



TEXAS SOCIAL STUDIES REDESIGN OPTIONS



REPETITIVE

- Huge spans of time **LIMITS TOPICS INCLUDING TEXAS HISTORY!**
- Focus is on events.
- Content repeated with few content additions.
- Difficult content like genocide (mandated by legislature) is taught in earlier years.

GRADE 3

Prehistory to 1500

Ancient civilizations like Greece and Rome connected to how they inspired America and Texas.

GREECE, ROME, MAYAN EMPIRE AND EGYPT:

some voted, others had kings.

SUBJECT REPEATS



GRADE 6

GREECE AND ROME:

Representative government.

MAYAN EMPIRE AND EGYPT:

Kings were god-like with all power.

GRADE 4

1500 – 1800

The beginnings of America and Texas and how the world influenced them.

PILGRIMS:

Came to the New World, settled in Plymouth and signed the Mayflower Compact.

SUBJECT REPEATS



GRADE 7

PILGRIMS:

Settled in Plymouth and signed the Mayflower Compact which inspired many including Texans later.

GRADE 5

1800 – 2000

How America and Texas developed compared to the world.

COLD WAR:

America and Texas were free, and the USSR oppressed its people.

SUBJECT REPEATS



GRADE 8

COLD WAR:

America and Texas were democratic and Russia was communist.



TEXAS SOCIAL STUDIES REDESIGN OPTIONS



COMPREHENSIVE | *Focused Capstone Year of Texas History*

- Focus is on how ideas and events evolve over time.
- Smaller time periods means more content including Texas and culture.
- Difficult content like genocide (mandated by legislature) is taught later.
- An eighth grade year of Texas history provides an opportunity to revisit the most important ideas in context to America and the world.



GRADE 3

Prehistory to 500s

Ancient civilizations did not have freedom like people do today.

GREECE AND ROME:

Democracy and republic reflected in architecture.

MAYAN EMPIRE AND EGYPT:

Ruled by powerful leaders.



GRADE 4

500s – 1500s

Ideas of freedom that inspired America and Texas.

MEDIEVAL EUROPE:

Kings and lords held all the power. The Magna Carta in 1215 began to limit their power and inspired others.



GRADE 5

1500s – 1800s

Early America and Texas and how the world influenced them.

AMERICAN COLONISTS AND TEXANS:

Inspired by the Magna Carta and Enlightenment to be free.



GRADE 6

1800s – 1900s

Freedom grows around the world.

RECONSTRUCTION / BLACK TEXANS:

Elected to legislature. Churches and schools were centers of culture and ideas of equality, spreading Enlightenment ideals worldwide.



GRADE 7

1900 – 2000

How America and Texas developed compared to the world.

BARBARA JORDAN:

Texan in Congress who embodied civil rights and equality in America and Texas, while in the USSR communism left people with no say in government.



GRADE 8

Pre-Exploration to 2000

Texas history shows how freedom and self-government evolved in America and inspired the world.

ZAVALA AND DE TOCQUEVILLE:

Inspired by the Enlightenment, they described Texas and the United States as places with limited government, equality, and democratic ideals, reflected in the state capitol made in the Greco-Roman style.