

Social Studies Professional Development

Campus/District Offerings Sessions for Elementary or Secondary Levels 2010 - 2011

Assessment and Questioning Strategies in Social Studies *NEW*

How do we know what students know and what they don't know? Authentic models and questioning strategies for developing formative and summative assessment will improve the level and quality of thinking and learning in the social studies classroom. Teachers will look at the complex progression of formulating authentic questions in response to the learner, recognizing the "teachable moment" and when to teach one-on-one, small group, or with a whole class mini-lesson. This workshop will address inclusion of Special Education and English Language Learners.

Building Academic Vocabulary in Social Studies

Vocabulary is an instructional tool. Research describes a strong connection between vocabulary knowledge and the ability to comprehend what is read. Teachers will experience engaging strategies for strengthening content vocabulary, helping to encourage comprehension of difficult text, including primary documents and historical evidence. Learn to use the Region 10 ESC Academic Vocabulary Tool.

Differentiating in the Social Studies Classroom *NEW*

Are you interested in refining your differentiated instruction practices? Join us to discuss the latest teaching techniques on differentiation and on addressing the learning needs of students in your classroom. Strategies and tips will be the focus so participants can build and implement effective lessons throughout the year.

Inquiry Based Social Studies Instruction (available in 5E model)

"Tell me and I forget, show me and I remember, involve me and I understand." Join us to learn the latest strategies aimed at turning your teacher centered classroom into one of discovery. Practice taking existing lessons and creating inquiry-based explorations of social studies content that require the use of critical thinking and problem solving.

Learn It, Write It, Retrieve It! Interactive Note Taking in Social Studies *NEW*

Research encourages effective note taking as a skill critical to learning. Teachers will learn ways to implement note taking strategies to help students process, organize and retain social studies information. Teachers will create a notebook and will experience main idea and summarizing as it is used in DBQ writing. Please bring a spiral notebook along with you.

Social Studies: Preparing for EOC (Available mid-year) *NEW*

Region 10 content area specialists will update participants on the latest information regarding the End of Course Exam in social studies. Blueprints, modification guidelines, sample items, and FAQs will be reviewed and discussed. Instructional activities will focus on EOC success as well as taking a look at the revised student expectations in the latest version of the revised social studies TEKS.

Social Studies: Teaching the Revised Social Studies TEKS *NEW*

Region 10 content area specialists will update participants on the latest information regarding the revised social studies TEKS. Analyzing the modifications, the student expectations and the level of learning, teachers will review and discuss the revised student expectations in the latest version of the social studies TEKS and learn instructional activities focused on learning success.

TAKS Blast! Getting Ready for the Test (Grade 8) *NEW*

Strategies for helping students succeed with high stakes assessment by truly understanding and comprehending what needs to be learned as required by the Social Studies TEKS. Teachers will be involved in active learning and higher levels of thinking to create exciting classroom instruction.

Teaching Social Studies in the 21st Century

Does your classroom need updating for the 21st century? Discover the 21st century skills that connect to the social studies strands and help to prepare students for understanding and addressing global issues. Learn to use technology to reach students and find new ways of expression.

Think, Read, Think, Write: Reading and Writing in Social Studies

Reading develops thinking. Writing clarifies thinking. TEKS-based and relevant, the content of this session will be focused on improving student initiative and the ability to read, write, and think using social studies literature and concepts. Participants will practice using formative assessments to guide teaching and learning in the social studies classroom.