

**Certification Staffing Assignment
Social Studies
(7-12)**

Social Studies is a group of programs that: produce competent citizens who are aware of their rights and responsibilities and how individuals facilitate governmental functions and contribute to the well-being of their community through civic action (civics and government); analyze and interpret past events (history); describe physical and human phenomena that make up the world's environments and places (geography); describe the behavior of individuals and institutions engaged in the production, exchange and consumption of goods and services (economics); describe portions of behavior, past and present activities, interactions and organizations of people associated together for benevolent, cultural, religious, scientific, political, patriotic, or other purposes.

Grade Level Scope of Certificate:

An individual holding a valid PA certificate for Social Studies is qualified to teach Social Studies courses to students in grades 7 through 12.

Certification Assignment:

An individual holding a valid PA certificate for Social Studies is qualified to teach courses and programs in areas to include: Pennsylvania, United States, or world history; geography; civics and government; economics, international trade and global economies; political science; local/state/national commerce, international relations; American and world cultures; psychology, sociology, anthropology and philosophy.

At the middle level, the social studies teacher will also provide instruction, adjusted to the students' ability when below proficient.

Certificate Clarifications:

An individual holding a valid PA citizenship education certification may teach social studies courses, other than sociology, psychology, and anthropology, in Grades 7 through 12.

Educators holding Citizenship Education or Social Studies certificates may teach Citizenship Education courses to special education and gifted students within the scope of the certificate.

A person holding a previously issued valid PA certificate on which was endorsed a single discipline certification area (that is: History, History and Government, Geography*, Economics, Economic Geography, Government, Political Science, Philosophy) may be assigned to teach only that particular subject area. In addition:

- Civics courses may be taught by an educator holding the older and a valid PA single discipline certification area for Political Science, or for History and Government.
- World Cultures may be taught by an educator holding the older and valid PA single discipline certification area for History, History and Government, Geography, or Anthropology.
- American Cultures may be taught by an educator holding the older and valid PA single discipline certification area for History, or Geography*, or Sociology.

Special Considerations:

An educator certified in this field may provide school staff development services regarding their collegial studies/skills and may serve in the role of mentor or advisor.

Restrictions:

*A person holding the older single discipline certification area for Geography may teach Geography, American or World Cultures courses only when the educator's collegiate academic preparation included a minimum of 15 semester credit hours in the area of social, economic, and political geography. If, however, the individual's preparation was in the physical sciences and physical geography, please refer to the Certification Staffing Assignment for Earth and Space Science.

An educator holding the older single discipline PA certification area for Sociology or Anthropology may continue to teach World or American Culture courses. Refer also to the Certification Staffing Assignment for Social Studies.

References:

Program Specific Standards and Guidelines for Certification.

22 PA Code: Chapter 4: §4.22 (c)(4)
§4.23 (c)(4)
§4.23 (e)

Chapter 49: §49.11
§49.81
§49.142

PA Public School Code: §1202
§1212
§1604

CSPG's for Reference: Social Science
 Citizenship Education

THIS REVISION SUPERSEDES ALL EARLIER CSPG'S CARRYING THIS NUMBER AND/OR ADDRESSING THIS SUBJECT. PREVIOUS PRINTING DATES ON THIS SUBJECT: 3/75, 2/79, 1/81, 1/87.