

The social studies content knowledge noted above is essential for teachers as they plan for social studies teaching and learning that is: Meaningful because of the teacher's understanding of connected networks of knowledge, skills, beliefs, and attitudes and the compelling ideas embedded in social studies content.(NCSS Standards, 2004) Active because the teacher's understanding of social studies content prepares him/her to plan for authentic activities that call for real-life applications using the skills and content of history, geographic literacy, civics, and economics.(NCSS Standards, 2004) Value-based because the teacher's understanding of social studies content can be used as he or she guides students to consider the ethical dimensions of topics, to address controversial issues, and to think critically about social policy implications, with consideration of opposing views.(NCSS Standards, 2004) Integrative because of the teacher's understanding of social studies content as connected to other subject areas, as well as connections among the different social studies areas.(NCSS Standards, 2004).