

# New BC Curriculum and the Old Familiar Topics: Content Shifting in Social Studies 7-11

**KEY** ← moves down a grade      ←← moves down two grades      😊 stays in same grade  
 could be in New SS7      New SS8      New SS9      New SS10  

**Notes:** these common topics are moving because the historic start and end dates for Social studies have changed.

This is not a list of topics that all have to be taught (or learned!), nor do historical topics and sequences need to be the main basis of course design. There are also many other fresh topics and perspectives that can enter into each of the new courses in service of students' development of skills, progress towards discipline-specific competencies, and understanding of the big ideas. This chart is intended to help teachers figure out where (and if) they wish to repurpose existing lesson material and learning resources.

Current Social Studies 7	Current Social Studies 8	Current Social Studies 9	Current Social Studies 10	Current Social Studies 11
Skills & Processes - varied, applied in context and applicable across most of the content, and similar from grade to grade while expanding in scope. Examples include critical thinking, interpretation of primary and secondary evidence, research and inquiry techniques, representation (multiple forms), presentation (multiple forms), assess and defend positions, assess bias and accuracy, practice active citizenship, individual and group problem-solving. These remain important as they evolve into competencies, and continue to be embedded with big ideas, course themes, content and contexts.				
What's in the News - Current Events. present day controversies, conflicts and interesting, relevant stories. Stuff students come up with. Random storytelling about history, geography, society, identity, law, culture, heritage, politics, disasters, etc. Critical and creative thinking activities not tied to specific content.				
😊 Prehistory - evolution and migration of peoples, how anthropology works, origins of civilization, transition from hunter-gatherer societies to agriculture	← Early Civilizations - China up to Sui or Tang Dynasty 581 or 618 CE, Confucianism, Legalism, Daoism, Great Wall, Silk Road, geography, culture, power, identity, legacy	← Maps and Geography of Europe (and/or the World), Capes and bays, cities, mountains, rivers, countries - setting the stage for various events	← Regional geography of Canada - physical, economic, climate, natural vegetation, cultural features, settlement patterns. Often a focus on the Canadian West or British Columbia	← Rule of Law and foundations of our democracy, Human Rights, Charter of Rights, Legal/Court System in Canada, NGOs and ways to influence gov't outside of elections (active citizenship)
	😊 Chinese culture, changes, dynasties from the Sui (581 CE) or Tang (618 CE) onwards to Qing (1644) or beyond: culture, power, accomplishments, legacy	← Enlightenment Philosophy re: gov't, rights & responsibilities of individuals, kings, nations, views of human nature	← Map and geography skills appropriate for Canadian course content and level including interpretation, representation	← Political spectrum, "isms," and Canadian political parties, characteristics of Canadian parliamentary democracy (and constitutional monarchy!). Note: structure of gov't is in the SS10 curriculum but often "redone" in SS11
	← Early Civilizations - India from the invasion of Alexander the Great or Ashoka's rule up to the Fall of the Gupta Empire 550 AD	← Divine Right of Kings, English Civil War, Glorious Revolution, Bill of Rights, types of power, representation, and government	← Immigration and Colonization in the 1800s (Great Migration 1815-1850) - a new home for settlers in 1820s and 30s, Irish Potato Famine 1840s, etc.	← Kinds of voting systems, addressing voter apathy, federal and provincial election process in Canada, interpreting election results, political campaigning and advertising, function of parliamentary debate
😊 Ancient Civilizations - human and physical environments, identity, society, economy, adaptations, culture, science & technology, governance. Varied approaches and timelines - focus areas as below	😊 Early Civilizations - India after Muslim presence 643 onwards, perhaps to the Mughal Empire: religion, power and regional conflict, culture, changes to environment	😊 France in the mid 1700s, Three Estates, French Revolution and aftermath 1780s-1799, Terror, Power, Rights, Rule of Law, Constitutions	← Reform Era in Canada 1820s-1850s, focus on concerns of Upper and Lower Canada, people, deeds, Rebellions of 1837, Durham, Act of Union, Baldwin & Lafontaine, Rebellion Losses Bill	← Physical and cultural influences on Canada and various ways of defining what it means to be Canadian, historic attempts to shore up Canadian culture (vs US) e.g. CBC, CRTC, contemporary expressions of Canadian Identity
	← Early Civilizations - Middle East/Arabic culture before Islam, geography, settlement, politics, Mohammad & spread of Islam up to Conquest of Spain 711	😊 Napoleon and Napoleonic Europe 1799-1815, impact on nationalism, laws, politics, etc., Congress of Vienna & Europe after Napoleon	← American Civil War, underground railway, Black settlement in Canada, sometime forays into American history and geography after 1815	← Background (and causes) to WWI, Canada at the start of WWI, Canada and WWI - in Europe and at home, key events in the war, suffrage, conscription, internments, Armistice, Paris Peace Conference
	😊 Arab World, Birth 610 CE, spread, and Golden Age of Islam 750-1258, Umayyad, invading Spain, Abbasid, Ottoman eras, science, trade, geography, politics, etc.	← Conditions in England 1600s-1700s, Farming, Enclosure Movement, the Agricultural Revolution, comparison to other Agrarian revolutions, Cottage industries	← Confederation Era 1850s-1860s, Victorian society and values, internal and external factors, Great Coalition, 3 conferences, choices, characters, colonial perspectives, excluded POVs	← Roaring 20s - Winnipeg Strike, steps towards Canadian Autonomy, those who often missed out on the roar (women, minorities, Aboriginals, immigrants), Canada West advertising for immigrants, King-Byng, Arts & Leisure
😊 Focus on Ancient Mesopotamia	← Origin of major World Religions - Buddhism, Hinduism, Judaism, Confucianism, Christianity, Shinto, Islam, Sikhism, others	😊 Industrial Revolution: Textiles, Steam, Population, Transportation, Social impacts, Labour laws, etc. 1700-1840s. Typically England, but USA as well.	😊 Structure of Canadian gov't - branches, levels, split of powers, parliamentary system, traditions, procedures, passage of a Bill	← Dirty Thirties - Causes of, Conditions in, and Responses to the Great Depression. Collapse in the Prairies, Relief Camps, On to Ottawa, Ten Lost Years, new political parties, Bennet vs King
😊 Focus on Ancient Egypt	← Fall of the Roman Empire, "barbarian" invasions, movement of people, languages, etc. Europe enters Dark Ages;	😊 Physical and Political Geography of Canada and/or North America, a variety of maps including physiographic regions	← The later Fur Trade in the Northwest - results of HBC/NWC rivalry & merger, European settlers, Metis communities & life in Red River 1820-1860s, search for Northwest Passage (e.g. Franklin)	← Rise of Dictatorships & Causes of WWII, Canada and WWII (home and abroad), key operations of the war (e.g. Battle of Britain, Battle of the Atlantic, DDay/Juno, Hiroshima), conscription, internments, end of WWII, new global order & institutions
😊 Focus on Ancient Greece	← Early Middle Ages in Europe into the rule of the Merovingians; Clovis & the entrenchment of Christianity	😊 Studies in geography: volcanism, glaciation, climate, contours, latitude/longitude/direction/scale, interpretation of maps, etc.	← Trouble in Red River, Red River Uprising, Riel vs Macdonald, CPR survey, Creation of Manitoba, etc.	← Postwar prosperity and social change in the 1950s and 1960s, rise of automobile, political change, beginning of Cold War, fear of communism, evolution of the vote
😊 Focus on Roman Empire	😊 Early Middle Ages in Europe from last Merovingians (after Clovis) or Carolingians 754 on; the story and role of Vikings, resurgence of Latin West, Norman Invasion	← Aboriginal Peoples of Canada/North America: origins, distribution, characteristics, adaptations (shelter, food, culture), ways of knowing, human-environment dynamic, legacy & continuity	← Life in the Northwest after 1870, scrip, bison hunts, building the CPR, Pacific Scandal, surveying through the Rockies, changes to Prairie ecosystems, etc.	← Political, social, economic, and environmental change in the 1960s-1970s, Nukes, Dief vs Mike, Aboriginal concerns (e.g. Berger Inquiry), women's rights, minority rights in the postwar era, counterculture movement, drugs sex rock'n'roll
😊 Others - Early China, India, Central and South America (e.g. Maya, Olmec), Ancient Japan, Celtic Europe, The Norse, elsewhere	😊 High and Late Middle Ages - feudalism, role of religion, Norman conquest, power, identity, Crusades, trade, plagues, guilds, technology, warfare, change	← Early European Exploration of Canada (North America) Vikings (c. 1000), others c. 1490s-1500s including Cabot and Cartier, Newfoundland fishing camps, attempt to establish St. Croix	← Northwest Rebellion - conflict between Metis, First Nations, NWMP, British forces - people, battles, events, the Trial of Louis Riel	← Quebec Nationalism, Quiet Revolution, Expo 67, Trudeaumania, FLQ Crisis, Trudeau's Just Society, Levesque/PQ and the 1980 Referendum
	← Early Civilizations - Ancient Japan, Ainu people, influence of China (often taught in SS7)	← Champlain, settlement of New France 1600-1670s, French Fur Trade & explorers, relations between French, British, First Nations	← Macdonald's National Dream, completion of CPR, territorial changes in Canada (e.g. PEI), immigration in the 1880s	← Constitutional Change in the 80s and 90s, Charter, Kitchen Accord, Turner vs Mulroney, Meech Lake, Charlottetown Accords, 1995 Referendum
😊 Connections to modern Canadian society & identity (throughout)	😊 Medieval Japan, introduction Buddhism 538, Nara & Heian periods 710-1192, feudalism, bushido, Mongol invasions, later shogunates, contact and isolation	← Radisson and Groseilliers, Rupert's Land, rivers and drainage basins, British fur trade, HBC 1670-1700s (Stay by the Bay period), early Arctic exploration: Frobisher, Davis, Hudson, etc.	← BC history from contact to 1840s, NWC then HBC fur trade, international competition, Oregon Territory, Forts (James, George, Victoria, etc.), 1846 Treaty, relations with First Nations	← Canada's involvement on the world stage 1945-1990s: UN, NATO, NORAD, Suez Crisis, Korea, Cuban Missile Crisis, Vietnam/Draft dodgers, Peacekeeping initiatives, foreign aid
	😊 African Empires empires, trade, war, geography - many choices, e.g. Ghana, Great Zimbabwe, Benin, Songhai, etc.	← Royal Colony of New France 1663-1754: roles, institutions, and impact on landscape (e.g. seigneuries), struggles, changes to fur trade, life for habitants, etc.	← BC History 1850s-1914 - The Gold Rush(es), creation of BC, Aboriginal perspectives, Canyon War, Chinese miners, Barkerville, Cariboo Road, early Justice, colonial mergers, Chilcotin uprising,	← Politics, culture, economics, and change in the 1980s-2000s, Mulroney-Chretien-Martin-Harper, evolution of the environmental movement, changing technology, relationship with the U.S. (Free Trade, NAFTA, non-participation in Gulf War)
😊 Application of geography and mapping skills throughout	😊 Central and South American civilizations, usually later ones such as Inca and Aztec, adaptations to environment, expressions of culture	😊 Seven Years War in Canada 1754-1763: Acadian Expulsion, Louisbourg, fate of various Forts, Fall of New France and the aftermath including British military rule and the Treaty of Paris	← Drive for Confederation, multicultural character of BC including Chinese railway workers, Japanese fishermen, etc. Development in BC into 1900s	← Recent and contemporary Aboriginal issues, including Oka crisis, land claims, Delgamuukw, creation of Nunavut, Nisga'a Treaty, residential schools (conditions, apologies, healing, legacy)
	😊 Italian Renaissance, physical and human factors, art & culture, trade, wealth, humanism, social change, Northern Renaissance, printing press, Science	😊 British North America 1763-1791, Proclamation Act, Quebec Act, American Revolution, Loyalist Migration and the changing demographics of BNA, Constitution Act	← Laurier "Boom" Era - economy, immigration (Last Best West), political compromises, Klondike Gold Rush, Boer War, Intolerance (Asiatic Exclusion Act, Vancouver race riots, Komagatu Maru, etc)	← Recent and contemporary world events that have shaped Canada: Air India, Rwandan Genocide, Somalia Affair, Yugoslav Civil War, 911, Gulf Wars, Canada as a Model vs Middle Power
😊	😊 Reformation and Counter-Reformation, conditions for emergence of nation-states, reaction to scientific discoveries, use of religion for colonization	😊 Fur Trade late 1700s: Interior Exploration of North America (Kelsey, Hearne, Thompson, etc.), NWC competes with the HBC, origin of the Metis, Selkirk colonists, Pemmican Proclamation 1814, Battle of Seven Oaks	← Traditional Economy of BC: First Nations fishing and use of resources (TEK), early coastal fishing and canneries, forestry, rail, early mines, economic development into the 20th century and associated social and labor issues and consequences	← Historical and contemporary changes in world population and their impacts. Demography and the connection of demographics to other issues. Interpreting population pyramids and understanding the factors behind demographic transition
	😊 Age of Exploration - reasons, technology, results, etc. Portuguese, British, French, Dutch, Spanish, mapping the globe, conquest of the Americas	😊 Exploration and Contact on the West Coast by land 1792-1811 - Mackenzie, Fraser, Thompson and by sea 1741-1794 - Bering, Spanish e.g. Quadra, Cook, Vancouver, Sea Otter Trade, Maquinna, Nootka Convention	😊 BC and Canadian Economy and Environmental: Fishing, Forestry, Mining, Agriculture, Tourism, High Tech, other industries, challenges and resource management issues	← Standard of living in Canada vs developing nations, UN HDI, poverty cycle, under 5 mortality rate, issues and factors in addressing poverty and development, infrastructure, gender issues, global health issues, child soldiers
	😊 Global geography, map skills, latitude, longitude, direction, scale, specific geographic studies related to relevant locations and historic times and places, e.g. ocean currents, desert landforms	😊 War of 1812 and new relationship between BNA and the United States, connections to Napoleonic Wars, Battle of Lundy's Lane, sometimes forays into American history/geography before 1815	😊 Global economy, globalization and Canada's economic role on the international stage, global environmental issues not limited to climate change, food security, consumerism	← Environmental Changes affecting Canadians (and the World) including Global Warming, Water Issues, Ozone Depletion, etc. Influences, e.g. Arctic Sovereignty, addressing Climate Change

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