



Grade 6 Civics Course

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) created this resource to address common questions regarding Indiana Code (IC) 20-19-2-14.7 and the development of the grade six civics course.

Number	Question	Answer
1	How did IDOE identify the Indiana Academic Standards (IAS) that would comprise the middle school civics course?	IDOE convened an educator committee in October 2021 to review existing IAS for Government in grades three through eight and identified specific standards to comprise the civics course.
2	When will the grade six civics course be implemented?	Schools must implement instruction of the new civics course beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Schools should intentionally plan to teach the civics course during the second semester of grade six, while focusing on the remaining grade six social studies standards in the first semester.
3	Why is the civics course required during the second semester of grade six?	Designating the civics course to occur in the second semester of grade six ensures that all Indiana students receive civics instruction. Additionally, requiring the course in grade six allows schools more flexibility with staffing licensed educators for this course.
4	What licensing requirements exist for educators planning to teach the civics course?	Teachers holding an elementary generalist license for grades K-6 or 1-6 may teach the grade six civics course. Additionally, educators who hold a middle school social studies license for grades 5-9, or a secondary license for grades 5-12 in any social studies area may teach the grade six civics course. View IDOE's Educator Licensing webpage for additional information.
5	Were the IAS originally identified for the middle school civics course impacted by IDOE's recent Indiana Academic Standards streamlining process?	<p>Yes, the IAS identified for the civics course were part of IDOE's streamlining process in spring 2023, pursuant to IC 20-31-3-1(c-d). The complete, updated list of IAS designated for the middle school civics course and approved by the Indiana State Board of Education are organized under the <i>Civics Standards</i> section beginning on page 8 of the Indiana Academic Standards: Grade 6 Middle School Civics.</p> <p>IDOE slightly adjusted the numbering of the IAS designated for the middle school civics course (e.g., "6.CIV.4") to help distinguish them from other grade 6 civics standards (e.g., "6.C.4") not part of the middle school civics course.</p>



Indiana Department of Education

Dr. Katie Jenner, Secretary of Education

6	Where can I find additional resources regarding the civics course requirements?	<p>IDOE developed new framework documents to accompany all updated IAS for the middle school civics course. Each document is designed to support educators in the implementation of each IAS. Educators can access the 2023 Grade 6 Civics Frameworks in the Indiana Learning Lab.</p> <p>The 2023 IAS Correlation Guide: Middle School Civics lists the IAS resulting from the recent streamlining process alongside 2020 IAS initially designated for the middle school civics course.</p>
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Please contact IDOE's [Office of Teaching and Learning](#) with any questions.

Updated: December 2023