



**GRADE 4 SOCIAL STUDIES  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**GRADE LEVEL: Grade 4**

**SCHOOL YEAR: 2024-25**

**TEACHER: Mr. James Henselman**

**EMAIL: [jhenselman@dishs.tp.edu.tw](mailto:jhenselman@dishs.tp.edu.tw)**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The Social Studies course for Grade 4 has been designed to help students build geography skills and an understanding of the world they live in. Students will be motivated to find out historical facts and events that have occurred in the United States, Taiwan, and many other countries of our world. This course also empowers students to discover government structure and understand the meaning of being responsible citizens of the world, Taiwan, and the Dominican International School.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- 1) Understand geography of the USA & Taiwan, and how it affects the way we live (weather, climate, regions and people)
- 2) Discover the history of Americans and Taiwanese through government principles; rights and responsibilities and past historical events that have shaped both nations.
- 3) Explain how the economy meets our needs and wants.
- 4) Explore the different regions of America: Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, and the West. Explore the regions of Taiwan.

**ASSESSMENT:**

The quarterly grade will be awarded for all student work based on the following criteria:

- 1) **Class participation, Homework, Quizzes and Tests** (30% of quarterly grade)
- 2) **Major Projects and Assignments** (30% of quarterly grade)
- 3) **Quarterly Exams** (30% of quarterly grade)
- 4) **Department Marks** (10% of quarterly grade)

**PRIMARY TEXTBOOK & OTHER RESOURCES**

- **TEXT:** L.B. Bennet, J. B. Kracht 12/2021  
*Social Studies- United States Regions- My World Interactive 4*  
**ISBN-13: 978-0-328-97311-8 ISBN-10: 0-328-97311-4**
- **LINKS:** 1. Our school website: <http://www.dishs.tp.edu.tw/>  
2. Publisher's website: <https://www.savvasrealize.com/#/>  
3. Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary <http://www.m-w.com/home.htm>

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

### **TEACHING STRATEGIES**

Students should see the interrelatedness of all subject areas in order for them to see the depth and meaning of studying or discussing each of the lessons on each subject area. Therefore, the teacher will always allow students to explore their environment, their community, their society, their country and the world to understand what shapes life in the past, the present, and the future. In order to make students see relationships among events, they will be taught and trained how to gather and lay-out facts and data by outlining and mapping out their ideas and knowledge using different charts like KWL chart, T-chart or cause and effect diagrams.

### **STUDENTS' ACTIVITIES**

#### **❖ All-year Round Activities**

- \* Cooperative Learning
- \* Role Playing/Acting Out
- \* Integrating art to illustrate certain events or landforms
- \* Completing charts
- \* Debate
- \* Reporting
- \* Completing Practice Worksheets

### **STUDENT MATERIALS POSSIBLY REQUIRED:**

- 1) Poster paper
- 2) Scissors
- 3) Art paper, markers, pencil, glue, and coloring pencils
- 4) Writing Notebook

### **CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

- 1) Be on time to class; be seated **before** the bell rings.
- 2) Wear your uniform neatly.
- 3) Use English at all times.
- 4) Come prepared with books, assignments, and supplies, without chewing gum, snacks, food, or drinks.
- 5) A sealable water bottle is allowed.
- 6) Be respectful of others (especially when speaking), and of school property.
- 7) Do your best and participate in discussions.
- 8) Ask permission before leaving the class; take hall pass.
- 9) Wait for the bell to ring before you leave class.
- 10) Class/seat work which are not completed will have to be completed during lunch recess after the student(s) has eaten his/her lunch or at the end of the day.

### **HOMEWORK RULES**

- 1) All homework should be handed in on the due date.
- 2) All homework should be done according to the directions/instructions given.
- 3) If homework is handed in late, points shall be deducted every day until assignment is turned in.

### **DISCIPLINE:**










- 1) Verbal warning, second reminder (if needed).
- 2) Write-Up and then referral to the Discipline Office.

**Academic Dishonesty** means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, the following:

1. Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work; and
1. Representing another's intellectual work such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, or research or the like as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
2. Employing a tutor, making use of Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgement, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's own work.
3. Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.









**Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment**

## **1st QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT**

<i>(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)</i>	
Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
<b>Week 1</b> <b>Aug 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4 Days of Class</b> 12~ First Day / Orientation Day	Routines/Procedures. <b>Ch. 1: Geography of the United States</b>  <b>Lesson 1-</b> Lands and Regions of the U.S.
<b>Week 2</b> <b>Aug 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Ch. 1: Geography of the United States</b> <b>Lesson 1-</b> Lands and Regions of the U.S. 
<b>Week 3</b> <b>Aug 26<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 1-</b> Lands and Regions of Taiwan <b>Lesson 2-</b> Weather and Climate of Taiwan 
<b>Week 4</b> <b>Sep 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 2-</b> Weather and Climate of the U.S. 
<b>Week 5</b> <b>Sep 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 3-</b> Regions and Resources of the U.S. 
<b>Week 6</b> <b>Sep 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup></b> <b>1 Day of Class</b> 17~Moon Festival 18-20~ Teacher's Conference	<b>Lesson 3-</b> Resources of Taiwan  <b>Lesson 4-</b> People and the Land of Taiwan 
<b>Week 7</b> <b>Sep 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup></b> 24-26~Pre-Exam Days	<b>Lesson 4-</b> People and the Land of the U.S. 
<b>Week 8</b> <b>Sep 30<sup>th</sup> to Oct 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 4-</b> People and the Land of the U.S. 
<b>Week 9</b> <b>Oct 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup></b> <b>1 Day of Class</b> 8-9 ~Q1 Exams 10~Double Ten 11~Record Day	<b>Ch. 1 Review and Assessment</b> Exam and/or Project Preparations Tuesday & Wednesday – First Quarter Exams (Half-days)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

*(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)*

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
<b>Week 1 (10)</b> <b>Oct 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup></b> <i>14~ Second Quarter Begins</i>	<b><u>Ch. 2: Americans and their History</u></b> <b>Lesson 1-</b> America and Europe 
<b>Week 2 (11)</b> <b>Oct 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup></b> <i>25 – Book Fair</i> <i>25- Masquerade Night</i>	<b>Lesson 2-</b> A New Nation (U.S.) 
<b>Week 3 (12)</b> <b>Oct 28<sup>th</sup> to Nov 1<sup>st</sup></b> <i>1-All Saint's Day Mass</i>	<b>Lesson 1-</b> Ancient Taiwan through the 1800s <b>Lesson 2-</b> Taiwan: 1895-1945 Japanese Occupation 
<b>Week 4 (13)</b> <b>Nov 4<sup>th</sup> to Nov 8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 3-</b> Growth and Civil War (U.S.) 
<b>Week 5 (14)</b> <b>Nov 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 3-</b> Positive Results of the Japanese Occupation of Taiwan 
<b>Week 6 (15)</b> <b>Nov 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 4-</b> The US Becomes a World Power 
<b>Week 7 (16)</b> <b>Nov 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup></b> <i>26-28~Pre-Exam Day</i>	<b>Lesson 4-</b> More Positive Developments of the Japanese Occupation <b>Lesson 5-</b> The Taiwan Economic Miracle: One of Four Asian Tigers 
<b>Week 8 (17)</b> <b>Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> to Dec 6<sup>th</sup></b> <b><u>6~Half Day</u></b> <i>Foundation Day Celebrations</i>	<b>Lesson 5-</b> The US Since World War II 
<b>Week 9 (18)</b> <b>Dec 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup></b> <b><u>3 Days of Class</u></b> <i>12-13 ~Q2 Exams</i>	<b>Ch. 2 Review and Assessment</b> Exam and/or Project Preparations Thursday & Friday – Second Quarter Exams (Half-days)
<b>Dec 16<sup>th</sup> to Jan 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>Christmas Break</b>









## 3rd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
<b>Week 1 (19)</b> <b>Jan 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4 Days of Class</b> 6~Record Day 7~Third Quarter Begins	<b>Ch. 3: Government in the United States</b>  <b>Lesson 1-</b> Principles of Our Government (U.S.) <b>Q3 Project Information Explanation</b>
<b>Week 2 (20)</b> <b>Jan 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Ch. 3: Government in the United States</b>  <b>Lesson 1-</b> Principles of Our Government (U.S.)
<b>Week 3 (21)</b> <b>Jan 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 2-</b> How Our Government Works (U.S.) 
<b>Jan 27<sup>th</sup> to Jan 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Chinese New Year</b>
<b>Week 4 (22)</b> <b>Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Q3 Project Presentations</b>
<b>Week 5 (23)</b> <b>Feb 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Q3 Project Presentations (If necessary)</b> <b>Lesson 3-</b> Our Rights and Responsibilities (U.S.) 
<b>Week 6 (24)</b> <b>Feb 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 3-</b> Our Rights and Responsibilities (U.S.) 
<b>Week 7 (25)</b> <b>Feb 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup></b> 24-27~IOWA Assessments 28 ~ Memorial Day Holiday	<b>Lesson 1-</b> Principles of Taiwan's Government <b>Lesson 2-</b> How Taiwan's Government Works <b>Lesson 3-</b> Taiwanese Citizens' Rights and Responsibilities  <b>Comprehensive Review of Chapter 3:</b> Government in the United States Lessons 1-3 <i>Possible IOWA Assessments</i>
<b>Week 8 (26)</b> <b>March 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup></b> 5~ Ash Wednesday	<b>Ch. 3 Review and Assessment</b> Q3, Ch 3 Social Studies Exam
<b>Week 9 (27)</b> <b>March 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4 Days of Class</b> 14-17 – Q3 Exams	Exam Preparations Friday & Monday Third Quarter Exams (Half-days)

## 4th QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
<b>Week 1 (28)</b> <b>March 17<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup></b> <b>4 Days of Class</b> 17 – Q3 Exams 18~ Fourth Quarter Begins	<b>Ch. 4: The Nation's Economy</b> <b>Lesson 1-</b> What is the Economy? (U.S.) 
<b>Week 2 (29)</b> <b>March 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 1-</b> What is Taiwan's Economy? 
<b>Week 3 (30)</b> <b>March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 4<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4 Days of Class</b> 4~Tomb Sweeping Day	<b>Lesson 2-</b> Trade and Markets (U.S.) 
<b>Week 4 (31)</b> <b>Apr 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 2-</b> Taiwan's Trade and Markets 
<b>April 14<sup>th</sup> to April 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Easter Break</b>
<b>Week 5 (32)</b> <b>Apr 21<sup>st</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup></b> 26~Spring Fair	<b>Lesson 3-</b> People and the Economy (U.S.) 
<b>Week 6 (33)</b> <b>Apr 28<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup></b> 4/29-5/1~ Pre-Exam Days	<b>Lesson 3-</b> Taiwan's People and their Economy  <b>Lesson 4-</b> Taiwan's Position in the Global Economy 
<b>Week 7 (34)</b> <b>May 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Lesson 4-</b> A Global Economy (U.S.) 
<b>Week 8 (35)</b> <b>May 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4 Days of Class</b> 14-15~ Q4 Exam 16~ Record Day	<b>Ch. 4 Review and Assessment</b> Exam and/or Project Preparations Wednesday & Thursday Exams (Half-day)
<b>Week 9 (36)</b> <b>May 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup></b> <b>ACTIVITIES:</b> Double check the school calendar and emails from the administration.	<b>Ancillary Learning Activities</b> <b>Various School Events/Activities/Graduations</b>
<b>Week 10 (37)</b> <b>May 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup></b> <b>4 Days of Class</b> 26~House Culminating Activity 27~Gr. 9-11 Recognition and Gr. 12 Graduation 28 Class Party 29- ~ Students Last Day	<b>Ancillary Learning Activities</b> <b>Various School Events/Activities/Graduations</b>