



BAKER COLLEGE

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

ELEM 2210 Elementary Social Studies I
3 Semester Credit Hours

Student Learning Outcomes and Enabling Objectives

1. Examine historical concepts, perspectives, and methods.
 - a. Explore the importance of historical thought and literacy.
 - b. Analyze changes in historiography over time.
 - c. Identify a library of resources for future use in elementary history classes.

2. Explore historical skills to develop questions and plan inquiries into past events and eras in Michigan and American History.
 - a. Practice historical skills such as writing, researching, interviewing, and speaking.
 - b. Examine and characterize primary sources, including political cartoons, commentary, diaries, and other historical materials.
 - c. Interpret speeches and writings to determine historical context.
 - d. Construct positions and arguments about past events by studying primary and secondary materials.

3. Assess the significance of major events and developments in Michigan and American History.
 - a. Explain major events and the role of individuals related to significant chronological developments.
 - b. Compare past occurrences and decisions to current events, focusing on themes of change and continuity over time.
 - c. Explain Michigan's and America's involvement in world affairs.
 - d. Evaluate the impact of race and gender.
 - e. Evaluate significant turning points that affect historical continuity and change.

4. Explore the past in the local community by using historical thinking as a framework.
 - a. Explain events in the local community and its past, with an eye for change over time.
 - b. Summarize the impact of individuals and groups on American History, focusing on the local and personal.

5. Examine the role of government and democracies as an organizing framework.

- a. Explain the system of American democracy, federalism, and constitutional principles.
 - b. Identify the role of civic engagement at the local, state, and national levels.
 - c. Investigate the responsibility of citizens in public discourse, involvement, and decision-making.
6. Assess public policy issues at the local, state, and federal levels.
 - a. Identify common public issues using tools and data.
 - b. Recommend a reasoned position on a public issue.

Big Ideas and Essential Questions

Big Ideas

- Historiography/Methods
- Historical Skills
- Local, Michigan, and American History
- Major Events/Important People
- American Democracy/Federalism
- Citizenship and Public Policy

Essential Questions

1. How are historical skills and methods used to understand and interpret historical events?
2. How do we come to an accurate understanding of the American past and present to instruct our students?
3. How does our understanding of local, Michigan, and American history evolve over time?
4. What major events have changed the history of America and its people?
5. How do the structures of government, including the separation of powers and federalism, impact policy and the resolution of differences?
6. What responsibilities do citizens of a democracy have in terms of participation and action?

These SLOs are not approved for experiential credit.

Effective: Spring 2025