Area of Learning: SOCIAL STUDIES — Comparative Cultures 11

**BIG IDEAS**

| Understanding the diversity and complexity of cultural expressions in one culture enhances our understanding of other cultures. | Interactions between belief systems, social organization, and language influence artistic expressions of culture. | Geographic and environmental factors influenced the development of agriculture, trade, and increasingly complex cultures. | Value systems and belief systems shape the structures of power and authority within a culture. |

**Learning Standards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curricular Competencies</th>
<th>Content</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students are expected to be able to do the following:</td>
<td>Students are expected to know the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Use Social Studies inquiry processes and skills to ask questions; gather, interpret, and analyze ideas; and communicate findings and decisions</td>
<td>• definitions of culture and how these have changed over time</td>
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<td>• Assess and compare the significance of cultural expressions at particular times and places (historical significance)</td>
<td>• elements of culture and cultural expressions</td>
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<td>• Evaluate inferences about the content, origins, purposes, context, reliability, and usefulness of multiple sources from the past and present (evidence)</td>
<td>• conflict and conflict resolution within and between cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Analyze continuities and changes in diverse cultures at different times and places (continuity and change)</td>
<td>• systems of power, authority, and governance</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Assess the development and impact of the thought, artistic expressions, power and authority, and technological adaptations of diverse cultures (cause and consequence)</td>
<td>• role of value systems and belief systems in the development of cultures</td>
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<td>• Explain different perspectives on past and present cultures (perspective)</td>
<td>• interactions and exchanges between cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Recognize implicit and explicit ethical judgments in a variety of sources (ethical judgment)</td>
<td>• interactions between cultures and the natural environment</td>
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**Content – Elaborations**

**definitions of culture and how these have changed over time:**

*Sample topics:*
- terminology such as civilized and uncivilized
- Eurocentric perspectives when defining culture

**elements of culture and cultural expressions:**

*Sample topics:*
- language
- key forms of artistic expression
- use of symbols and imagery
- cultural archetypes
- materials and techniques used by different cultures

**conflict and conflict resolution within and between cultures:**

*Sample topics:*
- conquest of territory and the treatment of conquered people
- military alliances and diplomacy
- conflicts over values or ideas
- conflicts over resources and wealth

**systems of power, authority, and governance:**

*Sample topics:*
- leadership roles within cultures
- informal and formal leadership
- institutions of authority
- process for making and enforcing laws

**role of value systems and belief systems in the development of cultures:**

*Sample topics:*
- religious doctrines
- values and morals
- philosophical beliefs
- myths, legends, and heroes

**interactions and exchanges between cultures:**

*Sample topics:*
- exchanges of ideas and cultural transmission
### SOCIAL STUDIES – Comparative Cultures 11

#### Content – Elaborations

- spread of technologies
- spread of religion and philosophy
- land-based and sea-based trade between cultures

**interactions between cultures and the natural environment:**

*Sample topics:*

- climate and native plants and animals
- natural resources and economic development