NCSS THEMATIC STANDARDS

5. INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, AND INSTITUTIONS

Social studies teachers should possess the knowledge, capabilities, and dispositions to organize and provide instruction at the appropriate school level for the study of interactions among Individuals, Groups, and Institutions.

Teacher Expectations
Teachers of social studies at all school levels should provide developmentally appropriate experiences as they guide learners in the study of interactions among individuals, groups and institutions. They should

_____ • help learners understand the concepts of role, status, and social class and use them in describing the connections and interactions of individuals, groups, and institutions in society;

_____ • help learners analyze group and institutional influences on people, events, and elements of culture in both historical and contemporary settings;

_____ • explain to learners the various forms institutions take, and explain how they develop and change over time;

_____ • assist learners in identifying and analyzing examples of tensions between expressions of individuality and efforts used to promote social conformity by groups and institutions;

_____ • enable learners to describe and examine belief systems basic to specific traditions and laws in contemporary and historical movements;

_____ • challenge learners to evaluate the role of institutions in furthering both continuity and change;

_____ • guide learner analysis of the extent to which groups and institutions meet individual needs and promote the common good in contemporary and historical settings;

_____ • assist learners as they explain and apply ideas and modes of inquiry drawn from behavioral science and social theory in the examination of persistent social issues and problems.

COMMENTS