

Written and refined with input from Louisianans from across the state, the 2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies are a product of work done over a year's time by Louisiana educators, administrators, parents, students, and internal teams at the Louisiana Department of Education (the Department). On March 9, BESE unanimously approved the 2022 K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies.

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General

Q: When will the 2022 LSSSS be implemented?

A: The 2022 LSSSS will be implemented in the 2023-24 school year. The 2011 standards will remain in effect during the 2022-23 school year.

Q: Where can I find the 2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies?

A: The [2022 LSSSS](#) can be found on the Louisiana Believes [Academic Standards Library](#), the [K-12 Social Studies Resources](#) page, and the [9-12 Social Studies Resources](#) page.

Q: What's in these new standards? What's different and what's notable about them? What are the "shifts"?

A: The 2022 LSSSS accomplish three major shifts:

- Balance acquisition of disciplinary skills and content knowledge.
- Introduces historical content in a coherent and chronological way.
- Better integrates multiple historical perspectives.

Some grade levels have changed content. Third grade will focus on U.S. history, fourth and fifth grade on world history, and grades six through eight on U.S. history. Louisiana history is now embedded in world and U.S. history where appropriate chronologically. While the new standards do make changes to some grade-level course content, they do not fundamentally change Louisiana's vision for highly effective social studies instruction. The standards have explicit expectations that students continue to:

- Use a variety of primary and secondary sources regularly to learn content.
- Make connections among people, events, and ideas across time and place.
- Express informed claims supported by evidence from sources and content knowledge.

Instructional Materials

Q. When will the Department begin to review social studies curricula?

A: The LDOE is committed to ensuring that every classroom has access to a high-quality curriculum. To support local school districts in making their own local, high-quality decisions, the LDOE leads [online reviews of instructional materials](#). Social studies materials are [currently under review](#) for the 2022-2023 cycle.

Q. When will teachers get new social studies textbooks?

A: New instructional materials, like textbooks, will be included in the instructional materials reviews process. Social studies materials are [currently under review](#) for the 2022-2023 cycle.

The Department has partnered with Core Knowledge to create [Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum](#). The first phase of development began in December 2022 and materials for grades 4-5 will be available by Spring 2023 for piloting in Fall 2023. The complete K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum will be available for implementation by June 30, 2024. Please see the [Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum FAQ](#) document for more details about curriculum development and release dates. Additional details about this partnership will be announced in future communications.

Implementation and Professional Development

Q. What is the Department doing to support implementation of curriculum based on the 2022 LSSSS?

A: The LDOE is committed to ensuring that every classroom has access to a high-quality curriculum. To support local school districts in making their own local, high-quality decisions, the LDOE leads [online reviews of instructional materials](#). Social studies materials are currently under review for the 2022-2023 cycle. The Department has also partnered with Core Knowledge to create [Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum](#). More details about this partnership will be announced in future communications.

In the meantime, the Department will provide implementation guidance and instructional resources. These resources will be available on the [K-12 social studies resource page](#). Here is the current working timeline for the 2022-2023 learning year:

- The 2022 Teacher Leader Summit was the kickoff event for implementation of the 2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies.
- The Department will provide [professional development webinars](#) during the 2022-2023 school year. Webinars will provide information on transition guidance for the first year of implementation (including how to fill in gaps in knowledge) and building content knowledge for teachers.
- Review of Social Studies materials for the 2022-2023 cycle will begin in fall of 2022.
- Course Frameworks (K-8 and high school U.S. History and Civics) and an Instructional Strategy bank will be available in spring 2023.

Q: When can we expect the scope and sequence and the companion document to be released for the 2022 LSSSS?

A. The 2022 LSSSS are more specific and granular than the previous standards. Therefore, the Department does not anticipate creating new “companion” documents. Instead, any further clarification will be done through the Course Frameworks.

The Course Frameworks will also serve as replacements for the 2011 standards-aligned Scope and Sequence documents; however, these frameworks will have an updated format. They will **not include** scripted instructional sequences but will instead give teachers suggested pacing, framing and supporting questions and high-quality primary and secondary sources to serve as the main vehicle by which students acquire content knowledge.

Course Frameworks (K-8 and high school U.S. History and Civics) will be available in spring 2023 (anticipated). They will be posted on the [K-12 social studies resource page](#).

Q: When will the new high school U.S. history standards be implemented?

A. The 2022–2023 school year will be a learning year for the 2022 LSSSS, and 2023-2024 will be the first implementation year. High school U.S. history will follow the same timeline, with implementation in the 2023-2024 school year.

Q: Can the Department’s professional development webinars be re-delivered by district and school leads?

A: Yes. Recording of all presentations can be found on the [K-12 social studies resource page](#).

Assessment

For more information on assessment, please see [Social Studies Assessment Updates](#).

Q: Where can I learn more about the new Social Studies assessments?

A: General information about the new Social Studies assessments is in the [Social Studies Assessment Updates document](#), first made available in August 2022. More details will be included in the initial release of the Assessment Guides for the Social Studies Field Test and highlighted in sessions at the Teacher Leader Summit.

Q: When will the new LEAP Social Studies Assessments in grades 3–8 be available?

A: The final administration of the LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessments in grades 3-8, with items aligned to the 2011 LSSSS, will take place in spring 2023. In 2023-2024, the new LEAP Social Studies assessments in grade 3-8, with items aligned to the 2022 LSSSS, will be field tested. The new LEAP Social Studies assessments in grades 3-8 will be operational beginning in 2024-2025. For questions about the assessment, please contact assessment@la.gov.

Q: Will the new Social Studies assessment have the same reporting categories as LEAP 2025 Social Studies assessment?

A: The LEAP Social Studies assessments in grades 3–8 and civics will have new reporting categories and will no longer report by disciplinary strands (History, Civics, Geography, Economics). Expected categories will be available in the Assessment Guide for the Social Studies Field Test but are not considered final until after field testing occurs.

Q: Will the LEAP 2025 U.S. History Assessment change?

A: The LEAP 2025 U.S. History Assessment will maintain the same design, alignment, and reporting approach for its remaining administrations. The [U.S. History Assessment Guide](#) provides information about the test, as well as an appendix with resources. Updated assessment guides for the 2022-2023 school year will be available by the fall of 2022. For questions about the assessment, please contact assessment@la.gov.

Q: How will the U.S. History Course Framework support the LEAP 2025 U.S. History Assessment?

A: The Department will create a transitional U.S. History Course Framework for educators to use while there is an operational LEAP 2025 U.S. History Assessment. The transitional course framework will include suggested pacing, framing and supporting questions, high-quality primary and secondary sources, and will show the relationship between the 2022 LSSSS and the assessment reporting categories and content. The U.S. History Course Framework will be available in spring 2023.

Q: When will the new high school LEAP Civics Assessment be available?

A: The new LEAP Civics Assessment, with items aligned to the 2022 LSSSS, will be a field test in 2023-2024 and will be operational in 2024-2025 for the relevant freshman cohort. More information on the transition to the new LEAP Civics Assessment will be available during the 2022-2023 school year. Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Q: In which grade level should students take the Civics course, since Civics will be assessed in the future?

A: The grade level at which high school social studies courses are offered is a local decision. School systems and schools have the freedom to choose the approach that works best with the pathways of their students. However, school systems and schools should avoid placing tested courses in the fourth (senior) year to ensure that students requiring a retest have sufficient opportunities to do so.

Q: Which courses are permitted to substitute for civics?

A: Courses permitted to substitute for civics include American Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, and AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States.

Q: Do students take the Civics assessment if they are in an AP Government course?

A: Students are required to take the Civics assessment if they are enrolled in a civics course or course permitted to substitute for civics (American Government, AP U.S. Government and Politics: Comparative, AP U.S. Government and Politics: United States).