

NORTH CAROLINA ESSENTIAL STANDARDS

SOCIAL STUDIES

Introduction to the Standards

The *North Carolina Social Studies Essential Standards* offer a sound, thoughtful, and defensible curricular framework that is designed to enable all students at all grade levels to acquire the essential knowledge, understanding, and skills needed to be informed, active citizens in the 21st Century. The standards are focused on understanding the broad concepts of Social Studies. Standards will continue to address topics and facts; however, the goal of conceptually written standards is to help students recognize patterns and make connections in their learning that transfer beyond a single discipline, topic, grade, or isolated fact. While the standards are written broadly, the clarifying objectives are written to include more specificity. Additionally, conceptual standards will give teachers and districts more flexibility in the content examples that they may elect to use in order to support the concepts.

Visit this link to access the Preamble to the *North Carolina Social Studies Essential Standards*:

<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/docs/curriculum/socialstudies/preamble.pdf>

Link to Standards

Visit this link to access the *North Carolina Social Studies Essential Standards*:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/new-standards/>

Instructional Toolkit

Visit this link to access the instructional tools for the *North Carolina Social Studies Essential Standards*:

<http://www.ncpublicschools.org/acre/standards/support-tools/>

Connections:

- **AIG**
- **EC**
- **ESL**
- **Information and Technology**

The implementation of the *Common Core State Standards* and *North Carolina Essential Standards* must recognize the needs of English Language Learners (ELLs), Exceptional Children (EC), and Academically and/or Intellectually Gifted (AIG) learners. Local coordinators and teachers can collaborate to address students' needs.

The *North Carolina Information and Technology Essential Standards* (ITES) are embedded within all areas of the other curriculum:

- Classroom teachers are responsible for teaching the new ITES standards beginning in 2011-12.