

Cornwall-Lebanon School District Curriculum Overview

Social Studies – 8th Grade

length of time in weeks	Concepts & Competencies	Common Assessments	PA Core Standards
Unit 1 3	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Citizenship</u></p> <p>As an introduction to the course, students will be able to explain the purpose of government, compare different types of government, and distinguish between rights and responsibilities of citizens.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unit 1 Assessment: Citizenship 	CC.8.5.8.C CC.8.6.8.E
Unit 2 6	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Colonial America</u></p> <p>Students will compare the colonization practices of the Spanish, French, and the British. Relations with the American Indians will be emphasized.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unit 2 Assessment: Colonial America 	CC.8.5.8.A CC.8.5.8.I CC.8.6.8.C
Unit 3 5	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Independence</u></p> <p>This unit covers the events leading up to the creation of the United States. Topics include the French and Indian War, British trade policy and taxation, and the Revolutionary War.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unit 3 Assessment: Independence 	CC.8.5.8.A CC.8.5.8.E CC.8.5.8.F CC.8.5.8.I
Unit 4 2	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Convention</u></p> <p>Students will assess the failure of the Articles of Confederation, discuss the politics of the Constitutional Convention, analyze James Madison's political role in the convention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unit 4 Assessment: Convention 	CC.8.5.8.A CC.8.5.8.B. CC.8.5.8.D.
Unit 5 2	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Constitution</u></p> <p>Students will review the structure of the Constitution, explain the ratification and amendment processes, and major principles of the document. They will examine the principles of popular sovereignty, separation of powers, and checks and balances.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Semester 1 Assessment 	CC.8.5.8.A CC.8.5.8.B. CC.8.5.8.D. CC.8.5.8.I.
Unit 6 3	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Bill of Rights</u></p> <p>Students will analyze the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, define and clarify the meaning of the Bill of Rights in terms of contextual intent and modern practice, and interpret the amendments through the analysis of court cases and historical elements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unit 6 Assessment: Bill of Rights 	CC.8.5.8.A. CC.8.5.8.D. CC.8.5.8.F. CC.8.5.8.H.
Unit 7 3	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Political Parties</u></p> <p>Students will compare and contrast conservatism and liberalism, as well as major parties operating in the U.S. They will also identify how public opinion influences the party structure and lobbyists.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Unit 7 Assessment: Political Parties 	CC.8.5.8.F. CC.8.5.8.G. CC.8.5.8.H. CC.8.6.8.A.

Unit 8 <div style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; width: 20px; height: 20px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 5px auto;">2</div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Elections</u></p> <p>Students will be able to critique the election process in combination with what they learned from Unit 7. Main concepts include primary and general elections, campaigning, the Electoral College system, and voting rights.</p>	<p>➤ Unit 8 Assessment: Elections</p>	<p>CC.8.5.8.C. CC.8.5.8.D. CC.8.5.8.G.</p>
Unit 9 <div style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; width: 20px; height: 20px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 5px auto;">6</div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Branches</u></p> <p>Students will be able to identify the primary functions of each branch of government with special attention on the law making process as well as checks and balances.</p>	<p>➤ Semester 2 Assessment</p>	<p>CC.8.5.8.A CC.8.5.8.B. CC.8.5.8.C. CC.8.5.8.D.</p>
Writing Unit <div style="border: 1px solid red; border-radius: 50%; width: 20px; height: 20px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin: 5px auto;">2</div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Written Response</u></p> <p>Students will create an argumentative essay to show mastery of the writing process as well as revising and reviewing other students' work.</p>	<p>➤ Writing Assessment: Essay</p>	<p>CC.8.5.8.D CC.8.5.8.J CC.8.6.8.F. CC.8.6.8.G. CC.8.6.8.H. CC.8.6.8.I.</p>