

New BC Social Studies 8 Curriculum at a glance

UNDERSTAND

Big Ideas – course themes and/or organizers:

SOCIAL CHANGE occurs in many contexts:

Culture, Environment, Exploration, Conflict, Colonization, Worldviews

DO

Competencies – Skills that students should be able to demonstrate

1. Conduct effective inquiry and research
2. When faced with different kinds of evidence about historical or current events, be able to determine the following:
 - What is significant; what has serious consequences?
 - How can credibility and usefulness be established?
 - What does the evidence say about the time period; where are the turning points?
 - What's the social context (influence of society)?
 - Is there and a right or a wrong here and so what?

KNOW

Content – Students should learn about these areas using a variety of examples drawn mainly from the time period of the 600s - 1750 CE:

Content Focus	Examples
Social, political, and economic systems	Feudal Europe and Japan, Chinese Dynasties, First Nations of the Pacific Northwest, Iroquois League, Magna Carta
Changes in science and technology	Islamic Golden Age, global/comparative cartography and navigation, agriculture, castle defense, Age of Reason
Changes in culture and philosophy	Reformation, Enlightenment, impact of printing press
Cultural exchange	Silk Road, Crusades, Columbian Exchange, Renaissance, Puritan Migration to New England, The Canadian Fur Trade
Exploration/colonization	Contact period in North America, expansion of European Empires, Settlement of New France
Changes in human society and the environment	Black death, Rise of the city, Acadian reclamation of marshlands, smallpox in the Americas, global/comparative worldviews on nature & resources