



## Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** Social Studies, Grade 5

**School Year:** 2024-2025

**Semester(s):** 1 and 2

**Grade Level(s):** Grade 5

**Course Day(s) and Times:** Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am - 10:00 pm PST

### Teacher Information

- **Name:** Mary Miller
- **Email:** mary.miller@brancheslearning.org
- **Office Hours:** By appointment only
- **Branches Learning Main Office Number:** (323) 955-0114

**Google Classroom Links:** <https://brancheslearning.org/product/social-studies-grade-5/#Materials>

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**Course Description:** In this interactive, project-based course, students explore the formation of the United States from Colonial America to Westward Expansion. They enhance their understanding of significant events and figures through projects while honing critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills.

This year we will be learning about the first Americans, Native Americans, we will learn the states and their capitals. We will learn how the country grew and became a nation and about Westward Expansion. We will learn how our government works and the roles you will have in the government process when you are an adult. We are going to have a great time learning about this great country!!

In this course, students will:

- Use various sources to investigate and evaluate historical events and figures.
- Effectively present findings in various formats.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the principles and values that influenced the formation of the USA.

## Course Units

### Unit 1

- Algonquians
- Native People of the U.S.
- First Americans

### Unit 2

- Exploration
- Famous Explorers
- Exploration
- Westward Expansion
- New England, Middle and Southern Colonies
- Famous Americans
- Notable People-Westward Expansion
- Pioneer Life
- Famous Explorers
- Exploration
- Southwestern Region US
- Colonial Period
- Colonization
- Colonial Life

### Unit 3

- Leading up to the Revolution
- The Revolution
- Types of Government
- Local and State Government
- Purpose of Government
- Forming a Government
- The Congress
- The Presidency of the U.S.
- U.S. Senate
- European/Native American Encounters
- U.S. President

### Unit 4

- U.S. Constitution
- Citizenship and Government Election Process
- State Government U.S. Court System



- Growth of a Nation Election Process
- Civil War State Government
- Spanish American War
- Famous Treaties
- Notable People

## **Unit 5**

Holidays, Landmarks and Symbol

## **Unit 6**

First Americans States and Their Capitals

**Course Expectations:** Come to class ready and excited to learn!! Please come to class on time, be ready to participate. We are all here to help each other learn. Come with your Social Studies notebook, paper, pencils, pens. Homework needs to be done in a timely manner. The homework is assigned to help reinforce what was learned and discussed in class. Waiting until the end of the quarter to get homework in will not help you understand the material. Late work will result in a dropped grade. I also have a “do over” policy, if you do an assignment and you have trouble you can do it over, and I will change the grade. If you hand it in late then you won’t have a chance for a “do over!”

**I know we will have a great time this year!! I am so excited to meet all of you!**

## **Grading Scale**

### **Elementary School, Grades K-5**

- EE – Exceeding grade level expectations
- ME – Meeting Grade Level Expectations
- AE – Approaching Grade-Level Expectations
- LE – Lack of Evidence Needed to Assess Grade-Level Expectations
- WTG – Working Toward Personal Goals Outlined in a Student’s IEP

Final grades are determined by the quality and completion of assignments, attendance, and participation.

## **Important Branches Learning Policy Information**

### **Camera Policy**

Branches Learning requires students to keep their cameras on during live classes unless otherwise instructed by the teacher. Exceptions can be made in rare circumstances if the course teacher, supervising teacher (HST), and the parent all approve a camera waiver.

**Headset Policy**

Students attending live classes from a shared space must have a headset with a microphone to ensure the class is not disrupted by background noise.

**Attendance Policy**

Absences must be reported to the course instructor via email or sent to [info@brancheslearning.org](mailto:info@brancheslearning.org). Class recordings are available upon requests.

Attendance and participation are part of the final grade. Students who miss more than 40% of live classes may fail the course. Exceptions may be made if a pre-approved plan is in place.

**Late Work**

Assignments turned in after the due date will result in a lower grade unless pre-approved by the instructor.