

NEW YORK History-Social Science Content Standards

In the Footsteps of History's Greatest Explorers

> Grades 5-8: Common Core Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Key Ideas and Details

1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.
2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of the source distinct from prior knowledge or opinions
3. Identify key steps in a text's description of a process related to history/social studies (e.g., how a bill becomes a law, how interest rates are raised or lowered).

Craft and Structure

4. Determine the meanings of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including vocabulary specific to domains related to history/social studies.
5. Describe how a text presents information (e.g., sequentially, comparatively, causally).
6. Identify aspects of a text that reveal an author's point of view or purpose (e.g., loaded language, inclusion or avoidance of particular facts).

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

7. Integrate visual information (e.g., in charts, graphs, photographs, videos, or maps) with other information in print and digital texts.
8. Distinguish between fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text.
9. Analyze the relationship between a primary and secondary source on the same topic.

> Grades 5-8: Common Core Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Text Types and Purposes

1. Write arguments focused on discipline-specific content.
 - a. Introduce claims about a topic or issue, acknowledge and distinguish the claims from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
 - b. Support claims with logical reasoning and relevant, accurate data and evidence that demonstrate an understanding of the topic or text, using credible sources.

Production and Distribution of Writing

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and present the relationships between information and ideas clearly and efficiently.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

7. Conduct short research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), drawing on several sources and generating additional related, focused questions that allow for

multiple avenues of exploration. 8. Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, using search terms effectively; assess the credibility and accuracy of each source; quote or paraphrase the data and conclusions of others while avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

> Grades 5-8: Common Core Standards for Speaking and Listening

Comprehension and Collaboration

1. Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. 2. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally. 3. Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, and the organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. 5. Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations. 6. Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and communicative tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

To become college and career ready, students must have ample opportunities to take part in a variety of rich, structured conversations—as part of a whole class, in small groups, and with a partner—built around important content in various domains. They must be able to contribute appropriately to these conversations, to make comparisons and contrasts, and to analyze and synthesize a multitude of ideas in accordance with the standards of evidence appropriate to a particular discipline.

New technologies have broadened and expanded the role that speaking and listening play in acquiring and sharing knowledge and have tightened their link to other forms of communication. The Internet has accelerated the speed at which connections between speaking, listening, reading, and writing can be made, requiring that students be ready to use these modalities nearly simultaneously. Technology itself is changing quickly, creating a new urgency for students to be adaptable in response to change.

> Grade 6: Social Studies Practices

A. Gathering, Interpreting and Using Evidence

1. Develop and frame questions about topics related to historical events occurring in the Eastern Hemisphere that can be answered by gathering, interpreting, and using evidence.
2. Identify, effectively select, and analyze different forms of evidence used to make meaning in social studies (including primary and secondary sources such as art and photographs, artifacts, oral histories, maps, and graphs).
3. Identify evidence and explain content, authorship, point of view, purpose, and format; identify bias; explain the role of bias and potential audience.
4. Describe the arguments of others.

5. Identify implicit ideas and draw inferences, with support.
6. Recognize arguments on specific social studies topics and identify evidence to support the arguments. Examine arguments related to a specific social studies topic from multiple perspectives.

B. Chronological Reasoning

1. Identify ways that events are related chronologically to one another in time.
3. Identify causes and effects from current events, grade-level content, and historical events.
5. Distinguish between long-term and immediate causes and effects of an event from current events or history.
6. Recognize and analyze the dynamics of historical continuity and change over periods of time. Identify the role of turning points as an important dynamic in historical change.
8. Identify the relationships of patterns of continuity and change to larger historical processes and themes.

C. Comparison and Contextualization

1. Identify a region in the Eastern Hemisphere by describing a characteristic that places within it have in common, and then compare it to other regions.
2. Categorize and evaluate divergent perspectives on an individual historical event.
3. Describe and compare multiple events in the history of the Eastern Hemisphere in societies in similar chronological contexts and in various geographical contexts.
4. Identify how the relationship between geography, economics, and history helps to define a context for events in the study of the Eastern Hemisphere.
5. Describe historical developments in the history of the Eastern Hemisphere, with specific references to circumstances of time and place and to connections to broader regional or global processes.

E. Economics and Economic Systems

1. Explain how scarcity necessitates decision making; employ examples from the Eastern Hemisphere to illustrate the role of scarcity historically and in current events; compare through historical examples the costs and benefits of economic decisions.
2. Examine the role that various types of resources (human capital, physical capital, and natural resources) have in providing goods and services.
3. Compare market economies to other economic systems in the Eastern Hemisphere.

4. Examine the role of job specialization and trade historically and during contemporary times in the Eastern Hemisphere.

F. Civic Participation

1. Demonstrate respect for the rights of others in discussion and classroom debates, regardless of whether one agrees with the other viewpoint. Consider alternate views in discussion.

6. Identify situations with a global focus in which social actions are required and suggest solutions.

Grade 6: The Eastern Hemisphere

6.1 PRESENT-DAY EASTERN HEMISPHERE GEOGRAPHY: The diverse geography of the Eastern Hemisphere has influenced human culture and settlement patterns in distinct ways. Human communities in the Eastern Hemisphere have adapted to or modified the physical environment. (Standard: 3: Theme: GEO)

6.1a Maps can be used to represent varied climate zones, landforms, bodies of water, and resources of the Eastern Hemisphere.

6.1c The physical environment influences human population distribution, land use, economic activities, and political connections.

- Students will use physical, climate, and vegetation maps in combination with population density, land use, and resource distribution maps in order to discern patterns in human settlement, economic activity, and the relationship to scarcity of resources in the present-day Eastern Hemisphere.

6.1d Issues and problems experienced in the regions of the Eastern Hemisphere have roots in the past.

- Students will examine current political and environmental issues in a region or country of the Eastern Hemisphere being studied.

6.6 MEDITERRANEAN WORLD: FEUDAL WESTERN EUROPE, THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE, AND THE ISLAMIC CALIPHATES (ca. 600 C.E. – ca. 1450): The Mediterranean world was reshaped with the fall of the Roman Empire. Three distinct cultural regions developed: feudal Western Europe, the Byzantine Empire, and the Islamic caliphates. These regions interacted with each other and clashed over control of holy lands. (Standards: 2, 3, 4, 5; MOV, TCC, GOV, CIV, EXCH)

6.6d Competition and rivalry over religious, economic, and political control over holy lands led to conflict such as the Crusades.

- Students will examine the three distinct cultural regions of the Mediterranean world in terms of their location, the extent of each region at the height of its power, and the political, economic, and social interactions between these regions.

6.7 INTERACTIONS ACROSS THE EASTERN HEMISPHERE (ca. 600 C.E. – ca. 1450): Trade networks promoted the exchange and diffusion of language, belief systems, tools, intellectual ideas, inventions, and diseases. (Standards: 2, 3, 4; Themes: MOV, TCC, GEO, ECO, TECH, EXCH)

6.7a The Silk Roads, the Indian Ocean, and the Trans-Saharan routes formed the major networks connecting the East and the West. Ideas, people, technologies, products, and diseases moved along these routes.

- Students will create maps that illustrate items exchanged and ideas spread along the Silk Roads, across the Indian Ocean, and on the Trans-Saharan trade routes.
- Students will examine how the location of resources helped determine the location of trade routes and the economic impact of the exchange of resources.
- Students will study interregional travelers such as Marco Polo, Ibn Battuta, Mansa Musa, and Zheng He and examine why they traveled, the places visited, what was learned, and what was exchanged as a result of their travel.

6.7b The Mongol conquests in Eurasia fostered connections between the East and the West, and the Mongols served as important agents of change and cultural diffusion.

- Students will map the extent of the Mongol Empire at the height of its power.
- Students will examine the methods used by the Mongols to enable them to rule over a diverse population, noting how Mongol rule expanded trade.
- Students will examine the spread of the Black Death (Bubonic Plague) as a result of interregional exchange and its effects on various regions within Afro-Eurasia, using a variety of sources, such as maps, poetry, and other primary source documents.

6.7c Complex societies and civilizations adapted and designed technologies for transportation that allowed them to cross challenging landscapes and move people and goods efficiently.

- Students will examine how various technologies affected trade and exchanges. Some examples are types of ships, including junks and caravels; improvements to ships, such as sails and rudders; navigation tools, such as the compass and astrolabe; and gunpowder.
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> Social Studies Practices: Grades 9-12

A. Gathering, Interpreting, and Using Evidence

1. Define and frame questions about events and the world in which we live, form hypotheses as potential answers to these questions, use evidence to answer these questions, and consider and analyze counter-hypotheses.
2. Identify, describe, and evaluate evidence about events from diverse sources (including written documents, works of art, photographs, charts and graphs, artifacts, oral traditions, and other primary and secondary sources).
3. Analyze evidence in terms of content, authorship, point of view, bias, purpose, format, and audience.
4. Describe, analyze, and evaluate arguments of others.
5. Make inferences and draw conclusions from evidence.
6. Deconstruct and construct plausible and persuasive arguments, using evidence.
7. Create meaningful and persuasive understandings of the past by fusing disparate and relevant evidence from primary and secondary sources and drawing connections to the present.

B. Chronological Reasoning and Causation

1. Articulate how events are related chronologically to one another in time and explain the ways in which earlier ideas and events may influence subsequent ideas and events.
3. Identify, analyze, and evaluate the relationship between multiple causes and effects.
4. Distinguish between long-term and immediate causes and multiple effects (time, continuity, and change).
5. Recognize, analyze, and evaluate dynamics of historical continuity and change over periods of time and investigate factors that caused those changes over time.
7. Relate patterns of continuity and change to larger historical processes and themes.

C. Comparison and Contextualization

1. Identify similarities and differences between geographic regions across historical time periods, and relate differences in geography to different historical events and outcomes.
2. Identify, compare, and evaluate multiple perspectives on a given historical experience.
3. Identify and compare similarities and differences between historical developments over time and in different geographical and cultural contexts.

4. Describe, compare, and evaluate multiple historical developments (within societies; across and between societies; in various chronological and geographical contexts).
5. Recognize the relationship between geography, economics, and history as a context for events and movements and as a matrix of time and place.
6. Connect historical developments to specific circumstances of time and place and to broader regional, national, or global processes and draw connections to the present (where appropriate).

D. Geographic Reasoning

1. Ask geographic questions about where places are located, why their locations are important, and how their locations are related to the locations of other places and people.
2. Identify, describe, and evaluate the relationships between people, places, regions, and environments by using geographic tools to place them in a spatial context.
3. Identify, analyze, and evaluate the relationship between the environment and human activities, how the physical environment is modified by human activities, and how human activities are also influenced by Earth's physical features and processes.
5. Recognize and analyze how place and region influence the social, cultural, and economic characteristics of civilizations.
6. Characterize and analyze changing connections between places and regions.

E. Economics and Economics Systems

2. Analyze the ways in which incentives influence what is produced and distributed in a market system.
3. Evaluate the extent to which competition between sellers and between buyers exists in specific markets.
6. Analyze government economic policies and the effects on the national and global economy.

F. Civic Participation

1. Demonstrate respect for the rights of others in discussions and classroom debates; respectfully disagree with other viewpoints and provide evidence for a counter-argument.
6. Identify situations in which social actions are required and determine an appropriate course of action.

> Grades 9-10: Common Core Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Key Ideas and Details

1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, attending to such features as the date and origin of the information. 2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary of how key events or ideas develop over the course of the text. 3. Analyze in detail a series of events described in a text; determine whether earlier events caused later ones or simply preceded them.

Craft and Structure

6. Compare the points of view of two or more authors in their treatments of the same or similar topics, including which details they include and emphasize in their respective accounts.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

8. Assess the extent to which the reasoning and evidence in a text support the author's claims. 9. Compare and contrast treatments of the same topic in several primary and secondary sources.

> Grades 9-10: Common Core Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Production and Distribution of Writing

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

8. Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard format for citation.

9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Range of Writing

10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

> Grades 9-10: Common Core Standards for Speaking and Listening

Comprehension and Collaboration

1. Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9-10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. a. Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas. b. Work with peers to set rules for collegial discussions and decision making (e.g., informal consensus, taking votes on key issues, and presentation of alternate views), clear goals and deadlines, and individual roles as needed. c. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions. d. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives, summarize points of agreement and disagreement, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views and understanding and make new connections in light of the evidence and reasoning presented. e. Seek to understand other perspectives and cultures and communicate effectively with audiences of individuals from varied backgrounds.
2. Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally), evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.
5. Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

Grade 9: Global History and Geography I

9.4 RISE OF TRANSREGIONAL TRADE NETWORKS: During the classical and postclassical eras, transregional trade networks emerged and/or expanded. These networks of exchange influenced the economic and political development of states and empires. (Standards: 2, 3, 4; Themes: ID, MOV, GEO, ECO, TECH, EXCH)

9.4a Afro-Eurasian transregional trade networks grew across land and bodies of water.

- Students will identify the location of the transregional trade networks noting regional connections between the Indian Ocean complex, Mediterranean Sea complex, Silk Roads, and Trans-Saharan routes.

9.4b New technologies facilitated and improved interregional travel during this era by allowing people to traverse previously prohibitive physical landscapes and waterways.

- Students will examine the technologies that facilitated and improved interregional travel along the Indian Ocean and Trans-Saharan networks of exchange.

9.4c Interregional travelers, traders, missionaries, and nomads carried products and natural resources, and brought with them enslaved people and ideas that led to cultural diffusion.

- Students will identify and explain the importance of at least two key resources and/or products and/or luxury items vital to exchanges along the Indian Ocean complex, Mediterranean Sea complex, Silk Roads, and Trans-Saharan routes.
- Students will identify trade networks involved in the exchange of enslaved people and explore the nature of slavery during this time period.
- Students will examine the diffusion of religious ideas along the Indian Ocean complex, Silk Roads, and Trans-Saharan routes.
- Students will examine the travels of Zheng He, Ibn Battuta, and Marco Polo and the influence of their journeys.

9.5 POLITICAL POWERS AND ACHIEVEMENTS: New power arrangements emerged across Eurasia. Political states and empires employed a variety of techniques for expanding and maintaining control. Periods of relative stability allowed for significant cultural, technological, and scientific innovations. (Standards: 2, 3, 4, 5; Themes ID, MOV, GOV, CIV, TECH)

9.5b Political states and empires employed a variety of techniques for expanding and maintaining control, and sometimes disrupted state-building in other regions.

- Students will examine the locations and relative sizes of post-classical states and empires at the heights of their power, including the Abbasid Caliphate, Byzantine Empire, Mongol Empire, and Song and Tang dynasties, noting relative position, power within their regions and the areas they influenced.
- Students will compare and contrast the empire-building processes of the Mongols and the Islamic caliphates, noting important disruptions in other regions.

9.5c Periods of stability and prosperity enabled cultural, technological, and scientific achievements and innovations that built on or blended with available knowledge, and often led to cultural diffusion.

- Students will explore the spread and evolution of technology and learning from East Asia to Western Europe via the Middle East (e.g., gunpowder, ship technology, navigation, printing, paper).

9.6 SOCIAL AND CULTURAL GROWTH AND CONFLICT: During the postclassical era, the growth of transregional empires and the use of trade networks influenced religions and spread disease. These cross-cultural interactions also led to conflict and affected demographic development. (Standards: 2, 3, 4; Themes: TCC, GEO, GOV, ECO, EXCH)

9.6b Networks of exchange facilitated the spread of disease, which affected social, cultural, economic, and demographic development.

- Students will map the spread of the Black Death (Bubonic Plague) as it was carried westward from Asia to Africa and Europe.
- Students will evaluate the effects of the Black Death on these regions.

9.9 TRANSFORMATION OF WESTERN EUROPE AND RUSSIA: Western Europe and Russia transformed politically, economically, and culturally ca. 1400–1750. This transformation included state building, conflicts, shifts in power and authority, and new ways of understanding their world. (Standards: 2, 3, 5; Themes: ID, MOV, TCC, GOV, CIV, TECH, EXCH)

9.9a The Renaissance was influenced by the diffusion of technology and ideas. The Islamic caliphates played an important role in this diffusion.

- Students will investigate technologies and ideas, including printing and paper, navigational tools, and mathematics and medical science that diffused to Europe, noting the role of the Islamic caliphates.

> Grades 11-12: Common Core Reading Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Key Ideas and Details

1. Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources, connecting insights gained from specific details to an understanding of the text as a whole.
2. Determine the central ideas or information of a primary or secondary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships between the key details and ideas.
3. Evaluate various explanations for actions or events and determine which explanation best accords with textual evidence, acknowledging where the text leaves matters uncertain.

Craft and Structure

6. Evaluate authors' differing points of view on the same historical event or issue by assessing the authors' claims, reasoning, and evidence.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

7. Integrate and evaluate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, and in words) in order to address a question or solve a problem. Distinguish between fact, opinion, and reasoned judgment in a text. 8. Evaluate an author's premises, claims, and evidence by corroborating or challenging them with other information. 9. Integrate information from diverse sources, both primary and secondary, into a coherent understanding of an idea or event, noting discrepancies between sources.

> Grades 11-12: Common Core Writing Standards for Literacy in History/Social Studies

Production and Distribution of Writing

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. 5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. 6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products in response to ongoing feedback, including new arguments or information.

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

7. Conduct short and more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation. 8. Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the strengths and limitations of each source in terms of the specific task, purpose, and audience; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and over-reliance on any one source and following a standard format for citation. 9. Draw evidence from informational texts to support analysis, reflection and research.

Range of Writing

10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) on a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

> Grades 11-12: Common Core Standards for Speaking and Listening

Comprehension and Collaboration

1. Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 11-12 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively. a. Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas. b. Work with peers to promote civil, democratic discussions and decision-making, set clear goals and deadlines, and establish individual roles as needed. c. Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that probe reasoning and evidence, ensure a hearing for a full range of positions on a topic or issue; clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions; promote divergent and creative perspectives. d. Respond thoughtfully to diverse perspectives; synthesize comments, claims, and evidence made on all sides of an issue and resolve contradictions when possible; determine what additional information or research is required to deepen the investigation or complete the task. e. Seek to understand other perspectives and cultures and communicate effectively with audiences of individuals from varied backgrounds. 2. Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse formats and media (e.g., visually, quantitatively, orally) in order to make informed decisions and solve problems, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source and noting any discrepancies between the data.

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence, conveying a clear and distinct perspective such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning, alternative or opposing perspectives are addressed, and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and a range of formal and informal tasks. 5. Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

Grade 11: United States History and Government

11.11 THE UNITED STATES IN A GLOBALIZING WORLD (1990 – present) The United States' political and economic status in the world has faced external and internal challenges related to international conflicts, economic competition, and globalization. Throughout this time period, the nation has continued to debate and define its role in the world. (Standards: 1, 2, 4, 5; Themes: TCC, GOV, CIV, TECH, EXCH)

11.11c Globalization and advances in technology have affected the United States economy and society.

- Students will examine the positive and negative consequences of globalization in relation to the United States economy.
 - Students will investigate the role of multinational corporations and their influence on both the United States economy and on other countries around the world.
 - Students will examine the economic relationship and the strategic rivalry between the United States and China.
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Grade 12: Economics, the Enterprise System, and Finance

12.E4 THE TOOLS OF ECONOMIC POLICY IN A GLOBAL ECONOMY: Globalization and increased economic interdependence affect the United States economy significantly. The tools that the policy makers have available to address these issues are fiscal policy, monetary policy, and trade policy.

12.E4d Trade policies and agreements (tariffs, quotas, embargoes) set the rules for trade between the United States and other nations. Agreeing on such rules is very difficult because each nation has different interests, and each nation has special interest groups trying to influence the negotiations.