

**PROGRAM FOR LICENSING ASSESSMENTS
FOR COLORADO EDUCATORS® (PLACE®)
OBJECTIVES
FIELD 006: SOCIAL STUDIES**

Subareas

History
Geography
Political Science
Economics
Behavioral and Social Sciences
Social Studies Inquiry and Skills

HISTORY

Understand the significance of events and developments in world history to the year 1500.

Includes characteristics, events, and people of world cultural areas to 1500; characteristics of various world societies and how they changed over time; using chronology to examine and explain historical relationships; the effects of scientific, technological, and economic activities on societies; the influence of religious and philosophical ideas; the development of political institutions and theories over time; interpretations of events by people from a variety of perspectives; and using evidence (e.g., artifacts, primary documents) to re-create the past.

Understand the significance of events and developments in world history from 1500 to 1750.

Includes characteristics, events, and people of world cultural areas from 1500 to 1750; characteristics of various world societies and how they changed over time; using chronology to examine and explain historical relationships; the effects of scientific, technological, and economic activities on societies; the influence of religious and philosophical ideas; the development of political institutions and theories over time; interpretations of events by people from a variety of perspectives; and using evidence (e.g., artifacts, primary documents) to re-create the past.

Copyright © 2000 by National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES®)

"PLACE," "Program for Licensing Assessments for Colorado Educators," and the "PLACE" logo are registered trademarks of the Colorado Department of Education and National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES®).

"NES®" and its logo are registered trademarks of National Evaluation Systems, Inc.™

This document may not be reproduced for commercial use but may be copied for educational purposes.

OBJECTIVES
FIELD 006: SOCIAL STUDIES

Understand the significance of events and developments in world history from 1750 to the present.

Includes characteristics, events, and people of world cultural areas from 1750 to the present; characteristics of various world societies and how they changed over time; using chronology to examine and explain historical relationships; the effects of scientific, technological, and economic activities on societies; the influence of religious and philosophical ideas; the development of political institutions and theories over time; interpretations of events by people from a variety of perspectives; and using evidence (e.g., artifacts, primary documents) to re-create the past.

Understand the significance of events and developments in United States history to the year 1800.

Includes characteristics, events, and people of major eras of early U.S. history, including precolonial history; interactions and contributions of the various peoples and cultures that have lived in or migrated to the area that is now Colorado; characteristics of U.S. society and how society changed over time; using chronology to examine and explain historical relationships; the effects of scientific, technological, and economic activities on U.S. society; the influence of religious and philosophical ideas; the development of political institutions and theories over time; interpretations of events by people from a variety of perspectives; and using evidence (e.g., artifacts, primary documents) to re-create the past.

Understand the significance of events and developments in United States history from 1800 to 1914.

Includes characteristics, events, and people of major eras of U.S. history from 1800 to 1914; interactions and contributions of the various peoples and cultures that have lived in or migrated to the area that is now Colorado; characteristics of U.S. society and how society changed over time; using chronology to examine and explain historical relationships; the effects of scientific, technological, and economic activities on U.S. society; the influence of religious and philosophical ideas; the development of political institutions and theories over time; interpretations of events by people from a variety of perspectives; and using evidence (e.g., artifacts, primary documents) to re-create the past.

Understand the significance of events and developments in United States history from 1914 to the present.

Includes characteristics, events, and people of major eras of U.S. history from 1914 to the present; interactions and contributions of the various peoples and cultures that have lived in or migrated to the area that is now Colorado; characteristics of U.S. society and how society changed over time; using chronology to examine and explain historical relationships; the effects of scientific, technological, and economic activities on U.S. society; the influence of religious and philosophical ideas; the development of political institutions and theories over time; interpretations of events by people from a variety of perspectives; and using evidence (e.g., artifacts, primary documents) to re-create the past.

Copyright © 2000 by National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES®)

OBJECTIVES
FIELD 006: SOCIAL STUDIES

GEOGRAPHY

Understand how to use and construct maps, globes, and other geographic tools to locate and derive information about people, places, and environments.

Includes types of maps, map projections, and map symbols; advantages and disadvantages of various standard map projections; applications of scale; interpreting geographic patterns from maps; and knowledge of latitude and longitude, absolute and relative location, and mental mapping.

Understand the physical and human characteristics of regions and their patterns of change.

Includes the concept of region; criteria used to define regions; characteristics, location, and distribution of Earth's human populations and physical systems (i.e., atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and biosphere); identifying regions based on physical or human characteristics; interactions of physical and human processes in shaping and changing places; relationships and interactions among regions; and the influence of culture and experience on people's perceptions of places and regions.

Understand the influence of economic, political, cultural, and social processes on patterns of human population, interdependence, cooperation, and conflict.

Includes patterns of human settlement and factors that influence these patterns; trends and effects of world population numbers; causes and types of human migration and its physical and cultural effects; the spatial distribution of cultures; the process of cultural diffusion; patterns and networks of economic interdependence and factors that affect economic activities; and the roles of cooperation and conflict in shaping the world's social, political, and economic divisions.

Understand the interactions between humans and the natural environment.

Includes ways in which people adapt to, modify, and depend on their environment; the role of technology in modifying the physical environment; potential local and global effects of human modifications to the physical environment; the effects of natural resources and physical features on humans; the relationship between changes in the natural environment and its capacity to support human activity; interactions of Earth's physical systems; the influence of physical processes on the formation and location of resources; and the reasons for and effects of changes in the meaning, use, location, distribution, and importance of resources.

Understand how to apply knowledge of people, places, and environments to understand the past and present and to plan for the future.

Includes analyzing historical events in their geographic context; the role of the physical environment in shaping history; evaluating contemporary issues using geographic knowledge, skills, and perspectives; and comparing different viewpoints regarding the use and management of natural resources.

OBJECTIVES
FIELD 006: SOCIAL STUDIES

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Understand the purposes of government and various forms of government.

Includes the purposes of government; types and characteristics of various forms of government (e.g., constitutional republic, totalitarian); ways in which different forms of government execute the purposes of government; and the effects of different forms of government on individuals and society.

Understand the foundations and basic constitutional principles of the United States government.

Includes rights and obligations of U.S. citizens; the historical and philosophical foundations of the U.S. constitutional government; the basic principles in the U.S. Constitution; rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution; necessary conditions for the effective operation of the U.S. government; characteristics of the political culture of the United States and the roles of political parties and special interest groups; and evaluating contemporary issues in terms of democratic and constitutional principles.

Understand the structure and function of government at the local, state, and national levels.

Includes the organization, functions, and responsibilities of local, state, and national governments; the concept of federalism and its evolution in U.S. political thought and practice; the duties and powers of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of government; purposes of dividing the powers of government; ways in which public policy is developed at the local, state, and national levels; ways in which citizens exercise their rights and participate in civic life (e.g., voting, contacting public officials); the role of law in the Colorado and U.S. constitutional systems; characteristics of the U.S. legal system; and basic concepts of law.

Understand the political relationships between the United States and other nations.

Includes ways in which governments and nongovernmental organizations interact with one another (e.g., trade, treaties, humanitarian aid) and the purposes for doing so; characteristics and roles of various regional political, economic, and military alliances (e.g., OPEC, NATO, United Nations); the development of U.S. foreign policy and the constitutional roles of the different branches of government; factors that influence U.S. foreign policy (e.g., national interests); the effects of U.S. domestic and foreign policy on other nations; and the effects of other nations' policies and actions on U.S. politics and society.

OBJECTIVES
FIELD 006: SOCIAL STUDIES

ECONOMICS

Understand fundamental micro- and macroeconomic concepts and how they affect economic decisions.

Includes the types and nature of scarce resources (e.g., natural resources, capital); ways in which individuals, households, businesses, governments, and societies make decisions in response to scarcity; identifying the opportunity costs associated with particular decisions involving the use of scarce resources; the influence of scarcity on personal financial management and consumer decisions; the relationship between economic goals and the allocation of scarce resources; types of economic incentives and how they influence the use of scarce resources; and the short- and long-term costs associated with alternative uses of resources.

Understand various types of economic systems and how they affect the use of resources and the production and distribution of goods and services.

Includes characteristics of traditional, market, command, and mixed economic systems and comparing them in terms of their ability to achieve economic goals; fundamental characteristics of the U.S. economic system (e.g., competition, profit); factors that determine the allocation of resources and how goods and services are produced, exchanged, and distributed in U.S. and world markets; the roles and relationships of government, financial institutions, businesses, and households in the U.S. economic system; and the effects of government actions (e.g., imposing taxes) and policies (e.g., fiscal) on the operation of economies.

Understand exchange and trade among individuals, households, businesses, governments, and societies.

Includes the relationships among specialization, trade, and interdependence; means of payment (e.g., barter, currency, credit); the interdependence of households and businesses; the role of the U.S. government in regulating trade; ways in which monetary and fiscal policies facilitate the exchange of resources; conditions that provide the basis for international trade (e.g., differences in available natural resources) and give nations a comparative advantage in trade; benefits and challenges of international trade; and the effects of various factors (e.g., exchange rates, tariffs, product standards) on world trade and the domestic economy.

OBJECTIVES
FIELD 006: SOCIAL STUDIES

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Understand basic principles and concepts of psychology, sociology, and anthropology.

Includes major theories of human development and learning; theories and concepts of human behavior and motivation; forms of social interaction in the development of personal identity; the influences of norms, persuasion, and conformity on the formation of self-concept; the formation of individual beliefs, values, and attitudes; types, structures, and functions of groups; the implications of social status in various kinds of societies; forms and effects of inequality, stratification, and class in contemporary society; cultural developments of prehistoric people; the influences of ancient civilizations on modern cultures; characteristics of various modes of subsistence (e.g., hunting-gathering, pastoral, agrarian); and the structures and functions of various sociopolitical systems (e.g., bands, tribes, states).

Understand the application of behavioral and social science concepts to contemporary life.

Includes behavioral and social science interpretations of social phenomena; contemporary patterns of human behaviors examined in the context of the behavioral and social sciences; family, kinship, religion, ritual, and the arts as seen from a cross-cultural perspective; and cultural differences among nations.

Understand interrelationships among the various social science disciplines and with other disciplines.

Includes linking social and behavioral science concepts with concepts from other disciplines to understand human societies and cultures; using social and behavioral science methods and methods from other disciplines to collect and analyze social and cultural data; and viewing human societies from the perspectives of many disciplines.

SOCIAL STUDIES INQUIRY AND SKILLS

Understand methods for locating, gathering, organizing, interpreting, and evaluating information from a variety of sources.

Includes characteristics and uses of various sources of social studies information (e.g., newspapers, oral histories, artifacts, surveys); the use of technologies to gather information; characteristics of and differences between primary and secondary sources; factors that affect the reliability of source materials; organizing information into logical and coherent outlines; interpretations of charts, tables, and diagrams; and knowledge needed to understand political cartoons and historical photographs.

OBJECTIVES
FIELD 006: SOCIAL STUDIES

Understand how to formulate questions and hypotheses, analyze and synthesize information, and reach supportable conclusions.

Includes methods for formulating questions or hypotheses; procedures for gathering and analyzing information to investigate questions or hypotheses; recognizing essential and incidental information; identifying patterns and themes; analyzing cause-and-effect relationships; methods for drawing reasonable conclusions based on evidence or results; and using various kinds of information (e.g., historical, geographic) to analyze present-day issues and events.

Understand how to communicate social studies information and to translate information from one format to another.

Includes methods of summarizing the main points and supporting evidence in a passage; interpreting and synthesizing information from a variety of sources; formats for communicating social science information (e.g., maps, graphs, diagrams, outlines); evaluating and selecting appropriate formats for conveying information; and translating information between written and graphic forms.