



## OHIO

### **CERTIFICATION**

According to its Title II report, Ohio offers Type A and Type B certification for its teachers. In order to become certified in Ohio an applicant must have successfully completed a preparation program at an approved teacher education institution and pass the appropriate exams. The dean or head of the teacher preparation program must make an official recommendation to the Office of Certification/Licensure in order for candidates to be considered.

#### **Elementary Certification**

Ohio has licensure for elementary (early childhood) but it is not specific to social studies or history.

#### **Middle-Level Certification**

Programs must meet NCATE, INTASC, and SPA standards. Teachers of grades 4–9 will be prepared to teach in a minimum of two of the four content areas of reading and language arts, mathematics, social studies, or science. No other licensure requirements have been located at this time.

#### **Secondary Certification**

Programs must meet NCATE, INTASC, and SPA standards. No other licensure requirements have been located at this time.

### **STANDARDS**

#### **Standards for Teachers**

Ohio teachers must meet NCATE standards in their appropriate content area. NCATE standards in social studies are those standards set forth by the National Council for Social Studies. Teachers must pass the Praxis II and Praxis III tests, administered during their entry year into the profession.

## Standards for Students

In January 2001 the state of Ohio began development of K–12 Social Studies Standards. The Advisory Committee and Writing Team worked throughout the year and by spring 2002 the Draft of the Social Studies Content Standards was presented to Ohio’s citizens through 37 focus groups held throughout the state. The standards were presented to the Standards Committee of the State Board of Education on September 9, 2002. The board unanimously approved a resolution of intent to adopt the standards in October. The standards were adopted in December 2002.

Ohio divides its standards into two categories: content (the first 6 standards) and process standards (social studies skills and methods). The standards in Ohio include the following:

- ❖ history: students use materials drawn from the diversity of human experience to analyze and interpret significant events, patterns, and themes in the history of Ohio, the United States, and the world;
- ❖ people in societies;
- ❖ geography;
- ❖ economics;
- ❖ government;
- ❖ citizenship rights and responsibilities; and
- ❖ social studies skills and methods.

The following scope and sequence has been outlined for the K–12 social studies curriculum in Ohio.

- ❖ Kindergarten: A Child’s Place in Time and Space
- ❖ Grade One: Families Now and Long Ago, Far and Near
- ❖ Grade Two: People Working Together
- ❖ Grade Three: Communities: Past and Present, Near and Far
- ❖ Grade Four: Ohio: Its Past, Its Location, Its Government
- ❖ Grade Five: Regions and People of North America
- ❖ Grade Six: Regions and People of the World
- ❖ Grade Seven: World Studies from 1000 BC to 1750: Ancient Civilizations through the First Global Age
- ❖ Grade Eight: United States Studies from 1607 to 1877: Colonization through Reconstruction
- ❖ Grade Nine: World Studies from 1750 to the Present: Age of Revolutions through the 20th Century
- ❖ Grade Ten: United States Studies from 1877 to the Present: Post Reconstruction through the 20th Century
- ❖ Grade Eleven: Political and Economic Decisions
- ❖ Grade Twelve: Preparing for Citizenship

Grade level indicators are presented for each of the social studies standards, and they are intended to serve as checkpoints that monitor students' progress toward benchmarks. Benchmarks have been developed for grade clusters consisting of K–2, 3–5, 6–8, 9–10, and 11–12. The state of Ohio assumes that “effective social studies integrates history, geography, economics, political science, other social sciences, and humanities in order to prepare students to be participating good citizens.”

## **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION/EXIT EXAM**

In order to graduate from high school in Ohio, students must complete 3 units in social studies. These three units must consist of

- ❖ One-half unit American history; and
- ❖ One-half unit of American government

### **Exit Exam**

Students in Ohio are required to demonstrate competencies in writing, reading, mathematics, citizenship, and science in order to graduate from high school. The citizenship competence exam pertains to information concerning American heritage, people in societies, world interactions, decision-making and resources, democratic processes, and citizenship rights and responsibilities. The Ohio Graduation Test is being phased in, and students will take the test in reading and mathematics in spring 2003. The Ohio Graduation Test in social studies will be given in March 2005. It will be based on the benchmarks for grades 9–10 in the standards.

## **ASSESSMENT**

In Ohio students take diagnostic assessments, achievement tests, and the Ohio Graduation Test (OGT). In social studies students take diagnostic exams at grades 3, 4, 6, and 7 and achievement tests at grades 5 and 8. Students take the Ohio Graduation Test in grade 10. Students currently take a proficiency test in citizenship in grades 4 and 6. They must pass the ninth grade test in order to graduate. The new achievement test at grade 5 will begin in 2006 and the achievement test in grade 8 will begin in 2006. They will be tests of social studies based on the benchmarks for the grade band.

