FOOTPRINTS FOR LEARNING CHARTER ACADEMY
Global Perspectives | Entrepreneurial Spirit | Academic Excellence

DOCUMENT 6.0: K–12 SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAMMING
Authority: Footprints for Learning Society
School: Footprints for Learning Charter Academy (FLCA)
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OVERVIEW & PROGRAMMING DIRECTIVES
Social Studies empowers students to become engaged, responsible, and informed global citizens within an advancing democracy. At FLCA, our Kindergarten through Grade 12 programming aligns with the latest Alberta Education updates while actively integrating our holistic, purpose-driven, and global vision.

- Teachers must employ a Universal Design for Learning (UDL) approach with Core Competencies and Benchmarks for IPP learners.
- The infusion of entrepreneurial elements is an absolute requirement across all grade levels.
- Instruction utilizes diverse resources, including mandatory textbook references, digital assignment booklets, and structured Google Classroom project portfolios.
- The purposeful indigenous learnings are incorporated into the programming
- The extension of outcomes are explored in Global Awareness programming

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM (K–6)
The elementary stream builds foundational historical thinking, geographic awareness, and civic participation.

- **Kindergarten–Grade 3:** Introduces early citizenship, belonging, Canada's dynamic communities, and global quality of life using the *Many Voices* textbook series.
- **Grades 4–6:** Investigates Alberta's stories, Canada's physical/historical foundations, and democratic models—including Ancient Athens and the Iroquois Confederacy—using the *Voices of...* series.
- **Assessment Weighting:** Primarily formative, utilizing Assignment Booklets (50-60%) and Project Portfolios (40%), alongside dedicated FNMI and Global Exploration projects.

JUNIOR HIGH PROGRAM (7–9)
Junior high students critically examine historical worldviews, intercultural contact, and modern civic frameworks.

- **Grade 7:** Focuses on Canada's origins, exploring migration and expansion leading toward and following Confederation.
- **Grade 8:** Analyzes shifting historical worldviews via isolationist Japan, Renaissance Europe, and the Spanish/Aztec conflict.
- **Grade 9:** Evaluates governance, rights, and North American economic systems, concluding with a Provincial Achievement Test (PAT).
- **Assessment Weighting:** Project Portfolios (35%), Assignments (30%), Unit Tests (20%), Final Exam (10%), and Mid-Term Exam (5%).

SENIOR HIGH PROGRAM (10–12)
The senior high curriculum updates continue to offer advanced secondary pathways that require deep critical analysis of global and historical paradigms.

- **Grade 10:** Explores the origins, impacts, and multiple cultural perspectives surrounding historical and modern Globalization.
- **Grade 11:** Investigates the complexities of Nationalism, including its profound effects on international relations and Canadian identity.
- **Grade 12:** Analyzes the development of competing global Ideologies, concluding with the standardized Alberta Provincial Diploma Examination.

Academic Division	Primary Learning Focus	Key Standardized Assessment
Elementary (K-6)	Citizenship, Geography, Early Democracy	Grade 6 PAT
Junior High (7-9)	Confederation, Worldviews, Economics	Grade 9 PAT
Senior High (10-12)	Globalization, Nationalism, Ideologies	Grade 12 Diploma Exams

Alberta Education Curriculum Implementation Timeline (2026–2027)
Alberta Education is continuing its phased rollout of the renewed K–12 curriculum. Here are the key updates regarding the implementation and piloting of the Social Studies curriculum for the current 2026/2027 school year:

- **Grades K–3:** The new K–3 Social Studies curriculum was officially implemented in schools during the 2025/2026 school year.
- **Grades 4–6 (Current Implementation):** Mandatory implementation of the new Grades 4 to 6 Social Studies curriculum is taking place across all classrooms in the 2026/2027 school year.
- **Grade 6 PAT Exemption:** Because this is the first year of implementation for the new Grade 6 curriculum, students will not write the Grade 6 Social Studies Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) this year.
- **Grades 7–9 (Current Pilot):** School authorities have the option to pilot the updated draft Social Studies curriculum for Grades 7 to 9 during the 2026/2027 school year.
- **Grades 7–9 (Future Implementation):** Mandatory implementation for the Grades 7 to 9 curriculum is scheduled for September 2027, following final refinements based on teacher feedback.

APPENDIX: FLCA Sample Course Outline: Grade 6 Social Studies

Overview
Aligned with Alberta Education's newly implemented Grade 6 curriculum, this course emphasizes the foundations of active, responsible participation in a democratic society. Students will compare the underlying principles of democracy in Canada to historical models, specifically Ancient Athens and the Iroquois Confederacy. In accordance with FLCA programming, this course will integrate Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Indigenous perspectives, and entrepreneurial elements.

Required Materials

- **Textbook:** *Voices of Democracy* (Class set and digital PDF access)
- **Workbooks:** FLCA Student Assignment Booklets (Formative reference and practice)
- **Digital Resources:** FLCA Google Classroom for Student Project Portfolios
- **Supplementary:** Global Exploration & FNMI Exploration Project Packages

Course Timeline & Core Topics

Term	Months	Topic Focus	Key Projects & Activities

Term I	Sept – Nov	**6.1 Citizens Participating in Decision Making:** Understanding modern Canadian democratic rights, responsibilities, and civic action.	Unit 1 Project Portfolio; Entrepreneurial problem-solving pitch.
Term II	Dec – Mar	**6.2 Historical Models of Democracy:** Comparative study of Ancient Athens and the Iroquois Confederacy.	Unit 2 Project Portfolio; FNMI Exploration Project milestones.
Term III	Apr – Jun	**Project-Based Learning (PBL) & Review:** Consolidating global citizenship concepts and finalizing major projects.	Final Global Exploration Project; Course Review.

Assessment & Weighting
(Note: As per Alberta Education's 26/27 guidelines, the Grade 6 PAT is suspended for this implementation year; assessment is entirely school-based).

- **Project Portfolios (Formative & Summative):** 40%
  Includes digital literacy, research, writing, and entrepreneurial tasks.
- **Assignment Booklets (Formative):** 25%

Focuses on concept comprehension, vocabulary, and timelines.

- **Unit Tests (Formative with Rewrites):** 20%
- **Final Exam (Summative):** 10%
- **Mid-Term Exam (Summative):** 5%

GRADE 6 SOCIAL STUDIES: CONNECTIONS

Overview

Aligned with Alberta Education's recently implemented Grades 4–6 Social Studies curriculum, this Grade 6 course prepares students for active citizenship in a democratic society. We focus on comparing the underlying principles of democracy in Canada with historical models, namely Ancient Athens and the Iroquois Confederacy. This updated course structure actively embeds both cross-curricular connections and entrepreneurial elements to meet FLCA's holistic programming goals.

CROSS-CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS

By blending subject areas, students gain a deeper, multifaceted understanding of civic and historical topics.

- **Term I (Citizens Participating in Decision Making):** We connect Social Studies with **Language Arts** by having students draft persuasive letters to local politicians regarding community issues, enhancing both civic awareness and writing skills.
- **Term II (Historical Models of Democracy):** We integrate **Math** and **Science** when exploring Ancient Athens and the Iroquois Confederacy. Students will calculate historical timelines, analyze population data, and study the geographic and environmental features that shaped these past civilizations.
- **Term III (Project-Based Learning):** Cross-curricular ties with **Technology (CTF)** will be prominent as students use digital tools to design, research, and present their final Global Exploration and FNMI Exploration projects.

ENTREPRENEURIAL PROJECTS

To foster a purpose-driven, entrepreneurial mindset, specific project milestones are explicitly embedded within the curriculum:

- **The Civic Problem-Solving Pitch (Term I):** Students will identify a tangible challenge in their local community, develop a theoretical start-up or non-profit solution, and deliver a business "pitch" focusing on civic responsibility, budgeting, and actionable solutions.
- **The Agora Market Simulation (Term II):** While studying Ancient Athens, students will run a simulated classroom marketplace. They will design trade goods, establish agreements, and explore basic supply, demand, and democratic trade regulations.

ASSESSMENT WEIGHTING & RESOURCES

- **Project Portfolios (40%):** Includes all entrepreneurial pitches, simulations, and cross-curricular digital assignments (Formative & Summative).
- **Assignment Booklets (25%):** Self-assessed concept and vocabulary practice (Formative).
- **Unit Tests (20%):** Supervised in-class assessments with rewrite opportunities (Formative).
- **Final & Mid-Term Exams (15%):** Summative evaluations broken into a 10% Final and a 5% Mid-Term.
- **Required Material:** *Voices of Democracy* textbook (print/digital) and FLCA Student Assignment Booklets. Or alternative Edwin materials.