to answer compelling and supporting questions.

P3 PUBLIC DISCOURSE AND DECISION MAKING
P3.1 State an issue as a question of public policy and discuss possible solutions from different perspectives.
P3.2 Apply Democratic Values or Constitutional Principles to support a position on an issue.
P3.3 Construct an argument and justify a decision supported with evidence.
P3.4 Explain the challenges people have faced and actions they have taken to address issues at different times and places.

P4 CIVIC PARTICIPATION
P4.1 Act out of the rule of law and hold others to the same standard.
P4.2 Assess options for individuals and groups to plan and conduct activities intended to advance views on matters of public policy.
P4.3 Explain different strategies students and others could take to address problems and predict possible results.
P4.4 Use democratic procedures to make decisions on civic issues in the school or classroom.
HISTORY

Individually and collaboratively, students will engage in planned inquiries to investigate early Michigan history.

H3 The History of Michigan (Through Statehood)

Use historical thinking to understand the past.

3 – H3.0.1 Identify questions historians ask in examining the past in Michigan.

Examples may include but are not limited to: What happened? When did it happen? Who was involved? How and why did it happen?

3 – H3.0.2 Explain how historians use primary and secondary sources to answer questions about the past.

3 – H3.0.3 Describe the causal relationships between three events in Michigan’s past.

Examples may include but are not limited to: the Erie canal, more people came, statehood.

3 – H3.0.4 Draw upon traditional stories and/or teachings of Indigenous Peoples who lived and continue to live in Michigan in order to better understand their beliefs and histories.

Examples may include but are not limited to: Teachings of the Seven Grandfathers.

3 – H3.0.5 Use informational text and visual data to compare how Indigenous Peoples and non-Indigenous Peoples in the early history of Michigan interacted with, adapted to, used, and/or modified their environments.

3 – H3.0.6 Use a variety of sources to describe interactions that occurred between Indigenous Peoples and the first European explorers and settlers in Michigan.

3 – H3.0.7 Use a variety of primary and secondary sources to construct a historical narrative about daily life in the early settlements of Michigan (pre-statehood).

3 – H3.0.8 Use case studies or stories to describe how the ideas or actions of individuals affected the history of Michigan (pre-statehood).

3 – H3.0.9 Describe how Michigan attained statehood.

3 – H3.0.10 Create a timeline to sequence and describe major eras and events in early Michigan history.
**GEOGRAPHY**

Individually and collaboratively, students will engage in planned inquiries to investigate ways people have interacted with the environment of Michigan now and in the past, and consequences of those interactions.

**G1  The World in Spatial Terms**

Use geographic representations to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.

3 – G1.0.1  Use cardinal directions (north, south, east, west) to describe the relative locations of significant places in the immediate environment.

3 – G1.0.2  Use thematic maps to identify and describe the physical and human characteristics of Michigan.

3 – G1.0.3  Use a world map to describe North America in relation to the equator and other continents and oceans, and Michigan within North America.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** locate Michigan in relation to the United States, the North Pole, and the equator.

**G2  Places and Regions**

Understand how regions are created from common physical and human characteristics.

3 – G2.0.1  Use a variety of visual materials and data sources to describe ways in which Michigan can be divided into regions.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** physical features (lakes versus land), land use (forest, agriculture, urban), and political (state, county, and tribal boundaries).

3 – G2.0.2  Describe different regions to which Michigan belongs.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** Great Lakes region, Midwest, United States, North America.

**G4  Human Systems**

Understand how human activities help shape the Earth’s surface.

3 – G4.0.1  Describe major kinds of economic activity in Michigan today, such as agriculture, forestry, manufacturing, services and tourism, and research and development, and explain the factors influencing the location of these economic activities.

**Examples of economic activities may include but are not limited to:** agriculture (e.g., corn, cherries, dairy, Christmas trees); manufacturing (e.g., automobiles, wood products); and research and development (e.g., Automation Alley, life sciences corridor, university communities).

**Examples of factors influencing location may include but are not limited to:** primary industries located near natural resources; manufacturing influenced by accessibility to resources, labor, markets, and capital; and services, which are often located close to markets.
3 – G4.0.2 Describe diverse groups that have migrated into a region of Michigan and reasons why they came (push/pull factors).

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** Finnish migrating to the upper peninsula, Chaldeans migrating into southeastern Michigan, Dutch migrating to western Michigan.

3 – G4.0.3 Describe some of the current movements of goods, people, jobs, or information to, from, or within Michigan and explain reasons for the movements.

3 – G4.0.4 Use data and current information about the Anishinaabek and other Indigenous Peoples living in Michigan today to describe the cultural aspects of modern life.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** tribal citizenship, tribal governments, treaty rights, reservation boundaries, cultural events.

**G5 Environment and Society**

Understand the effects of human-environment interactions.

3 – G5.0.1 Describe how people are a part of, adapt to, use, and modify the physical environment of Michigan.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** interdependence of people and the environment, interaction of people with the environment, appreciation for the environment, e.g., taking a walk, watching birds, swimming in a lake, fishing, hunting, photography, harvesting maple syrup.

3 – G5.0.2 Locate natural resources in Michigan and explain the consequences of their use.

**CIVICS AND GOVERNMENT**

Individually and collaboratively, students will engage in planned inquiries to investigate the structure and functions of Michigan’s government and rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

**C1 Purposes of Government**

Explain why people create governments.

3 – C1.0.1 Give an example of how Michigan state government fulfills one of the purposes of government.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** protecting individual rights, promoting the common good, ensuring equal treatment under the law.

**C2 Democratic Values and Constitutional Principles of American Government**

3 – C2.0.1 Describe how the Michigan state government reflects the principle of representative government.
C3  Structure and Functions of Government

Describe the structure of government in the United States and how it functions.

3 – C3.0.1  Distinguish between the roles of tribal, state, and local governments.

3 – C3.0.2  Identify goods and services provided by the state government and describe how they are funded.

**Examples of services may include but are not limited to:** maintaining highways, state parks, state forests.

**Examples of how things are funded may include but are not limited to:** taxes, fees, fines.

3 – C3.0.3  Identify the three branches of state government in Michigan and the powers of each.

3 – C3.0.4  Explain how state courts function to resolve conflict.

3 – C3.0.5  Describe the purpose of the Michigan Constitution.

C5  Civic Participation

Explain important rights and how, when, and where members of American society demonstrate their responsibilities by actively participating in civic life.

3 – C5.0.1  Identify and explain rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

**Examples of rights may include but are not limited to:** freedom of speech, freedom of religion, right to own property.

**Examples of responsibilities may include but are not limited to:** respecting the rights of others, voting, obeying laws.

ECONOMICS

Individually and collaboratively, students will engage in planned inquiries to investigate the economy of Michigan.

E1  Market Economy

Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in a market economy.

3 – E1.0.1  Using a Michigan example, explain how scarcity, choice, and opportunity cost affect what is produced and consumed.

3 – E1.0.2  Identify incentives that influence economic decisions people make in Michigan.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** sales, coupons, tax incentives, recycling.
3 – E1.0.3 Analyze how Michigan’s location and natural resources influenced its economic development.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** how waterways and other natural resources have influenced economic activities such as farming, mining, lumbering, automobile manufacturing, and furniture making.

3 – E1.0.4 Describe how entrepreneurs combine natural, human, and capital resources to produce goods and services in Michigan.

3 – E1.0.5 Explain the role of entrepreneurship and business development in Michigan’s economic future.

**E2 National Economy**

Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the United States.

3 – E2.0.1 Using a Michigan example, explain how specialization leads to increased interdependence.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** cherries grown in Michigan are sold in Florida; oranges grown in Florida are sold in Michigan.

**E3 International Economy**

Use fundamental principles and concepts of economics to understand economic activity in the global economy.

3 – E3.0.1 Identify products produced in other countries and consumed by people in Michigan.

**PUBLIC DISCOURSE, DECISION MAKING, AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION (P3, P4)**

**P3.1 Identifying and Analyzing Public Issues**

Clearly state a problem as a public policy issue, analyze various perspectives, and generate and evaluate possible alternative resolutions.

3 – P3.1.1 Identify public issues in Michigan that influence the daily lives of its citizens.

3 – P3.1.2 Use graphic data and other sources to analyze information about a public issue in Michigan and evaluate alternative resolutions.

3 – P3.1.3 Give examples of how conflicts over Democratic Values lead people to differ on resolutions to a public policy issue in Michigan.

**Examples may include but are not limited to:** common good, equality, individual rights, justice (fairness).
P3.3 Persuasive Communication About a Public Issue

Communicate a reasoned position on a public issue.

3 – P3.3.1 Compose a paragraph expressing a position on a public policy issue in Michigan and justify the position with a reasoned argument.

P4.2 Civic Participation

Act constructively to further the public good.

3 – P4.2.1 Develop and implement an action plan and know how, when, and where to address or inform others about a public issue.

3 – P4.2.2 Participate in projects to help or inform others.
WRITERS/REVIEWERS

CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jim Cameron, Consultant, Michigan Department of Education

MEMBERS:
Dr. Gordon Andrews, Michigan Council for History Education
Grand Valley State University
Ms. Carol Bacak-Egbo, Consultant
Waterford School District
Ms. Rebecca Bush, Social Studies Consultant, Instructional Services, Ottawa Area ISD
Mr. Derek D'Angelo, President & Chief Academic Officer
Michigan Council on Economic Education
Mr. David Hales, S.S. Consultant
Wayne RESA
Mr. Tom Hinken, Social Studies Consultant, Muskegon Area Intermediate School District.
Mr. David A. Johnson, Instructional Consultant Social Studies and Special Projects
Wexford-Missaukee ISD and Northern Michigan Learning Consortium
Mr. David Klemm, Social Studies & Special Projects Consultant
Muskegon Area ISD
Mr. Scott Koenig, Social Studies Consultant, Office of Standards and Assessment, Michigan Department of Education
Dr. Michael Libbee, Michigan Geographic Alliance Director
Central Michigan University
Mr. Stan Masters, Coordinator of Instructional Data Services
Lenawee ISD
Dr. Tamara Shreiner, Michigan Council for History Education, Grand Valley State University
Mr. Roy Sovis, Instruction Coordinator, Erwin L. Davis Education Center, Genesee ISD
Ms. Linda Start, Executive Director, Retired
Michigan Center for Civic Education
Ms. Ellen Zwarensteyn, Executive Director
Michigan Center for Civic Education

2015 FOCUS GROUP MEMBERS
Mr. Ken Bradstreet, Government Affairs Consultant
Wolverine Power Cooperative
Ms. Isra El-beshir, Education & Public Programming Curator
Arab American National Museum
Mr. Chad Folmersma, Teacher
Sault Area High School & Career Center
Ms. Tina Frazier, Teacher
Edison Elementary School
Ms. Cindy Gilsenan, American History Teacher, Lakeview High School
Mr. Marius Guseth, Teacher
Old Redford Academy Prep. High School
Ms. Elspeth Inglis, Assistant Director for Educational Services
Kalamazoo Valley Museum
Mr. David Kaliman, Attorney
Kallman Legal Group
Ms. Erin Mersino
Thomas More Law Center
Mr. Ron Miller, Principal
St. Clair High School
Ms. Melissa Montoya, Interim Education Director,
Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe
Mr. James Muffett
Student Statesmanship Institute and Citizens for Traditional Values
Ms. Donna Odom, Executive Director
The Southwest Michigan Black Heritage Society
Mr. Andrew Sias, World History Teacher, Kingsley Middle School
Mr. Todd Simmons, Principal
Pewamo-Westphalia Middle/High School
Mr. Lincoln Stocks, President
East Detroit Federation of Teachers
Dr. Joseph Stoltman, Professor
Department of Geography, Western Michigan University
Ms. Chasity Sutton
Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD
Dr. Karen Thomas-Brown, Social Studies Associate Professor
School of Education, University of Michigan - Dearborn
Mr. Michael Warren, Oakland Circuit Court Judge, General Civil/Criminal Division, Oakland County Courthouse, Court Room 5B
Senator Patrick Colbeck
Michigan Senate District 7

2018 TASK FORCE MEMBERS

K-4 Task Force:
Chairs: Carol Egbo, Stan Masters
Robin Barney-Lees, Retired Social Studies Teacher
Amy Bradfield, Education Program Manager, Historical Society of Michigan
Angeline Brown, Teacher, Gaylord Community Schools
Jannan Cotto, Michigan Tribal Education Directors
Frank Hamet, School Board Member, Flatrock Community Schools
Kathryn Holmes-Gonzales, Instructional Coach, Saginaw Public Schools
Jill Larkins, School Administrator, Hamtramck Public Schools
Zemen Marrugi, Teacher – Instructional Coach, Flagship Academy and Warren Dale Academy
Brett Meteyer, Parent
Shelika Tate, Western Michigan University, Cooley Law School
Amanda Weinert, Curriculum Specialist, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Susan Welch, Teacher, Fenton Area Public Schools
Annie Whitlock, Professor, University of Michigan, Flint

U.S. History Task Force:
Chairs: Rebecca Bush, David A. Johnson
Mike Donovan, Teacher, Godfrey Lee Public Schools
Eric Hemenway, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians
Tamika Henry, Principal, Allendale Public Schools
Andrew Irons, Student
Allyson Klak, Teacher, Shepherd Public Schools
Cormac Lynn, Superintendent, Nouvel Catholic Central Schools, Saginaw
Richard Matrella, Teacher, Bessemer Schools
Sean O’Neill, Professor, Grand Valley State University
Shelia Richardson, Parent
Spencer Richardson, Student
Evan Rokicki, Teacher, Troy Public Schools
Carrie Rowan, Retired Teacher
Adam Spina, Superintendent, Williamston Schools
Erika Sponsler, Teacher, Western School District
Dustin Webb, Teacher, Lake City Area Schools

World History And Geography Task Force:
Chairs: Dr. Michael Libbee, Dr. Tamara Shreiner
Dr. Jared Aumen, Teacher, Scarlett Middle School
Robert Behnke, Superintendent, Adrian Public Schools
Cindy Bloom, Teacher, Comstock Middle School
Robin Bott, Teacher, Northeast Middle School
Alaina Brown, Teacher, Novi Public Schools
Lisa Childers, Teacher, Fraser Public Schools
David Copedge, NAACP
Brandon Crimmins, Student
Dr. Dave Eaton, Professor, Grand Valley State University
Anthony Francis, Oakland University
Maria Gonzalez, Teacher, Holy Family School
Matthew Grandstaff, Teacher, Ovid-Elsie Public Schools
Emma Haygood, Curriculum Coach, Berrien Springs Public Schools
Heather Hopkins, Teacher, Sault Area Middle School
Jennifer Jacobs, Teacher, Detroit Innovation Academy
Alicia Kubacki, Instructional Consultant, BA-ISD Instructional Consultant for SS
Sean McBrady, Social Studies Consultant, Macomb ISD
Ed McGovern, Teacher, Wayne-Westland Community Schools
Judy Pamp, Assistant Director and Educational Director, Zibiwinger Center
Pudmaja Rao, South Asian American Voices for Impact
Dr. Joe Stolzman, Professor, Western Michigan University
Ben Washburn, Principal, Detroit Civil Service Commission, Parent

High School Civics Task Force:
Chairs: Tom Hinken, Ellen Zwarensteyn
Hillary Baker, School Administrator, Allegan Public Schools
Thomas Berriman, School Administrator, Alpena Public Schools
Rachel Clark, State of Michigan
Jennifer Crotty, Teacher, Fitzgerald Public Schools
Allison Echlin, Teacher / Parent, Northville Public Schools
Barbara Gazda, Teacher, Hartland High School
David Harris, Retired Professor, University of Michigan
Adam Horos, Teacher, East Grand Rapids Public Schools
Roland Hwang, School Board Member, Northville Public Schools
David A. Johnson, Retired Educator / Pre-service teacher Educator
Sam Jones-Darling, Student, Eastern Michigan University
Cortney Kosmala Jackson, Teacher, Cesar Chavez Academy High School
Sam Lowry, Student, Black River Public Schools
Sara Luther, Teacher, West Ottawa Public Schools
Lacey O’Donnell Teacher, Calumet Public Schools
Maggie Parrish, Teacher, Comstock Park Public Schools
Eric Walcott, Community Member, Michigan State University Extension Specialist
Michael Warren, Oakland Judge / Parent

High School Economics Task Force:
Chairs: Derek D’Angelo, David Hales, Roy Sovis
Chanda Aves, Teacher, Ionia Public Schools
Seth Baker, Teacher, Brimley Area Schools
John Damoose, Student
Margo Damoose, Parent
David Dieterle, Walsh College

Bias Review Task Force:
Chairs: Melissa Kieswetter, Marsha Lewis
Asim Alavi
Joshua Archer, High School Student
Francisca Garcia
Rania Hammoud, Curriculum Coordinator
Melissa Isaac, Teacher
Angela Justice, Teacher
Calvin Kennebrew, Jr.
Guillermo Martinez
Pamela McGhee, Teacher
Mursalata Muhammad, College Professor
Charles Penn, Teacher
Destine Price, College Student
Padmaja Rao
Karen Twomey
Pavan Vangipuran
Mavis Weddington
LaDonna White, Teacher
Michigan State Board of Education

Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich
President
Rochester Hills

Dr. Pamela Pugh
Vice President
Saginaw

Michelle Fecteau
Secretary
Detroit

Tiffany Tilley
NASBE Delegate
Southfield

Tom McMillin
Treasurer
Oakland Township

Dr. Judith Pritchett
Washington Township

Lupe Ramos-Montigny
Grand Rapids

Nikki Snyder
Dexter

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer
Ex Officio

Dr. Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Public Instruction

MDE Staff

Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D.
Deputy Superintendent, Educator, Student, and School Supports

Paula Daniels, Ed.D.
Director
Office of Educational Supports

Michigan Department of Education
Office of Educational Supports
p: (517) 241-3147
website: www.michigan.gov/mde