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Social Policy

لطلاب السنة الثالثة في قسم علم الاجتماع

تأليف أ. آلاء الحجي

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Social policy Concept & Principles

Social policy

Social policy is an inclusive disciplinary, which means to provide solutions to address needs of social life. Social problems change based on economic and environmental factors. These changes also differ based on social structure and state policies.

Principles Of Social Policy

Equality:

Achieving equality underlies social policies. Resources need to be distributed fairly in order to achieve equality. Equality has different types: equal outcome, equal opportunity, or equal treatment.

Equal opportunity:

It means that equal groups should be treated equally. Equal opportunity needs to be given to people regardless of their sex or group. Moreover, all people must

Need:

Basic needs are food, caring, and housing. Needs are not limited, and it is not certain which needs should be covered by states.

Freedom and rights:

There are different types of rights. Civil rights mean the absence of arbitrary arrest and detention but having freedom to discuss any opinion. Social rights mean social welfare and social security, right to education. Political rights include voting and joining political parties and freedom to explain opinion in a democratic way.

social justice,

everyone in society will have equal rights in the face of equal risks. In this way, the inequalities and differences caused by the economic chances are eliminated. All the policies that ensure that everyone has fair opportunities with regard to income, taxes, wages, education, and social security contribute to the development of social justice.

social balance

is possible if everyone in society lives in harmony and balance. Therefore, social differences need to be reduced. Especially the differences and inequalities, with regard to opportunities, of the individuals living in different regions cause this balance and harmony to deteriorate. It is one of the main objectives of social policy practitioners to eliminate the differences regarding the development level and to ensure that everyone benefits from the same social services.

Social peace

is ensured through policies aimed at eliminating the factors that lead to the deterioration of the balance within the social structure. Especially in the capitalist system, the social differences created by the free market can hinder solidarity throughout the society. For the creation of a society dominated by harmony and reconciliation, policies should be implemented in order to eliminate the negative effects on the psychology of society

Social integration

refers to the minimization of political and economic factors that negatively affect unity and solidarity in society. Education, culture, and moral values are issues that affect social resolution in this sense.

Achieving the goal of **social** democracy, it is possible to protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of individuals in democratic order with the legal order in the framework of democratic freedoms. The goal of democracy must be achieved in order to protect the individuals' rights to work and participate.

Social policy is a plan or action of government or institutional agencies which aim to improve or reform society.

Some professionals and universities consider social policy a subset of public policy,[1] while other practitioners characterize social policy and public policy to be two separate, competing approaches for the same public interest (similar to MD and DO in healthcare), with social policy deemed more holistic than public policy.[2] Whichever of these persuasions a university adheres to, social policy begins with the study of the welfare state and social services.[3] It consists of guidelines, principles, legislation and associated activities that affect the living conditions conducive to human welfare, such as a person's quality of life. The Department of Social Policy at the London School of Economics defines social policy as "an interdisciplinary and applied subject concerned with the analysis of societies' responses to social need", which seeks to foster in its students a capacity to understand theory and evidence drawn from a wide range of social science disciplines, including economics, sociology, psychology, geography, history, law, philosophy and political science.[4] The Malcolm Wiener Center for Social Policy at Harvard University describes social policy as "public policy and practice in the areas of health care, human services, criminal justice, inequality, education, and labor".[5] Social policy might also be described as actions that affect the well-being of members of a society through shaping the distribution of and access to goods and resources in that society.[6] Social policy often deals with wicked problems.[7]

The discussion of 'social policy' in the United States and Canada can also apply to governmental policy on social issues such as tackling racism,[8] LGBT issues (such as same-sex marriage)[9] and the legal status of abortion,[10] guns,[11] euthanasia,[12] recreational drugs[13] and prostitution.[14] In other countries, these issues would be classified under health policy and domestic policy.

The study of social policy can either be a stand-alone degree at providers such as the University of Birmingham, University of York, Oxford University, and the University of Pennsylvania, or a specialization as part of a public policy degree program such as at McGill University, Balsillie School of International Affairs, Harris School of Public Policy, and the Hertie School of Governance. In the Global South, social policy is offered along with public policy degree programmes, as at the Institute of Public Policy, National Law School of India University, Bangalore, combined with development policy.

What is Social Policy?

Social Policy is an interdisciplinary and applied academic subject concerning human needs, social justice and individual and collective wellbeing. It studies how governments, families, companies and organisations in different social sectors distribute and redistribute resources and opportunities to people from different socio-economic backgrounds

Social policy can be theorised, evaluated, and prescribed from a number of different perspectives, each with its own ideology.

The Quality Assurance Agency subject benchmark statement describes the nature of social policy as a subject, and sets out what social policy graduates can be expected to know, do and understand at the end of their studies.

Social Policy draws on a wide range of disciplines with research being undertaken across the UK and internationally. Much of this research has a significant impact on the policy and practice of institutions but also on the lives and outcomes of individuals and communities.

Social policy is the term given to government policies, actions, programmes, or initiatives that are intended to address and improve social problems. They are designed for human welfare and deal with a wide range of areas, from education, health and employment to crime and justice.

The difference between 'social' and 'sociological' problems

Before we understand the various types of social policies or how sociology influences them, we should understand the difference between social problems and sociological problems. This distinction was made by Peter Worsley (1977).

Social policy definition in sociology

Social policy is the term given to government policies, actions, programmes, or initiatives that are intended to address and improve social problems. They are

designed for human welfare and deal with a wide range of areas, from education, health and employment to crime and justice.

Social problems

According to Worsley, a 'social problem' refers to social behaviour that leads to public friction or private misery. This includes poverty, crime, anti-social behaviour, or poor education. Such problems may attract the government to create social policies to address them.

Sociological problems

Sociological problems refer to the theorising of social behaviour using sociological explanations and terms. Social behaviour does not have to include social problems; for example, sociologists may try to explain 'normal' behaviour such as why people choose to attend university.

The presence of social problems, therefore, means that they are also sociological problems, as sociologists try to explain the issues and find potential solutions. This is where the role of social policy is important; sociologists can influence social policies by offering explanations and assessing policies' effectiveness, e.g. in reducing juvenile delinquency.

The relationship between sociology and social policy

Sociology has a significant impact on the creation and implementation of social policies. This is because many social policies are based on sociological research, which is conducted by sociologists to try and find an explanation of a social problem. Very often they also try to find solutions to such social problems, which is where ideas for social policies can arise.

Example

Let us assume that there is a set minimum wage put in place for the whole of the UK. Sociologists may find that those living in the UK's capital cities, i.e., London (England), Edinburgh (Scotland), Cardiff (Wales), and Belfast (Northern Ireland) are at greater risk of poverty and unemployment, due to the higher cost of living in those cities relative to the rest of the country. To reduce this likelihood, sociologists may suggest a social policy that raises the minimum wage for people living and working in these cities.

Sociologists are likely to produce quantitative social research to support the creation of the above social policy. For example, they may cite statistics on income, employment rates, and costs of living. They may also present qualitative social

research e.g. interview or questionnaire answers and case studies, depending on the length and depth of the sociological research.

Quantitative data collected by sociologists are likely to be useful for the identification of trends, patterns, or issues, while qualitative data can help find out the causes of such issues. Both types of data can be extremely valuable for governments and policymakers.

Sources of social policies

Ideas for social policies are generated all the time, usually in response to growing social problems. Groups or factors that influence the creation of new social policies include:

1. Government departments
2. Political parties
3. Pressure groups (also known as interest groups)
4. Global organisations such as the European Union (EU), United Nations (UN), or World Bank
5. Public opinion or pressure
6. Sociological research

Types of social policy in sociology

Social policies can take the form of laws, guidelines, or controls. They can be designed to take immediate effect, or they can gradually bring in changes, depending on the social policy itself.

Examples of social policy

The best way to understand social policies is to look at concrete, real-life examples. Below, you can find examples of different types of social policies in different sectors.

Education and social policy in sociology

Since 2015, the school-leaving age has been 18 in England. This is to reduce and prevent unemployment among young people.

Health and social policy

Implementation of the National Health Service (NHS) in 1948 - comprehensive, universal and free healthcare for all.

Since 2015, nobody can smoke in a vehicle if there is someone under the age of 18 in the vehicle.

Environment and social policy

The UK government announced a sales ban on new petrol and diesel cars by 2030, to achieve net-zero vehicle emissions by 2050.

Family and social policy

The introduction of Working Family Tax Credits in 2003 by New Labour provided a tax allowance for families with children, married or unmarried, and encourage both parents to work (rather than just a male breadwinner).

The Sure Start programme, which started in 1998, provided health and support services for low-income parents with young children

Theories on social policy in sociology

Let's move on to consider sociological perspectives on social policy. These include:

1. positivist
2. functionalist
3. New Right
4. Marxist
5. feminist
6. interactionist
7. postmodernist perspectives.

We will look at how each of these views the role and impact of social policy on society.

Positivism on social policy

Followers of positivist theories believe sociological researchers should provide objective, value-free quantitative data that reveals social facts. If these social facts reveal social problems, then social policy is a way to 'cure' such problems. For

positivists, social policy is an effective, scientific way to address social problems that have been discovered using scientific methods.

Collecting data that reveals social facts is also a way for positivists to uncover the laws that govern society. An example of a positivist sociologist is Émile Durkheim, who was also a functionalist.

Functionalism on social policy

Functionalist theorists believe that social policy is a way to keep society functioning, as it addresses problems within society and helps to maintain social solidarity. According to functionalists, the state acts in the best interests of society and uses social policies for the overall good of everyone.

The sociological discipline plays an important role in this, as it provides objective, quantitative data that reflect social problems. Sociologists uncover social problems through research, not unlike doctors diagnosing an illness in a human body, and suggest solutions in the form of social policies. These policies are implemented as an attempt to 'fix' the social problem.

Functionalists like to address specific social problems as they arise, often called 'piecemeal social engineering'. This means they work on one issue at a time.

New Right on social policy

The New Right believes in minimal state intervention, particularly in the issue of welfare and state benefits. They argue that too much state intervention creates a dependency on the state and makes individuals less inclined to be independent. New Right thinkers claim that people need to have a sense of responsibility and freedom to solve their own problems.

Charles Murray, a key New Right theorist, believes that overly generous and dependable state benefits, such as financial aid and council housing, encourage 'perverse incentives'. This means the state encourages irresponsible and free-loading individuals by unconditionally giving state benefits. Murray states that over-reliance on the state leads to crime and delinquency, as people relying on the state do not need to seek employment.

Therefore, the New Right is in favour of cutting welfare and state benefits so that individuals are forced to take initiative and provide for themselves

The Marxist perspective on family and social policy

Marxists particularly point out that social policies that claim to benefit the family do so in order to uphold ruling class interests - since the nuclear family raises and socialises the next generation of workers, it benefits capitalism to invest in it.

Feminism on social policy

Some feminist sociologists believe that social policy upholds patriarchal structures and the interests of men at the expense of women. They argue that patriarchy influences the state, so social policies are designed to keep women subordinated while uplifting men's interests.

According to feminists, social policy frequently has the effect of restricting women's rights, harming women, or perpetuating gender stereotypes. This can be seen in instances such as family and divorce policies, unequal parental leave, austerity cuts, and gendered taxes, all of which unfairly burden and/or negatively affect women and their livelihoods.

However, there have also been many social policies created to alleviate or eliminate gender inequalities based on feminism, especially liberal feminism, which argues that it is through legal and social changes that women can achieve gender equality.

Examples include:

- Women's right to vote, passed in 1918
- The Equal Pay Act of 1970

Radical feminists, on the other hand, do not think that women can achieve true gender equality in society as society is inherently patriarchal. For them, social policies will not address the issues faced by women.

Interactionism on social policy

Interactionists believe sociological research should be focused on micro-level interactions between individuals. It should strive to understand human behaviour by understanding people's motivations. An important facet of interactionism is the theory

of the self-fulfilling prophecy, which states that individuals are more likely to act in a certain way if they are 'labelled' and treated in that way.

Followers of this perspective believe there is too much emphasis on labels and 'problems' within social policy, which doesn't lend itself to true understanding.

The idea of the self-fulfilling prophecy has been used to acknowledge biases and prejudices in the education system, especially where deviant children are labelled or treated as deviant, and so become deviant.

Postmodernism on social policy

Postmodernist theorists believe that sociological research cannot influence social policy. This is because postmodernists reject notions of 'truth' or 'progress', and consider concepts that we take to be objective and inherently true, e.g. equality and justice, as socially constructed.

They do not believe in the inherent human needs that social policies are created to address - such as health, nutrition, education, work/employment, etc. - and therefore have no contribution to make towards social policy.

The concept of social policy, what it is and how to formulate it

By that, we mean a set of decisions issued by the various competent bodies, which clarify the binding directions in the various fields.

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Kamal Ahmed defines social policy as: “a set of decisions issued by the competent authorities in society to achieve its general social goals. These decisions clarify the areas of social care, binding trends, work style and objectives within the limits of the society’s ideology. This policy is implemented by drawing up a plan or more that includes a number of programs.” And a group of interconnected integrated social projects.

From this definition we see the following:

Social policy is a set of decisions issued by bodies that have the power to do so.

The social policy clarifies the areas of social care, i.e. the fields, the categories and the appropriate times for that.

- Social policy should be comprehensive and clear.
- Social policy can be national, regional and local.

And that the method by which politics is defined and drawn in modern societies is the planning method in drawing up a new policy or amending an already existing one.

Social policy uses various means of communication and the media to spread and broadcast that policy.

Through the foregoing, we can define the concept of social policy in a procedural manner that includes the nature of social policy in the following:

- Social policy represents political processes that depend on the intervention of state power.
- Social policy is the process of making decisions related to the goals of society.
- Social policy is linked to the ideology of society.
- Social policy defines the different areas of social welfare.
- Social policy is multi-level, as it expresses the policy of a sector or an apparatus.
- Social policy includes governmental efforts and civil efforts together in social welfare programs.
- Social policy is based on the use of a scientific method that identifies social needs.
- Social policy joint processes.

These processes result from the social needs of the people of society.

Second: The importance of defining social policy and its functions:

Hence, we can define the importance of social policy as follows:

They demonstrate a level of intellectual coordination between various social programs and efforts.

It represents areas of work, its directions, and the style of those in charge of planning and implementation matters.

They complete successive efforts as a result of uniting the long goal.

It assists planners in setting priorities for social planning.

It gives human meanings to the executive efforts, as it links philosophy, principles and moral values.

Through social policy, it is possible to achieve the best possible investment of the available human, material and organizational capabilities and resources in society.

Defining social policy contributes to regulating the mutual relations between the existing systems of society.

Through social policy, the maximum needs of individuals in society can be satisfied.

Social Policy Functions:

There are many functions achieved by social policy in achieving comprehensive development in society, and they can be identified in the following functions:

The developmental function: it gives a distinguished position to the human role in development. This function involves supporting and strengthening the family.

The preventive function: it is directed towards the groups that could be vulnerable to negative influence in the foreseeable future from the development process.

Therapeutic function: It is directed, in particular, to some disadvantaged groups, which were called marginal groups, such as neglected children and the elderly.

The integrative function: It is considered by the international organization of the United Nations as a fundamental shift in the welfare policy.

Third: Social policy goals and objectives:

The goals and objectives of social policy appear clearly if we are able to enumerate the most important issues and problems that our society suffers from at the present time.

Social policy is the answer to these issues, the most important of which are:

- The terrible increase in the size of the population resulting from the high rates of childbearing.

Despite the tremendous progress in medical treatment and the increase in the average life expectancy of the individual, there are those who fall into chronic diseases.

- There is a discrepancy in the level of social classes and related services, which tend towards industrialization, increasing migration from the countryside to cities, and the emergence of the phenomenon of population concentration.

Fourth: Social Policy Elements:

The elements of social policy on which specialists and experts gather are represented in the following aspects:

- decisions.
- The dominant ideology in society.
- The long-term goals of society.
- areas of social work.
- Binding and organizing directions for social work.

Fifth: Pillars of Social Policy:

Social policy is based on established and well-known pillars, and these pillars are the foundations and rules on which this policy is based, and they are the sources from which it derives its entity or the methods that determine its strength.

Hence, the social policy of the **Egyptian society** is based on a set of basic pillars, namely:

- Heavenly laws:
- Political and national work charters:

What is meant by it is the political or social charters issued by the state that define the broad framework of the policy pursued by the state as the United Nations organization as a member of it.

An example of international conventions is the 1980s Charter for the Prevention and Rehabilitation of the Disabled, which stipulates four objectives and a set of **general objectives**:

- Implementation of a program in each country aimed at protecting individuals.
- Ensure the provision of rehabilitation services.
- Take all necessary steps to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities.
- Broadcasting information about people with disabilities and their underlying predispositions.

The Constitution :

It is the basis on which the social and political organization is based, and it is the main source of laws and social legislation. Therefore, every constitution in the world must be an expression of values and customs, and the matter stems from the historical roots of society and an expression of hopes and aspirations.

Legislations and laws:

It is the legal rule upon which society establishes its affairs of life, its methods of survival, and its continuation of its existence and its continuity to achieve the social welfare of citizens.

State ideology:

What is meant by it is a set of ideas and philosophies that determine their directions in the various branches of national action. They may be communism that eliminates the personality of the individual, except within the limits imposed on him in terms of opinions, ideas and beliefs.

Cultural Heritage :

The impact of cultural heritage in determining social policy is evident in countries that have an ancient history, cultural and historical origins, values, standards and behavioral patterns rooted in the depths of thought and behavior.

Sixth: The stages of formulating and defining social policy:

We can identify the basic stages through which social policy is formulated and determined in society as follows:

The stage of presenting social issues for discussion: Where the formulation of social policy begins from the interest of individuals in society or some specific social groups.

The stage of crystallizing and defining these issues: In this stage, sufficient data and information about these issues are provided.

The stage of the scientific study of the issues: In this stage, the leaders of the government apparatus in the state, the technical bodies of social welfare organizations at the national level, scientific research centers, universities and experts intervene to study and analyze these issues.

The stage of defining the general framework of social policy: In this stage, a set of general social objectives are reached, the achievement of which leads to appropriate solutions to meet social needs and problems.

The stage of approving and issuing the social policy: the approval and issuance of the social policy is carried out by the bodies and agencies that have the power and authority to take decisions in the state.

Seventh: The relationship between the policy and the plan:

It can be said that there is a close link between politics and plan within society.

We can define the relationship between policy and plan as follows:

- The policy and the plan are the product of the planning processes that include the situation determination and study.
- The policy is always broader and broader than the plan.
- Social policy is the guide and general framework from which development plans are based.
- Long-term social policy goals need a long time to achieve.
- That the plan has purposes that seek to achieve part of the general objectives of social policy during the period of the plan.

It is clear that the policy and the plan proceed in one process that includes several stages leading to the development of society, namely:

- Identifying the ideology of society with its beliefs, values, customs, and material and non-material cultures.
- Planning is the scientific approach used in developing plans and programs based on basic stages:
- Studying society and defining its goals.
- Define the framework of the plan.
- Developing the development plan.
- Implementation of the plan.
- Follow-up and evaluation of the plan.

Eighth: The relationship between social policy and social service:

The student of the social service profession knows very well that we are at the beginning of the twenty-first century that social service is no longer just temporary services or operations related to charity to meet basic human needs.

The profession has been able to establish for itself a set of trends, which undoubtedly stem mainly from the ideology of society, and the most important trends are:

The social worker has become a professional leader that requires a great and distinct type of professional preparation.

The well-being of citizens is linked to the well-being of society.

The well-being of society must be done by taking care of all societal groups without discrimination, segregation, or neglect of one group over the other.

The local community is the most important community unit.

Social welfare responsibility has become one of the main tasks of governments in modern societies.

From this point of view, the relationship between the profession of social work and social policy becomes clear, and that each affects the other. **This relationship appears clearly in:**

Follow the social policy to avoid improvisation in the development of plans and programs.

Social policy explains the social work profession trends, areas and methods of social work.

The social service works in the areas of social care and the social environment and has a large amount of information and expertise.

After the expansion of the social doctrine, the government intervenes to strike a balance.

Social service operates within the limits of general social policy and tries to make citizens adaptable within the limits of existing systems and resources.



Glossary of Social Study Terms:

The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.

Glossary of Terms for the Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Social Studies

Terms are used throughout the Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for Social Studies. This document provides an alphabetical list of definitions and descriptions of these terms. The writing committee identified terms that they felt were essential to understanding the content and skills in the standards. The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.

Absolute Location - the exact geographic spot where something is located based on where latitude lines intersect with longitude lines on the global grid.

Afro-Eurasian - the continents of Africa, Asia and Europe.

Allocation - the action or process of distributing resources.

Amendments - the process of altering or changing a document such as the U. S. Constitution.

Anti-Federalists - first used in 1787 during the creation of the U.S. Constitution to identify people who opposed the adoption of the U.S. Constitution.

Authority - a person or organization having power, control and knowledge in a particular area or environment.

Benefit - something that is good, helpful or promotes well-being.

Cabinet - made up of a group of people that provide advice to a head of state such as the President's Cabinet.

Capital - an important city in a state or region where the government is located (such as Frankfort, the capital of the state of Kentucky); financial assets or goods dedicated to production of other goods (net worth = excess assets over liabilities).

Cause and effect - a relationship between events or things, where one is the result of the other or others. This is a combination of action and reaction; a cause produces an effect which in turn can become a cause and produce another effect.

Chain of supply - a system of people, resources, activities and information involved in moving a product from producer to consumer.

Characteristic - a feature that helps to identify, tell apart or describe a distinguishing mark or trait. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Checks and balances - the system in which each of the three branches of the United States government has specifically granted abilities to limit ("check") the actions of the other branches, which ensures that no one branch becomes too powerful.

Chronological - arranging items in order by date or time.

Citizen - a person with certain rights, responsibilities and duties to a country.

Citizenship - status of being a citizen; membership in a community.

Civic - relating to a city, citizens or citizenship such as civic responsibility or civic duty.

Civic engagement - actions to make a difference in the civic life of our communities through both political and non-political processes such as participating in the electoral process or volunteering.

Civic identity - how an individual sees oneself in regards to citizenship and their government.

Civic responsibilities - actions that can be completed by citizens, such as community service, running for elected office and voting.

Civic virtues - actions and duties citizens undertake to contribute to the common good of their local, state, national or international community.

Claim - an argument derived from and backed by evidence.

Classical republicanism - a theory of democracy that promotes the general welfare for all citizens in a society.

Classical Period - the period of global history after the decline of river valley civilizations, from about 600 BCE-600 CE

Colonial America - the period from 1492-1763 when lands in North America were colonized by European nations such as England, Spain and France with the intent to increase their wealth and world power. This period saw forced immigration and voluntary immigration from these nations and others to North America.

Colonial Kentucky - the general period corresponding to Colonial America in which Kentucky was claimed by the Spanish, French and English. This period in Colonial Kentucky history can extend through the period when Daniel Boone and others brought the first non-Native settlers into the area for the purpose of permanent settlement and up to the date of statehood on June 1, 1792.

Collaboration - to work jointly together or to cooperate with others.

Commerce - the activity of buying and selling. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Common goods - goods that have a limited abundance that are difficult to stop people from using in unlimited quantities such as land, air, wildlife and water.

Communicating Conclusions - a student's ability to effectively communicate his/her own conclusions and listen carefully to the conclusions of others. Traditional products such as essays, reports, tables, diagrams, graphs, multimedia presentations and discussions can be used to share conclusions with a variety of audiences.

Community - a group of people who have common interests and goals and typically share a space, culture, heritage or government.

Comparative advantage - the ability of an individual or group to carry out a particular economic activity (such as making a specific product) more efficiently than another individual or group.

Compelling Questions - should reflect an enduring issue and be relevant and engaging for students.

Conflict - the opposition of persons or forces which leads to disagreement.

Conquest - the claiming and controlling of a place or people gained by military force.

Constitution - a written plan of government with rules for political and social organization within a nation or state; it determines the powers and duties of the government and guarantees certain rights to the people in it.

Contributions - the act of giving something such as money or time.

Consensus building - a conflict-resolution process used mainly to settle complex, multiparty disputes; collaborative problem-solving.

Consent of the governed - a condition considered by modern democratic societies as a requirement for legitimate government: that the authority of a government should depend on the consent of the people, as expressed by votes in elections.

Consequences - something produced by a cause or action; can be either positive or negative.

Construct - Students demonstrate understanding by connecting new and prior knowledge either verbally or in writing.

Consumers - a person who uses economic goods.

Context - the circumstances that form the setting for an event, statement or idea, and in terms of which it can be fully understood and assessed.

Corroborative value - when a second source supports the credibility of another source.

Cost-benefit analysis - a procedure for estimating all costs involved and possible profits to be derived from a business opportunity or proposal. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Counterclaim - an argument in opposition of a previous statement.

Culture - a social institution created within the learned behavior of people, including but not limited to their specific norms, values, belief systems, language(s), knowledge, social relations, technologies, institutions and organizations.

Cultural characteristics - specific ideas, belief systems or patterns of behavior that characterize a society or a particular social group.

Cultural diffusion - the spreading of social institutions and ideas.

Cultural diversity - the existence of a variety of cultural/ethnic groups within a society or in the same place.

Customs and traditions - a common way of doing things; something that many people do, and have done for a long time.

Deliberative and democratic processes - a process where deliberation is central to decision-making. This process also looks to generate outcomes that promote the common good through reasoning, rather than through a law-making process.

Demand - willingness and ability to purchase a commodity or service.

Democracy - a system of government in which the power is held by the people, either directly or through elected representatives.

Democratic discourse - debate where one or more highly-valued positions search for authentic truth and are recognized without giving up their valid claims/position.

Democratic principles - equality before the law, inalienable rights, consent of the governed, right to alter or abolish the government, justice, responsibility, freedom.

Disciplinary concepts - the major strands of Social Studies: Civics, Economics, Geography and History.

Disciplinary thinking - the ability to think from different perspectives of a historian, geographer, economist and political scientist.

Diverse - showing variety or differing from one another.

Diverse groups - includes diverse racial, religious, and ethnic groups, and those of various national origins.

Diverse perspectives - the ability to see the world through the eyes of others; awareness and understanding of the customs, practices, methodologies and viewpoints of varied groups of people that are different from you. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Diversity - a range or variety of different things which may include but is not limited to a group or organization made up of people of different races, ethnicities, cultures, religions and economic statuses.

Economic incentive - extrinsic motivation to complete a task or make a decision.

Economic interdependence - when nations are dependent on another nation for products and goods that they cannot produce efficiently for themselves.

Economic markets - the exchange of goods and services by buyers and sellers.

Economy - an exchange of goods and services; the wealth and resources of a country or region, especially in terms of the production and consumption of goods and services.

Efficiency - an economic state in which every resource is optimally allocated to serve each individual or entity in the best way while minimizing waste and inefficiency.

Empire - a group of people and land under one supreme ruler.

Enlightenment - an intellectual and philosophical movement of the late 18th through the early 19th century that focused on the power of human reasoning and his/her own inalienable rights.

Entrepreneurship - the activity of setting up a business or businesses, taking on financial risks in the hope of profit.

Environmental characteristics - aspects of a place or region shaped by the earth's physical processes or stemming from the physical environment.

Equilibrium price (market price) - the price that occurs when supply and demand are equal.

Evidence - the skill of using evidence requires students to collect, evaluate and synthesize evidence from primary and secondary sources to develop and support a claim.

Evidentiary limitations - the ability to recognize that when researching a topic the source may not address all perspectives of the time period as well as availability of credible sources.

Executive Branch - the branch of federal and state government that is broadly responsible for implementing, supporting and enforcing the laws, led by the office of the President of the United States.

Explanatory products - make an idea, situation or problem clear to someone by describing it in more detail or revealing relevant facts or ideas through a product.

Externalities - side effect or consequence of an industrial or commercial activity that affects other parties without this being reflected in the cost of the goods or services involved, such as the pollination of surrounding crops by bees kept for honey.

Factors of production - land, labor, capital and entrepreneurial skills. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Families - includes all types of family units such as but not limited to: adoption, step, foster, group houses, friends, neighborhood and school family.

Federal System - when the powers of government are divided between the national (federal) government and state and local governments; the Constitution of the United States established the federal system, also known as federalism.

Federalism - the distribution of power between the levels of government.

Fiscal policy - the use of government spending and tax policies to influence macroeconomic conditions, including aggregate demand, employment, inflation and economic growth.

Foundational documents - some of the foundational documents of the United States that may include but are not limited to: Mayflower Compact, Articles of Confederation, Declaration of Independence, Bill of Rights, Constitution, The Federalist Papers, etc.

Founding generation - the many people of diverse backgrounds who forged the path to a new nation.

Founding principle: ideas and virtues that are outlined in the foundational documents that shaped and guided the founding of the United States. Examples include, but are not limited to: freedom of speech, freedom of religion and freedom of the press.

Geographic (relating to geography) - belonging to or characteristic of a particular region based on the physical features of an area.

Geographic features - are natural characteristics, such as soil, mountains, clouds, natural bodies of water, etc.

Geographic representations - globes, graphs, diagrams, and aerial and satellite images (remote sensing) that allow us to visualize spatial patterns on Earth.

Geospatial technologies - tools used to map and analyze earth's geography and human societies.

Global interconnectedness - the ability to identify, understand and function in a world that is increasingly multicultural and international.

Global interconnections - relationships between various countries.

Global market - to participate in the buying, selling and trading of services or goods outside of one's own country.

Goods and services - a good or a service is something you can buy. A good is something you can touch; a service is a job that you pay someone else to do. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) - the total value of goods produced and services provided in a country during one year.

Goods - possessions or personal property; items of value used for trade or sale.

Governing Bodies - a group of people who help direct the affairs of an institution or nation in partnership with its leaders.

Government - a system of rule used to govern a community, state or country.

House of Representatives - the lower legislative branch in a bicameral governing body, where each state has a number of representatives proportionate to its population.

Human Characteristics - the defining traits or features that are found in most people.

Human settlement - a location where people have built physical structures to use as a permanent or temporary living spaces.

Human resources - an organization's workforce.

Human systems - ways by which humans, through their daily activities, shape and reshape the earth.

Hunter-Gatherer Societies - a community that survives by foraging for food (collecting wild plants and hunting wild animals) which may cause them to regularly move their settlement in order to obtain these resources.

Immigrant - a person who migrates to a new country, usually to take up permanent residence.

Inalienable rights - rights inherently possessed by all people. This term is used in the Declaration of Independence by Thomas Jefferson. (See also, "Natural rights".)

Incentive - something that encourages action or effort such as a reward.

Indian Ocean Maritime System - a series of interconnected trade routes linking China, Southeast Asia, South Asia, East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula from the beginning of the Classical Period and remaining in use until the Early Modern Period.

Influence - a person or group that can inform the actions and decisions of others.

Ingenuity - to be clever, inventive or resourceful.

Innovations - new knowledge which leads to development of new or improved products, processes or ideas.

Inquiry - in social studies, a process by which students reach and share conclusions.

The steps in the inquiry process are to question, investigate, use sources and communicate conclusions. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction.*

Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.

Integrate evidence - students explore and gather information about topics they want to investigate in order to present information.

Interdependence - the dependence of two or more people or things on each other.

Investigative questions - are synonymous with supporting questions. These questions support the compelling question by asking a more focused question. These can be answered through the use of the concepts and practices of each social studies discipline.

Institution - an established law, practice or custom.

Judicial Branch – in the United States, the branch of government at the federal and state levels that interprets laws and administers justice.

Judicial review - the process by which legislative and executive actions are subject to review by the judiciary; it is part of the checks and balances process that can determine if an act is unconstitutional.

Labor - an activity that is often done for economic gain; a group of people that works for a wage.

Land - the part of earth's surface not covered by water; an area of ground that is defined by specific boundaries.

Landforms - a specific physical feature on the earth's surface such as mountains, plains and valleys.

Latitude - the angular distance of a place north or south of the earth's equator that is expressed in degrees.

Law - the principals and regulations within a community to which people are held accountable.

Law code - a comprehensive written statement of the law.

Leaders - people who are in charge and can dictate or influence change.

Legislative Branch – In the United States, the branch of government at the federal and state levels that makes the laws. Includes the Senate and House of Representatives

Legislative processes - the process of making laws.

Limited resources - productive resources that are finite; for example: money, time, workers, land, materials, natural resources (both renewable and non-renewable).

Longitude - the angular distance of a place east or west of the earth's prime meridian that is expressed in degrees.

Market conditions - the environment of factors that affect business, investing and employment. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Market economy - a system in which economic decisions and the pricing of goods and services are guided solely by the interactions of a country's individual citizens and businesses with little government intervention or central planning.

Meaningful Questions: are synonymous with compelling questions. These questions should reflect an enduring issue and be engaging and relevant for students.

Mediums of exchange - instrument with a standard accepted value used to facilitate exchange, for example, currency.

Mesoamerica - the historical region and cultural area from central Mexico through Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and northern Costa Rica.

Migration - occurs when a group of people or animals move from one location to another.

Monarchy - a form of government where the supreme authority is a single person whose power is hereditary.

Monetary Policy - tools used by the Federal Reserve Bank to manage the supply of money and interest rates in the US economy.

Monopoly - the exclusive possession or control of the supply or trade in a commodity or service.

Monotheism - belief or worship in only one god.

Multicultural - of, relating to, or reflective of many cultures.

Multiple disciplinary lenses - Using the disciplinary concepts and practices of civics, economics, geography and history to make sense of the world.

Multiple perspectives - the ability to see things from several points of view and understand that perspectives are based on one's way of thinking, position or beliefs/attitudes.

Natural environment - all living and nonliving things that are found in nature, such as water, forests, minerals and fertile land.

Natural resources - materials found in nature that can be used for economic gain.

Natural rights - also referred to as "inalienable rights," natural rights as those rights inherently held by each person. According to the Virginia Declaration of Rights in 1776, "...all men are by nature equally free and independent and have certain inherent rights, of which, when they enter into a state of society, they cannot, by any compact, deprive or divest their posterity; namely, the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety." Drawing on Enlightenment thinkers like John Locke, these rights undergird the structure of democratic government. (See also, "inalienable rights".) *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Needs - things that are necessary to have for survival.

Neolithic Revolution - the transition from hunting and gathering to one of agriculture and settlement.

Non-Renewable Resource - natural resources that once used are gone forever.

Oligopoly - a state of limited competition, in which a market is shared by a small number of producers or sellers.

Opportunity costs - benefit missed when an investor, individual or business chooses one alternative over another.

Origin - the point or place where something starts or is derived.

Patriotism - a demonstration of support or defense of one's country.

Physical Characteristics - the defining traits or features of a person or place.

Physical environment - the part of the human environment that includes purely physical factors (such as soil, climate, water supply).

Political institutions - organizations that create, enforce and apply laws.

Political system - the set of formal legal institutions that create a government.

Polytheism - the belief or worship of more than one god.

Popular sovereignty - government is ruled by the people.

Preamble - an introduction or preface to a document such as the Declaration of Independence or U.S. Constitution.

Price stability - in an economy means that the general price level in an economy does not change much over time. In other words, prices neither go up or down; there is no significant degree of inflation or deflation.

Primary sources - primary sources were created by someone who experienced the events first-hand. A primary resource may include, but is not limited to: a diary, government manuscript, photograph, autobiography, speech audio recording, video recording or interview.

Private Institutions - organizations that are not under government control.

Producers - provide a good or service of economic value.

Production - to create or manufacture something of value.

Profit - financial gain in return for a product or service. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Property - goods, land or possessions owned by an individual or group.

Public Institutions - organizations that are run and funded by the government.

Push and Pull Factors - factors that drive people away from a place and draw people to a new location.

Relative Location - the relationship of one geographic place to another.

Reconstruction - the process of building or creating something again that has been damaged or destroyed; the period after the Civil War.

Region- a defined geographic area.

Regions of Kentucky - Bluegrass, Pennyroyal, Jackson Purchase, Eastern Coalfields, Western Coalfields.

Regions of the World - Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe, Oceania.

Relevant information - data that can be applied to solve a problem.

Renaissance - means “rebirth” and refers to the period in Europe between the 14th and 17th centuries when there was a surge of interest in and production of art and literature from Ancient Greece and Rome.

Renewable Resource - resources that are naturally replenished as they are being used.

Representations - the act of speaking on behalf of someone or portraying someone or something.

Republic - a government in which citizens elect representatives to make decisions about the law for all the people.

Responsibility - to be aware of and accountable for something within one’s power or control.

Resources - a source of supply or aid that can be accessed when needed; the collective wealth (money and assets) of a county.

Rights - a moral or legal entitlement to take a certain action.

River Valley Civilizations - ancient civilizations centered (especially in terms of economy) around a river, including Ancient Mesopotamia, Ancient Egypt, Ancient India, and Ancient China.

Rule - prescribed guide for conduct or action; an accepted procedure, custom or habit

Rule of law - all citizens are held accountable to the same rules as established by government law. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Sectionalism - an exaggerated concern for local or regional interests as opposed to concern for the interests of the whole.

Senate - the upper house of the United States Congress, which contains two members per state.

Separation of Powers - separating power between three branches of government - executive, legislative and judicial - to prevent abuse of power.

Scale - the relative size or a ratio of the size of a location.

Scarcity - insufficient supply to meet demand.

Scientific Revolution - when developments in mathematics, physics, astronomy, biology and chemistry transformed the views of society about nature.

Secondary sources - created by someone who did not experience first-hand or participate in the events or conditions being researched. A secondary source may include, but is not limited to: a scholarly book or article.

Services - to supply help to someone; systems to meet public needs, such as utilities and transportation.

Settlement - to make a stable or permanent home or community.

Silk Road - land based trade routes connecting China to the Mediterranean beginning in the Classical Period and remaining in use until the Early Modern Period.

Society - a community, nation or grouping of people having shared institutions, traditions and other common standards of living.

Source - someone or something that supplies information; where something comes from, a starting point or can be used as a reference.

Spatial - the relationships and interactions that occur within a place, anchored in a physical location; arrangement of a phenomenon (such as people or density) across the Earth's surface.

Specialization - the process of concentrating on and becoming an expert in a particular skill.

State-building - developing the political body of a geographic area.

Structure - how the information within a source is organized.

Supply - to furnish or supply something that is lacking.

Supporting Questions - these questions support the compelling question by asking a more focused question. These can be answered through the use of the concepts and practices of each Social Studies discipline. *The identified key vocabulary terms listed are possible suggestions; they are not the only terms that may be used during instruction. Additionally, it is important to note that merely knowing the definitions of these terms is not enough to obtain mastery of the standards.*

Symbols - a letter, figure, character or mark (or combination of) that is used to represent a person, place, object or idea.

Theme - an overarching message that applies to multiple topics; an approach where many areas of curriculum are connected together and integrated within a theme.

Theocracy - a form of government in which a god or other deity is recognized as the supreme ruler.

Trace - find or discover by investigation.

Trade network - transfer of goods and/or services amongst an interconnected system.

Tradition - a long-established way of thinking or behaving; the handing down of customs, beliefs, legends and information through the generations.

Traditional economy - a system that relies on customs, history and time-honored beliefs to guide economic decisions on production and distribution.

Transitioning - when people experience a change in their way of life as a result of moving from place to place.

Unintended costs & benefits - when the actions of people and governments have unintended effects.

Veto - the power of one branch of government to cancel or postpone the decision or another branch.

Virtues - moral goodness or an adherence to ethical principles.

Wants - to desire or wish for something.



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