

GRACE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Curriculum Development
COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course: History

Grade: Four

Philosophy Statement: God, the Creator and absolute Sovereign of the universe, rules in the affairs of mankind according to His perfect will, for His divine purposes, and ultimately for His eternal glory. History is accordingly the sum total of human events, individual and collective, in all societies, primitive to advanced, as providentially directed by and acted upon by this divine Sovereign. Our study of and instruction in History will carefully examine all major civilizations and significant historical events to the end of leading our students to recognize God's incredible wisdom in superintending the events of the ages, and simultaneously to explore man's relationship to his Creator and to one another as mankind either allies with God for his own successes, or strives against God, for his ultimate failure and destruction.

Course Objective: The students will demonstrate their understanding of the development of California from an Indian territory to the modern day, as a state of the United States. They will define terms, recall information, and discuss textbook and workbook content. The students will analyze and critique problems between people groups in California's development. They will identify California's four regions on a map and list characteristics of those regions.

Textbook: "Oh, California", Houghton Mifflin.

Materials:

- "California Geography - The Golden State", Randy Womack.

Time Allotment: Sixty minutes, twice per week.

Course Content:

- Unit 1: People and Place: Geography of California, The First Californians.
- Unit 2: Colonial California: Spanish Explorers and Settlers, Mexican California.
- Unit 3: Newcomers Change California; Newcomers from the US; California becomes a state.
- Unit 4: Growth and Development; The Transcontinental Railroad; Agriculture Advances; A Mix of Cultures.
- Unit 5: Modern California: Building a Better California; World War II and Beyond; New Steps Forward; Decisions for the Future.

Areas to be evaluated:

- Classroom Discussion.
- Textbook Review Questions.
- Supplementary Worksheets.
- Pop Quizzes.
- Chapter Tests.

- Oral Reports (Family Tree).

Additional Activities:

- Sacramento Fieldtrip: two days, one night; Sutter's Fort, State Capitol, Sutter's Mill and gold discovery sight, Old Town Sacramento, California Railroad Museum.
- Stage Coach Museum Fieldtrip.
- Reagan Library.
- Gold Rush Play.
- Prairie Games: marbles, jacks, dominoes, stick and hoop.
- California Cookie: student-made cookies shaped like California and decorated to match the four regions.