



Civics Education

Update for the House Education Subcommittee

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Today's Presentation

- Legislative Background
- Civics Education Requirements
- Implementation Progress
- Oregon's Civics Landscape
- Educator Perspective on Civics in the Classroom



Oregon Social Science Legislation



Oregon Department of Education

- **2017:** SB 13 Tribal History Shared History
- **2017:** HB 2845 Ethnic Studies (ES) Integrated Standards
- **2019:** SB 664 Holocaust and Other Genocides
- **2019:** HB 2023 ES Integrated Instructional Materials
- **2021:** SB 513 Civics 0.5 High School diploma requirement
- **2021:** SB 702 Civic Knowledge and Engagement
- **2023:** SB 1050 Professional Learning for Social Science
- **2023:** HB 2905 Adding Jewish Descent to Ethnic Studies
- **2024:** New Integrated Social Science Standards

2021 SB 513 and SB 702 Requirements

SB 513: Stand-alone Civics Credit

Requires .5 civics credit as a stand-alone course for high school

SB 702: Revitalization of Civics Standards

- **Recognize** voting as a fundamental civil right.
- **Analyze** the efforts of those who expanded the franchise for historically underrepresented groups.
- **Comprehend** the structure of government at local, state, tribal, and national levels.
- **Identify** the values and principles of a pluralistic democracy.

Updated Rules for Diploma: OAR 581-022-2000

a) Each student shall earn a minimum of **24 units of credit** aligned to the Oregon State Board adopted standards to include:

(A) Language Arts — 4 (shall include the equivalent of one unit in Written Composition);

(B) Mathematics —3 (shall include one unit at the Algebra I level and two units that are at a level higher than Algebra I);

(C) Science — 3;

(D) **Social Sciences — 3**

(shall include **0.5 unit of US civics credit** and at least **2.5 units of credit aligned** to the adopted standards for **U.S. history, world history, geography, and economics**);

(E) Health Education — 1;

(F) Physical Education — 1;

(G) Career and Technical Education, The Arts or World Languages — 3 (units shall be earned in any one or a combination).

(H) Personal Financial Education — 0.5;

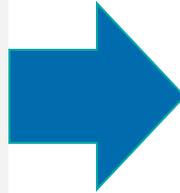
(I) Higher Education & Career Path Skills — 0.5.

2024 Oregon Civic Standards

Concept	Grade Level Examples
Political Institutions	K.C.PI.1 Explain the goals and purpose of public school.
Identity, Roles, and Responsibilities	3.C.IR.5 Describe the responsibility of people in their community and state.
Democratic Principles	4.C.DP.4 Identify examples from the Oregon Constitution establishing equality or addressing discrimination, inequalities, or unfairness.
Civic Engagement	8.C.CE.12 Examine the evolution of political parties and interest groups and their effect on events, issues, and ideas.

Civics Professional Learning & Resources

SB 1050 provided **\$2,250,000** for **professional learning** to ensure school districts offer instruction to the academic social science content standards including civics education no later than the 2026-2027.



- **Facilitating engagement** with education partners.
- **Launching and sustaining** a collaborative network.
- Providing **regional professional learning** opportunities.
- **Resources** to support professional learning and local curriculum development.
- Digital learning **modules** for professional learning.



Implementing SB 513 & SB 702

3.0 Social Science Credits of
24 Total Credits



Diploma Requirements

ORS 581-022-2000

.5 Civics- Standalone Course

2.5

Geography

US History

World History

Economics

Total 3.0 Social Science credits

Grade Level Enrollment in Civics

Grade	Students Enrolled
9	1,830
10	6,744
11	10,402
12	21,108
2025 Total	40,084

- Schools can fulfill the required 0.5 civics standalone credit at any grade level.
- Traditionally, civics is a senior course. Last year, 53% of high school students completed a civics course during their senior year.

Youth Civic Engagement



- Oregon has an above average rate of nonprofits per capita that work with young people
- Oregon ranked #10 in America for formal volunteering through an organization.
- Youth in Oregon are generally more engaged than youth nationally: 34% say they belong to a group (19% nationally)
- 12% have contacted a public official (5% nationally).
- Oregon regularly has very strong youth voter turnout, including an especially high 35% in the 2022 midterm elections.

Circle Tufts Youth Survey

Oregon Civics Conference (HB 2955)



Educators from across Oregon attend professional learning session in Salem each December as part of Oregon's Civics Conference.

Oregon Student National Civics Competition

"The We the People competition brings together students from across the country to showcase their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution and the American government," and "intellectual showdown that inspires critical thinking and civic engagement."

- Center for Civic Education

