



*Paul J. Geltnas JHS
Social Studies Department*



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The Social Studies program is based on the NYS Standards, which require students to use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in six areas:

- United States History
- New York History
- World History
- Geography
- Economics
- Citizenship and Government

Students entering junior high school continue their Social Studies education with a two-year program in grades seven and eight that focuses on American social history, with an emphasis in grade seven on the history of New York. A NYS assessment of student proficiency is administered at the end of grade eight.

New York State requires that students continue history in grades nine and ten with a general study of global history and geography. At the end of grade ten, students must pass the NYS Regents Exam covering the content of both years of study. Students who meet the academic criteria may choose to fulfill this requirement through a two-year program of Advanced Placement World History.



The P.J. Geltnas Social



Studies Department



Name	E-mail	Courses
Ms. Baron (Ms. Kim Simpson, leave replacement)	ksimpson@3villagecsd.org	8 th grade (Regents and Honors)
Ms. Chase	cchase@3villagecsd.org	9 th grade (Regents and AP World)
Mr. Hartmann	whartman@3villagecsd.org	8 th grade (Regents); 9 th grade (Regents)
Mr. Laird	laird@3villagecsd.org	7 th grade (Regents); 8 th grade (Honors)
Ms. Nagle	tnagle@3villagecsd.org	7 th grade (Regents and Honors)
Mr. Pelosi	apelosi@3villagecsd.org	7 th grade (Regents and Honors)
Mr. Romero	rromero@3villagecsd.org	9 th grade (Regents)
Mr. Worthington	tworthin@3villagecsd.org	9 th grade (Regents and AP World)

NYS Social Studies Assessment: Grade 8

The Grade 8 Intermediate Social Studies Test has been developed to reflect the content and intellectual skills described in the five social studies standards. The New York State Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test is designed to measure student achievement of the content, concepts, and skills included in a chronologically organized study of United States and New York State history. This assessment will provide students with multiple opportunities to demonstrate what they know and are able to do.

The test comprises two test booklets and is to be administered in two separate 1½-hour sessions on the two consecutive school days. The Grade 8 Intermediate Social Studies Test is like the Grade 5 Elementary Social Studies Test in that it includes multiple-choice questions, constructed response questions, and a document-based question. Booklet 1 contains a total of 45 multiple-choice questions and several short-answer, constructed-response questions. Booklet 2 contains a document-based question. The format for the document-based question and rubric is the same as the Regents examinations.

Components and Weighting of the Grade 8 Intermediate Social Studies Test

ITEM TYPE	NUMBER OF ITEMS	PERCENTAGE OF THE TEST
Multiple-choice	45	50%
Constructed response	3-4	20%
Document-based question	1	30% (10% scaffolding questions and 20% - essay)

Each student's score on the Grade 8 Intermediate-Level Social Studies Test will fall into one of four levels of performance:

Performance Level	Range of Final Scores	Definitions
4 Meeting the Standards with Distinction	85–100	Shows evidence of superior understanding of the content and concepts and of the skills required for intermediate-level achievement in each of the learning standards and key ideas assessed in social studies. Shows evidence of superior ability to apply the social studies content, concepts, and skills required for entering secondary academic environments.
3 Meeting the Standards	65–84	Shows knowledge and understanding of the content and concepts and of the skills required for intermediate-level achievement of the five learning standards that are assessed in social studies. Shows the ability to apply the social studies content, concepts, and skills required for entering secondary academic environments.
2 Not Fully Meeting the Standards	44–64	Shows only minimal knowledge and understanding of the content and concepts and of the skills required for intermediate-level achievement of the five learning standards that are assessed in social studies. Shows only minimal knowledge of the social studies content, concepts, and skills required for entering secondary academic environments.
1 Not Meeting the Standards	0–43	Does not show proficiency in understanding the content and concepts or proficiency in the skills required for intermediate-level achievement in any or most of the learning standards and key ideas assessed in social studies. Does not show evidence of an ability to apply the social studies content, concepts, and skills required for entering secondary academic environments.



The NYS Regents in Global History and Geography

The Global Regents is administered at the end of tenth grade, and tests students on the 9th grade (pre-history to 1750) and 10th grade (1750-present) course contents. It is recommended that students save their notebooks and handouts from their 9th grade Social Studies class to use the following year when preparing to take the Regents exam.

Test Description

The Regents examination in Global History and Geography assesses student achievement of the social studies learning standards at the commencement level. Students are allowed a maximum of three hours to complete the examination.

The examination has three parts. Students answer all questions in all parts; no choice is permitted.

- Part I consists of 50 multiple-choice questions, for which the student is to select the correct answer from among the four choices given.
- Part II contains one thematic essay.
- Part III A contains several scaffold (open-ended) questions based on specific documents.
- Part III B contains one document-based (DBQ) essay.

Social Studies Department Information and Activities

P.J. Gelinas JHS Social Studies Extra Help Schedule

Name	Time	Location
Allison Baron	Wed & Fri pd. 7	Room 206
Christine Chase	Mon, Wed, Friday –pd 7 (9 th -grade lunch)	Room 101
Bill Hartmann	M-F period 6 (8 th -grade lunch)	Room 212
Lou Laird	Tues 5 th pd (7 th grade) Thursday 6 th pd (8 th grade)	Room 204
Tina Nagle	Tues and Thurs pd 5 (7 th -grade lunch)	Room 202
Andrew Pelosi	Tues and Thurs period 5 & Wed. after school	Room 201
Tom Worthington	Period 7 (a and b days)	Room 210
Richard Romero	Tues and Thurs 7 th period	Room 210

All Social Studies Teachers are available by appointment.

There will be review sessions for the 8th-grade assessment in the late Spring either before and/or after school. Check back for further details.

Useful Links

New York State Education Department

New York State Assessments

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/elintsocst.html>

Sample 8th-grade assessment Part 1

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/pub/g8sspt1test.pdf>

Sample assessment Pt. 2

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/pub/g8sspt2test.pdf>

New York State Social Studies Initiative

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/ssinitiative.html>

Overview of NYS Social Studies K-12

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/pub/ssoverview.pdf>

NYS 7th and 8th grade curriculum outline

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/pub/sscore1.pdf>

NYS Global Studies Curriculum

<http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/ciai/socst/pub/sscore2.pdf>

Social Studies Websites for Children

<http://www.funsocialstudies.learninghaven.com/>

<http://www.geocities.com/enchantedforest/tower/1217/third5.html>

<http://www.indiana.edu/~socialst/>

Professional Organizations for Social Studies Educators (with links and articles)

<http://www.socialstudies.org/>

<http://www.nyscss.org/>

<http://www.licss.org/>

Social Studies Assessment test prep (8th grade)

<http://www.tahgrant.net/ssexam8.htm> (lots of links!)

Global History and Geography Regents Review (9th grade)

http://www.regentsreviewlive.net/rrl/courses/global_history.html

<http://regentsprep.org/Regents/global/global.cfm>

