

## **Course Name: Grade 6 Social Studies: Global Issues**

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to introduce students to more complex facets of the social sciences, building on what was previously learned but also introducing concepts, ideas and ways of thinking that will be applied in future courses. The course uses an issues-based approach, utilizing global issues as the content that will enable students to develop skills, dispositions and understandings of the challenges that human societies face. Using contemporary global issues that are highly relevant to students, the course demonstrates how issues can impact individuals as well as communities, and it challenges students to consider the complexity of solving problems. Each case study is organized using a problem-cause-solution approach, and within each aspect of the case study, students will utilize the lenses of geography, economics, civics and culture. Students will develop the ability to view issues from multiple perspectives and recognize the ways that one's culture, experiences and context shape their view on problems, causes and solutions. Key themes of the human experience such as migration, population, human rights, and human-environment interaction will be the foundation of this course so that students can engage in progressively more complex studies of these themes in subsequent courses.

**Course Proficiencies:** The following is a list of proficiencies that describe what students are expected to know and be able to do as a result of successfully completing this course. The proficiencies are the basis of the assessment of student achievement. The learner will demonstrate the ability to:

1. Utilize concepts and tools from the various social sciences (geography, economics, civics, history and anthropology) to understand contemporary global issues. (6.3.8.CivicsPI.1, 6.2.8.GeoHE.2.a, 6.3.8.EconET.2, 6.3.8.CivicsPI.2)
2. Analyze global issues from multiple perspectives in order to understand the causes and consequences of the issue. (6.3.8.CivicsPR.6, 6.3.8.CivicsPR.4)
3. Evaluate possible solutions to various global issues, taking into account geographic, economic, political and cultural perspectives. (6.3.8.CivicsPR.6, 6.3.8.CivicsDP.1, 9.4.8.CT.1)
4. Recognize the ways in which a global issue is also a local issue that impacts the daily lives of people in specific places. (6.3.8.CivicsPR.6, 9.4.8.CT.1)
5. Distinguish among and utilize different methods to interpret geographical information, including maps, globes, atlases, charts, and technological databases. (6.2.8.GeoPP.3.a)

6. Describe different forms of government and begin to recognize how the form of government in a particular place impacts the way people experience global issues. (6.3.8.CivicsPR.7)
7. Describe different types of economies and begin to recognize how the form of government in a particular place impacts the way people experience global issues. (6.3.8.EconET.2, 6.3.8.EconET.1)
8. Describe the impact of human activity on varied ecosystems and predict how changing ecosystems will affect future generations. (6.3.8.CivicsPR.4)
9. Compare and contrast various conditions causing individuals to settle or migrate in different locations. (6.2.8.GeoPP.1.b)
10. Recognize common and unique cultural beliefs/practices throughout the world, including major world religions, and appreciate the achievements and differences between global cultures. (6.2.8.HistoryCC.2.b)
11. Identify the basic principles of human rights and the ways that human rights can be applied to global challenges. (6.3.8.CivicsHR.1)
12. Analyze the relationship between humans and the natural environment, recognizing how specific forces may strengthen or weaken both elements. (6.3.8.CivicsPR.4)
13. Recognize the scarcity of natural resources and fragility of ecosystems in order to evaluate and propose solutions at the individual, local, national and global levels. (6.3.8.EconET.1, 6.3.8.CivicsPR.6, 6.3.8.CivicsPR.4, 6.3.8.CivicsPD.1, 9.4.8.CI.1)
14. Understand how global challenges are interconnected, multifaceted, and dynamic based on issues resulting from increased globalization. (6.3.8.EconET.1, 6.3.8.CivicsPR.4, 9.4.8.CI.1)
15. Utilize a variety of strategies to critically read and interpret a variety of non-fiction and fictional texts to explore course content and themes. (RH6-8.1-10)
16. Apply developmentally appropriate strategies and techniques in the creation of a variety of written products including essays that utilize appropriate support and evidence in constructing an argument. (WHST6-8.1-10)
17. Participate in discussions about global issues appropriately, utilizing evidence to support an argument, listening to understand other perspectives, and integrating new ideas into one's understanding of a topic or issue. (6.3.8.CivicsPR.5, 6.3.8.CivicsDP.1, 9.4.8.CI.1, 9.4.8.GCA.2)

### **Assessments:**

1. Individual and group projects
2. Multimedia presentations
3. Classroom discussion
4. Performance task

## **Board Adopted Materials:**

Texts:

Geography Alive! Regions and People  
Teachers Curriculum Institute, 2011