

# Middle School Social Studies, 6-8

## WHAT WE TEACH

Newark City Schools teaches curricula tied to and defined by the Ohio's Learning Standards, which outline performance expectations for students in the strands of history, geography, government, and economics.

The grade-six curriculum is based on the theme "Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere," the grade-seven curriculum on the theme "Ancient Greece to the First Global Age," and the grade-eight on "US Studies from 1492 to 1877."

## HOW WE TEACH IT

We deliver responsive, flexible instruction based on learner needs. Teachers pre-assess students to determine core competencies and then focus their instruction on areas for growth. Within our social studies classes, a variety of instructional approaches and strategies are employed to help students grow toward mastery of content. This includes, but is not limited to, simulations, inquiry and project-based learning, collaborative learning, primary source and document analysis, and research.

## PROGRAM TARGETS

In striving to help all students succeed, we set the following program targets, which outline what learners should be able to do upon completion of their program:

- understand and articulate how early and colonial societies and peoples contributed to the emergence of modern cultures;
- examine primary and secondary sources to explore events from multiple perspectives and present and defend a position;
- analyze how costs and benefits affect decision making and the consequences of choices made by individuals, businesses, and governments;
- use various geographic tools to measure, analyze, examine, and report; and
- identify ways media and communication technologies influence public opinion and group perspectives.