



Kentucky Department of
E D U C A T I O N

**Getting to Know the *Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Social Studies*
Module Overview**

Design of Getting to Know the *KAS for Social Studies*:

This module is a resource for developing an understanding of the standards and the components of the *KAS for Social Studies*.

- Utilizing this module before beginning standards alignment work is recommended in order to build knowledge and capacity around the standards and to capitalize on the opportunity to improve teaching and learning.
- The module contains 9 sections. Each section of this module is designed to be administered in a 45-minute PLC session; however, the timeline and work sessions can be adjusted to best fit the needs of schools and districts.
- Module facilitators may include, but are not limited to: district leaders, school administrators, instructional specialists/coaches, department chairs, and/or teacher leaders. With that in mind, the facilitator notes include content information and instructional support intended to provide support to a facilitator who may or may not have an extensive background in social studies.

Module Goals:

- The goals of the Getting to Know the *KAS for Social Studies* Module are for districts and schools to:
- Build a shared understanding of the *KAS for Social Studies* document.
- Strengthen the connection between the components of the *KAS for Social Studies* and the way those components can support teachers in the process of designing standards-aligned instruction.
- Experience how the changes in the *KAS for Social Studies* can and will be reflected in student experiences within Kentucky classrooms.
- Identify and prioritize areas where future professional learning opportunities will be needed in the implementation process with the *KAS for Social Studies* and discuss plans to address those areas.

Section A: Revision Process Overview (Appendix)

- Essential objective: To provide an overview of the standards revision process as required by Senate Bill 1 (2017) and the role that Kentucky educators played in the revision process.

Section B: Understanding the Architecture

- Essential objective: To build knowledge of the architecture of the document. The architecture comprises the overall organizational structure of the document, the different ways to view the standards and the design considerations of the specific components within the standards document.
- Key features: Pre-recorded voiceovers for communicating the common message on architecture slides; Reflection questions to prompt thinking about the purpose and function of the architecture and how it may be useful for multiple stakeholders (teachers, administrators, parents, etc.).

Section C: Implementation Supports in the *KAS for Social Studies*

- Essential objective: To provide an overview of the implementation supports found in the *KAS for Social Studies*. Section C builds knowledge of the architecture of the document to discuss the implementation supports found in the document: Grade-Band and Grade-Level Specific Overviews; Disciplinary Clarifications and Instructional Support; Progression Appendix.
- Key features: Pre-recorded voiceovers for communicating the common message on the implementation supports in the *KAS for Social Studies*; Reflection questions to prompt thinking about the purpose and function of components and how they may be useful for multiple stakeholders (teachers, administrators, parents, etc.).



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Section D: Deeper Dive into the Inquiry Practices: Questioning

- Essential objective: To build an understanding of the inquiry practices as outlined in the *KAS for Social Studies* and become familiar with the characteristics of compelling and supporting questions.
- Key features: Pre-recorded voiceovers for communicating the common message on the organization of the standards; Provides two focused learning experiences needed to understand the inquiry practices as outlined in the *KAS for Social Studies* and to understand questioning:
 - Task One: Reviewing the inquiry practices as outlined in the *KAS for Social Studies*
 - Task Two: Analyze the relationship between compelling and supporting questions.

Section E: Deeper Dive into the Inquiry Practices: Using Evidence

- Essential objective: To provide an understanding of the inquiry practice of Using Evidence as outlined in the *KAS for Social Studies* and become familiar with the components of Using Evidence standards to answer compelling and supporting questions.
- Key feature: Provides a discovery task that requires participants to unpack the Using Evidence standards for their identified grade-level.

Section F: Deeper Dive into the Inquiry Practices: Communicating Conclusions

- Essential objective: To provide an understanding of the inquiry practice of Communicating Conclusions as outlined in the *KAS for Social Studies* and become familiar with the components of the Communicating Conclusions standards.
- Key features: Pre-recorded voiceovers for communicating the common message on the communicating conclusions standards; Provides a discovery task that requires participants to unpack the Communicating Conclusions standards for their identified grade-level.

Section G: Deeper Dive into the Discipline Strands and the Concepts and Practices

- Essential objective: To provide an understanding and become familiar with the Discipline Strand standards and the Disciplinary Concepts and Practices as outlined in the *KAS for Social Studies*.
- Key features: Pre-recorded voiceovers for communicating the common message on the Discipline Strand standards; Reflection questions to prompt thinking about prepared Kentucky graduates in social studies and discovery tasks to gain a greater understanding of the Disciplinary Strand standards.

Section I: Wrap Up & Next Steps

- Essential idea: To provide educators with time for reflecting upon guiding questions to plan and prioritize the work that will follow this module.
- Provides a review of the learning throughout the module, as well as:
 - Planning Guides (Teachers, School Leadership, District Leadership)
 - Kentucky Department of Education Feedback Survey link.