



Dominican International School
台北市私立道明外僑學校
No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.
10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-2026
Subject	GRADE 5 SOCIAL STUDIES
Grade Level	5
Teacher	Mr. Stephen Black
Email	sblack@dishs.tp.edu.tw

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Social Studies course is designed to create reflective and knowledgeable global citizens who have developed the following: research skills, social skills, communication skills, decision making skills, and citizenship skills. The overarching aim is to combine knowledge and skills as one and to identify situations where these are required to thrive. The students should be able to identify responses to the following questions; *“How can I cherish my society, how to explore and to encounter, how to find new environments and how to make a living in them, how to become independent, how to govern ourselves, how to handle conflict and resolution, how to analyze and respect both our own viewpoints and the points-of-view others hold, how to cope with change and how to handle responsibility and freedom.”* The content focus is on various key events and times in the history of the United States of America between 1860 and the 1960s, but where possible the events, concepts, and ideas discussed will be linked to the modern day wider world in general, and Taiwan where possible. Lesson and page numbers correspond to the equivalent lessons and pages in the student textbook. However, please note that the textbook is merely one resource used to meet the course objectives; many supplementary resources are also used in order to provide students with the chance to delve more deeply into issues, and to think critically about a variety of social and historical issues.



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COURSE OBJECTIVES: By the end of the semester/school year, (SWAT) Students will be able to:

By the end of the school year, students should be able to;

- work as part of a team, carrying out the role assigned to and agreed by them.
- summarize key events, concepts, or ideas in historical texts
- link compromising with others in their own lives to the historical events learned about in the course
- appreciate that there are various reasons why some causes are worth fighting for, and relate this to their own lives and current world events
- acknowledge that issues like freedom mean different things to different people.
- understand the hardships and sacrifices faced by people during war.
- analyze historical uses of propaganda and 'fake news,' linking it to current world events.
- discover how new inventions can radically change peoples' lives both positively and negatively, and relate this to the impact of new inventions on their own lives.
- appreciate the element of risk involved in creating or running a business, as well as the effects business can have on our lives.
- conduct research and deliver a presentation to their peers to be constructively assessed by them.
- appreciate how great hardship can affect how people act and behave
- identify ways in which the U.S.A. gradually became a global power
- consider the responsibilities of power on the international stage

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES:

Bennett, Linda. B & Kracht, James. B (2019). Social Studies - My World Interactive: Social Studies The Growth of Our Country. Boston: Savvas Learning

- Q1 Chapter 10 Lesson 4; Chapter 11; Chapter 12 Lessons 2 & 3
Q2 Chapter 13 Lesson 1: Good Times and Hardships - World War One
Q3 Chapter 13: Lessons 2 & 3: The Roaring Twenties, The Great Depression, and The New Deal
Q4 Chapter 15: Lessons 1 & 2 - A Divided World, and The Superpowers Compete



GRADING SYSTEM/ASSESSMENT:

Students will be assessed both formatively and summatively throughout the duration of the course. They will be assessed by the teacher and their peers on individual, pair, and group tasks. Guided by the teacher and rubrics, they are also expected to self-assess to highlight their own strengths and their areas of development. They will be assessed on their knowledge and understanding of American history, and how this links to their own lives in a broader context. Ways in which this will be done will include but are not limited to; reading comprehension tasks, conducting debates about a special issue, illustrating and summarizing main ideas, individual and group research projects, role-play, online simulations, written quizzes, online Google Forms, recording and uploading of oral summaries of taught content or concepts, and so on. All assessments both formal and informal will be linked to the Common Core Standards, the goal of which is to provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn. Other formative assessment techniques, for example "Fist to Five," will be used to ensure students develop their ability to reflect on their own learning. Students' final grade for each quarter is calculated as follows;

- End of Quarter Exam or Final Project = 30%
- Homework, Seatwork, smaller Projects = 30%
- Quizzes = 30%
- Deportment = 10%

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Google Classroom must be checked regularly. All assignment details, and instructions are posted weekly. Students are responsible for checking Google Classroom.

G5 Social Studies Class code: yev5xb2b

Please note that **all** set assignments are expected to be completed on time (unless an extension has been agreed in advance with the teacher) to the best of one's ability.



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Students who cannot meet these expected standards, or do not routinely bring the required materials to class, may struggle to pass the course. Completing work on time allows students to reflect on and take pride in their own work when given positive feedback, as well as to use the guidance given by the teacher to work on their own areas for development. Students who have not turned the work in on time will not be able to benefit from such advice. As students always have *at least* 4 days to complete basic homework or class work tasks, and at least two weeks to prepare and work on bigger projects, failure to turn work in on time without reasonable reason means the assessment grade will be capped at a maximum of 70%.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

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:

- Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's work;
- Representing another's intellectual work, such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, research, or the like, as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
- Employing a tutor, using Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgment, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, and paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's work.
- 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/learning task.



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First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (August 12 to 15) 12-General Assembly at the Gym 15-Opening Mass	Getting to Know You and Course Expectations Activities – only two periods of Social Studies scheduled for week 1 of the school year.
Week 2 (August 18 to 22) 18-St. Dominic Feast Day Celebration Integrated during Assembly 20- House Shirt & Blue Jeans Day 22- Club Orientation and Club Sign-up	Sources and Plagiarism Primary and Secondary Sources Avoiding Plagiarism, and Identifying Fake News <u>Chapter 10: Expanding West and Overseas</u> Lesson 4: Expanding Overseas The Spanish-American War p494
Week 3 (August 25 to 29) 29- First Club Meeting	Building the Panama Canal p495 Alaska & Hawaii p496-497 <u>Chapter 11: Industry and Immigration</u> Lesson 1: Inventors and Inventions New Ways to Communicate & Travel p510-511 & p514-516
Week 4 (September 1 to 5) 1- World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During Monday Assembly) 5- House Ceremony	(Un)Famous Inventors Research Project <u>Chapter 11: Industry and Immigration</u> Lesson 3: Immigration New Immigrants p528-529
Week 5 (September 8 to 12) 8- Holy Mass: & VIP Induction 10- House Mini Games Start	<u>Chapter 11: Industry and Immigration</u> Reasons for Immigration p530 Gaining Entrance & A Rough Start p531
Week 6 (September 15 to 19) 15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After Assembly) 19- Athletics / Sports Orientation	<u>Chapter 11: Industry and Immigration</u> Immigrants Make Contributions and That's Entertainment p532 & 538 Reaction Against Immigrants p534
Week 7 (September 22 to 26) 22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace-Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly) Teacher's Day Celebration & 26-Teachers' Appreciation 24 to 26-Pre-Exam Days	<u>Chapter 12: Struggle for Reform</u> Lesson 2: Unequal Opportunities for African Americans Jim Crow Laws and Segregation Limits Opportunities p560-561 African American Leaders (p563) & New Institutions (p564-565)
Week 8 (Sept 29 to Oct 3) 29- Launching of the Month of the Holy Rosary (During Assembly) Oct. 1-2- First Quarter Exam (half day)	Whole Quarter Review & QUARTER EXAM



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*Oct. 3-DIS Teachers and Staff Recognition Day/ Record Day
Recollection for Aunties and Uncles (no classes for students)*

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>6-Moon Festival (no classes)</i>	
<i>7-9 Teacher's Conference (no classes)</i>	
Week 1 (11) (October 13 to 17) 13- Second Quarter Begins 14- Mother Mary visit to Classrooms (During the morning prayer)	Chapter 13: Good Times and Hardships Lesson 1: World War One Conflict in Europe & The War Begins in Europe p588-589 The M.A.I.N. Causes of WWI p588-589
Week 2 (12) (October 20 to 24) 20- Jubilee: Marian Exhibit Opening (After the Monday Assembly) 20- Campus Safety Talk for Students 24- Book Fair (Senior Escape Room)	Allied Power, Central Power, or neutral? The United States Enters the War p590
Week 3 (13) (October 27 to 31) Oct. 31 to Nov. 1- Gr.6 SEL Camp	The Zimmermann Telegram The <i>Lusitania</i> - The Blame Game
Week 4 (14) (November 3 to 7) 3- Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass (integrated during Assembly) 5- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep	Trench Warfare p591 New War Technologies p592
Week 5 (15) (November 10 to 14) 14- Health Week 14- VIP-Parent Learning Community	Key Battles of WWI – Research and Presentation Preparation
Week 6 (16) (November 17 to 21) 17- Launching of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Month 21- Young Shakespeare Play Writing and Performing Contest	How Animals Contributed During WWI On the Home Front
Week 7 (17) (November 24 to 28) 24- Peace Pole Day (Assembly) 24- Lighting of the Christmas Tree after school 25-27- Pre-Exam Days 27- Thanksgiving Potluck after school for teachers & staff 27- Thanksgiving Family Day	The Versailles Treaty Costs of War p593-594
<i>Nov. 29 Invitation for All: The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Taipei (Saturday)</i>	
Week 8 (18) (December 1 to 5)	Key Battles of WWI Presentations Quarter Review



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1- First Week of Advent: Lighting of Advent Candle (During Assembly) 5- Nativity Play & Christmas Fair Whole Day	
Week 9 (19) (December 8 to 12) 8- Foundation Day Mass and Class Party (half day) 8- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 8- Second Week of Advent 11 & 12 - Second Quarter Exam (half day)	QUARTER EXAM and Christmas Activities
<i>December 13 Invitation for All: Advent Recollection @DIS (Saturday)</i>	
<i>December 15 to January 2 Christmas Break</i>	



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Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
<i>January 5- Record Day (No Classes for students)</i>	
Week 1 (20) (January 5 to 9) 6- Third Quarter Begins 9- New Year Mass at 8:00	<u>Chapter 13: Good Times and Hardships</u> Lesson 2: The Roaring Twenties New Products and Improvements for Women p598-599
Week 2 (21) (January 12 to 16) 16- Club Orientation & Sign Up	Life on the Assembly Line p599 The Culture of the Roaring Twenties p600-601
Week 3 (22) (January 19 to 23) 19-23- Individual Yearbook Photoshoot for Students 19-23- Career Awareness Week 23- First Club for 2nd Semester	The Culture of the Roaring Twenties p600
Week 4 (23) (January 26 to 30) 26- Feast Day of St. Thomas Aquinas/Launching of Catholic Week 26-28- Aquinas Conference: Science/Faith 26-30- Catholic Week Activities	Historical Figure Biography – Research and Written Report
Week 5 (24) (February 2 to 6) 1-4- WASC Mid-Cycle Visit	<u>Chapter 13: Good Times and Hardships</u> Lesson 3: The Great Depression Supply and Demand p607 Trouble for Farmers p607
Week 6 (25) (February 9 to 13) 9- Start of New Applicant Enrollment for 1st Semester for SY2025-26 13- House Valentine's Mini Fair 13- Chinese New Year Celebration	The Stock Market Crash p608 Buying on Credit p608 The Great Depression Begins p609
<i>February 16-20 Chinese New Year Holiday</i>	
Week 7 (26) (February 23 to 26) 23-26- Iowa Assessments 24-26- Pre-Exam Days	IOWA ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE 5
<i>February 27 Memorial Day Holiday (no classes)</i>	
Week 8 (27) (March 2 to 6) 3- Monthly Career Talk - College Prep 6- PSAT 8/9 System Installation and Practice Test	The Depression Deepens p610 Surviving the Depression and the Dust Bowl p611-613



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Week 9 (28) (March 9 to 13) 13 and 16 - Quarter 3 Exam (half day)	Quarter Review & <u>QUARTER EXAM</u>
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Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week/Date	Topic/Projects/Assessments
Week 1 (29) (March 16 to 20) 16- Third Quarter Exam (half day) 16-20- Faculty Yearbook Photo 17- Fourth Quarter Begins 19- Lectio Divina & Feast of St. Joseph 20- Parents Learning Community Meeting 20- Kindilympics 20-House Movie Night and Club Fair	<u>Chapter 15: The Cold War</u> Lesson 1: A Divided World The Postwar World p690 The Marshall Plan p691-692
<i>March 21 (Saturday) Spring Fair</i>	
Week 2 (30) (March 23 to 27) 23-27 Student Leaders Applicant Interviews 27- Lower School Readers Theatre	The United Nations p693 – Research and Presentation Preparation Communism and Capitalism p694
<i>March 30 to April 6 Easter/Spring Break</i>	
Week 3 (31) (April 7 to 10) 7- Spring University Fair 9- Easter Mass 9- Easter Egg Hunt for LS Students	A Divided Europe - The Iron Curtain p694 The Berlin Airlift p695-696
Week 4 (32) (April 13 to 17) 13 Laudato Si Month Launching (During the Monday Assembly) 13-30 Laudato Si Month Activities 13-17- Class Photo Taking	<u>Chapter 15: The Cold War</u> Lesson 2: The Superpowers Compete The Red Scare and McCarthyism p701 The Arms Race & The Cuban Missile Crisis p702-703
Week 5 (33) (April 20 to 24) 20-24 Cultural Awareness Week / Art Exhibit / Earth Week 24- Music Recital 20-24 Student Council Campaign	The United Nations Presentations Choices Board Independent Research
Week 6 (34) (April 27 to 30) 27- Student Council Elections 28-30 Pre-Exam Days	The Space Race p704 Americans Reach the Moon p705
<i>May 1: Labor Day Public Holiday</i>	
Week 7 (35) (May 4 to 8) 4- May Crowning & Mother's Day Celebration (During Assembly) 4-14 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12)	Quarter Review & <u>QUARTER EXAM</u>
Week 8 (36)	Early exams for G5 as a promoting class. Students will use this week



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(May 11 to 15) 13 & 14- Fourth Quarter Exam (half day)	to prepare for their Promotion Ceremony.
May 15 Record Day (No Classes for students) Final Deliberation for Graduating/Promoting Classes	
Week 9 (37) (May 18 to 22) 18- Gr. 5 Recollection & Mass 19- Gr. 8 Recollection & Mass 20- Gr. 12 Recollection 20- Baccalaureate Mass (Whole School) 18-21 WIDA Testing 19- Lower School Sports Day 19- Gr. 9 - 11 - "Senior Success Forum: Inspiring the Next Generation" 19-22 Student Clearance Days 21- Middle & High School Sports Day 22- House Culminating Activity 20-22 Final Deliberation for Non-Graduating Classes 22- Student Leaders One Day Recollection / Turn Over Ceremony	Early exams for G5 as a promoting class. Students will use this week to prepare for their Promotion Ceremony.
Week 10 (38) (May 25 to 29) 25- Kindy Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion 26- LS Field Trip 26- Gr. 8 and Gr. 12 Graduation 27- Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition Last Day of School, Report Card Distribution, & Class Party (half day) 29- Last day for Teachers/Staff Meeting	Grade 5 Promotion Monday, May 25

"Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán"