

NRS Levels	Montana Adult Social Studies Content Standards	1-Beg Lit	2-Beg ABE	3-Low Int	4-High Int	5-ASE Low	6-ASE High	GED	Workplace	Post-secondary
SS 1	The adult learner demonstrates the use of geographic tools to locate and analyze information about people, places, and environments.									
SS 1.1	Locate information on local community, state, national and international maps.		•	•				✓		
SS 1.2	Recognize that maps and globes represent different views of the world.		•	•				✓		
SS 1.3	Identify major bodies of water, continents, countries, capitals, and physical features on maps and globes. <i>Example: deserts and mountains.</i>		•	•				✓	✓	
SS 1.4	Utilize map legends, symbols, distance scales, and compass rose.		•	•				✓	✓	
SS 1.5	Define and use lines of longitude and latitude to locate positions on maps and globes.		•	•				✓		
SS 1.6	Interpret climate maps and define major climate zones of the world. <i>Example: tropical, temperate, polar.</i>		•	•				✓		
SS 1.7	Find geographical information in tables, circle, line, bar and pictographs.		•	•				✓	✓	✓
SS 1.8	Summarize information on thematic maps including relief, population, resource, aerial, historical, and political maps.			•	•	•	•	✓	✓	✓
SS 1.9	Compare and contrast different regions within a state, country and continent.			•	•			✓		
SS 1.10	Identify common characteristics of people (language, religion, ethnicities) who make up cultural regions on earth.			•	•	•	•	✓	✓	✓
SS 1.11	Describe the cause – effect relationship of population migration and cultural diffusion.			•	•	•		✓		
SS 1.12	Distinguish between renewable and nonrenewable resources.			•	•			✓		✓
SS 1.13	Explain how people depend on the physical environment and natural resources to satisfy basic needs.			•	•			✓	✓	✓
SS 1.14	Describe the effects of human activity on the physical environment. <i>Example: resource depletion, desertification, and greenhouse effect.</i>			•	•	•	•	✓	✓	✓
SS 1.15	Describe how people can conserve natural and man-made resources.			•	•	•		✓	✓	✓
SS 1.16	Explain the factors that influence climate and seasonal change. <i>Example: earth's position in relation to sun, ocean currents, mountains.</i>			•	•			✓		✓
SS 1.17	Evaluate various thematic maps to make real life decisions and/or support a conclusion. <i>Example: time zones, weather, toxic waste sites, and income distribution.</i>				•	•	•	✓	✓	✓
SS 2	The adult learner demonstrates a historical perspective through study and analysis of key historical events, places, documents, and persons in United States and world history.									
SS 2.1	Identify topics by previewing historical readings and graphics.			•	•			✓		
SS 2.2	Distinguish supporting facts from main ideas in historical readings, charts, graphs, and maps.			•	•	•	•	✓		
SS 2.3	Arrange key historical events on a time line in chronological sequence.			•	•	•	•	✓		
SS 2.4	Distinguish cause and effect in major historical events. <i>Example: unfair taxation led to American Revolution; slavery led to secession and Civil War.</i>			•	•	•		✓		✓
SS 2.5	Recognize the problem and solution pattern from key historical events. <i>Example: Depression--New Deal; rise of fascism—World War II.</i>			•	•			✓		✓
SS 2.6	Compare and contrast past and present events, life styles, inventions and social roles through historical readings, photographs, and art.			•	•			✓		
SS 2.7	Distinguish stated and unstated ideas to make simple inferences from historical readings and graphics.			•	•			✓		✓
SS 2.8	Apply context clues to expand vocabulary from historical readings.				•	•		✓	✓	
SS 2.9	Summarize main ideas from historical documents and graphics.				•	•	•	✓		
SS 2.10	Distinguish fact from opinion by recognizing key opinion words found in historical reading. <i>Example: best, worst, only, believe.</i>				•	•	•	✓		✓
SS 2.11	Analyze the positive contributions of selected individuals from world and U.S. history. <i>Example: Jefferson, Lincoln, King, Tubman.</i>				•	•	•	✓		✓
SS 2.12	Compare and contrast key characteristics of ancient civilizations and empires. <i>Example: Egypt, Greece, Rome, Middle East, China.</i>				•	•	•	✓		
SS 2.13	Describe the impact of major events and movements on the course of history and society. <i>Example: inventions, Renaissance, Industrial Revolution, American Revolution, American western expansionism, development of nuclear power.</i>				•	•	•	✓		✓
SS 2.14	Recognize changing boundaries on historical maps due to shifts in power or ownership.				•	•	•	✓		✓
SS 2.15	Recognize the historical context of a document. <i>Example: Magna Carta, Monroe Doctrine, Missouri Compromise, UN Charter.</i>					•	•	✓		
SS 2.16	Determine an author's purpose in portraying historical events and famous people. <i>Example: convince, praise, criticize.</i>					•	•	✓		✓
SS 2.17	Recognize different points of view and different interpretations of historical issues. <i>Example: immigration, use of nuclear power.</i>					•	•	✓		
SS 2.18	Distinguish opinions from hypotheses to explain historical events.					•	•	✓		✓
SS 2.19	Determine the impact of historical documents, photographs, ads, and art on public attitudes toward major events and famous people. <i>Example: segregation signs in the South; photo of first man on the moon; draft posters.</i>					•	•	✓		
SS 2.20	Interpret key U.S. historical documents to analyze past and present issues. <i>Example: Declaration of Independence, Emancipation Proclamation.</i>					•	•	✓		
SS 3	The adult learner develops a working knowledge of key concepts relating to political systems, how they function, and their application to citizenship.									
SS 3.1	Describe the basic reasons for the existence of the various levels of government. <i>Example: maintaining law and order, public health, infrastructure, public education, national security.</i>			•	•			✓	✓	✓
SS 3.2	Explain the basic responsibilities of citizenship. <i>Example: obeying laws, maintaining civility, paying taxes.</i>			•	•			✓		
SS 3.3	Explain the origin and purpose of the Constitution.			•	•			✓		
SS 3.4	Identify basic rights guaranteed in the Bill of Rights.			•	•			✓		
SS 3.5	Explain separation of powers and the system of checks and balances.			•	•			✓		
SS 3.6	List the basic duties of Congress, the President and the Supreme Court.			•	•			✓		
SS 3.7	Identify similarities and differences in local, state, and federal government. <i>Example: mayor, governor, president; city council, state legislature, national Congress.</i>			•	•			✓		
SS 3.8	List and describe the steps in electing a president. <i>Example: campaign, primary election, convention, general election, electoral college.</i>			•	•			✓		
SS 3.9	Identify key legislators at local, state, and national levels.				•					✓
SS 3.10	Explain civic responsibilities such as voting, jury duty, and community volunteering.				•					
SS 3.11	Identify voter qualifications.				•					
SS 3.12	Explain the registration process for voting in your community.				•					
SS 3.13	Interpret a sample ballot.				•					
SS 3.14	Analyze political cartoons for implied information and opinions.				•			✓		✓
SS 3.15	Identify specific checks by one branch of government on another branch's power.				•			✓		

SS 3.16	Describe the amendment process for changing the Constitution.					•				✓		
SS 3.17	Recognize the connection between the need for taxes and governmental services, programs, entitlements, and expenses.					•				✓	✓	✓
SS 3.18	Interpret quotations from government documents. Example: <i>Bill of Rights, Declaration of Independence, and Preamble to Constitution.</i>					•				✓		
SS 3.19	Compare and contrast democracy with other forms of government. Example: <i>monarchy, oligarchy, dictatorship.</i>						•	•		✓		✓
SS 3.20	Analyze the impact of the Constitution, laws, and court decisions on the rights and responsibilities of citizens.						•	•		✓		
SS 3.21	Trace the expansion of civil rights, including the right to vote, to different groups of people. Example: <i>African-Americans, women, Native Americans, eighteen year olds.</i>						•	•		✓		
SS 3.22	Analyze political issues and candidates to prepare for voting.						•	•				
SS 3.23	Recognize and evaluate political propaganda. Example: <i>bias, red herring, band wagon, generalization.</i>						•	•		✓		✓
SS 3.24	Describe the main political parties and what they support.						•	•		✓		
SS 3.25	Explain how to follow the actions of elected officials and how to communicate with them.						•	•				
SS 4	The adult learner demonstrates knowledge of economic principles in order to make informed decisions as a worker, consumer, and citizen.											
SS 4.1	Describe the different roles that money, budgeting, banking, savings, credit, and debt have in everyday life.					•	•				✓	
SS 4.2	Explain the difference between wants and needs and how they affect personal budgeting and lifestyle.					•	•					
SS 4.3	Define basic economic terms. Example: <i>market, supply and demand, shortage, surplus, inflation, recession, and depression.</i>					•	•			✓		✓
SS 4.4	Distinguish between private goods and services and public goods and services. Example: <i>family car and interstate highway system, local businesses and public schools.</i>					•	•			✓		✓
SS 4.5	Trace basic economic history from bartering, industrialization, mass production, to computers/robotics.					•	•			✓		✓
SS 4.6	Locate specific economic data on charts and graphs.					•	•			✓	✓	✓
SS 4.7	Identify reasons for seeking consumer credit.					•	•					
SS 4.8	Explain the effect of supply/demand and equilibrium on prices of consumer goods and services.						•	•		✓	✓	
SS 4.9	List reasons for government intervention in the U.S. economic system. Example: <i>consumer protection, interest rate regulation, minimum wages.</i>						•	•		✓		
SS 4.10	Describe the relationship between the global economy and the U.S. economy.						•	•		✓		✓
SS 4.11	Identify different types of taxes and who collects them (local, state, or federal). Example: <i>income, property, sales, import, Social Security, capital gains.</i>						•	•		✓		
SS 4.12	Compare and contrast different sources of credit. Example: <i>banks, credit unions, savings and loans, retailers.</i>						•	•				
SS 4.13	Calculate annual percentage (interest) rate on an unpaid balance for credit cards and loans.						•	•				
SS 4.14	Draw conclusions about misuse of credit cards and unsecured loans. Example: <i>increased debt, bankruptcy, foreclosure.</i>						•	•				
SS 4.15	Recognize persuasive advertising techniques that influence consumer spending. Example: <i>bait and switch, special pricing, celebrity endorsement.</i>						•	•		✓	✓	✓
SS 4.16	Evaluate product information to determine consumer value and safety.						•	•				
SS 4.17	Calculate discounts and unit prices for comparison-shopping.						•	•			✓	
SS 4.18	Create a simple household budget showing income, fixed and discretionary expenses.						•	•				
SS 4.19	Compare and contrast home mortgage types—fixed and adjustable rates.						•	•				
SS 4.20	Define key business terms. Example: <i>marketing, corporation, stock, stockholder, merger, bear/bull market.</i>						•	•		✓	✓	✓
SS 4.21	Summarize reasons for the rise of labor unions, their strategies, and impact on the American workforce. Example: <i>pickets, strikes, collective bargaining.</i>						•	•		✓		✓
SS 4.22	Explain the connections between unemployment and poverty vs. high-paying jobs, education, and a high-tech economy.						•	•		✓		✓
SS 4.23	Identify work related skills needed for good paying jobs. Example: <i>computer literacy, flexibility, work ethic.</i>						•	•			✓	✓
SS 4.24	List steps and strategies in choosing a career.						•	•			✓	✓
SS 4.25	Compare and contrast capitalism, socialism and communism as economic systems.							•	•	✓		✓
SS 4.26	Explain the connection between a free enterprise economy and a democratic system of government.							•	•	✓		✓
SS 4.27	Interpret economic trends over time. Example: <i>business cycles, employment rates, impact of world events.</i>							•	•	✓	✓	✓
SS 4.28	Analyze how various personal and cultural points of view influence economic decisions. Example: <i>land ownership and utilization, taxation, job choices, shared wealth.</i>							•	•	✓		
SS 4.29	Evaluate the U.S. government's role in regulating American business practice. Example: <i>SEC, FDIC, Federal Reserve, subsidies, consumer protection agencies.</i>							•	•	✓		
SS 4.30	Analyze the effects of international trade agreements on the American economy. Example: <i>NAFTA, balance of trade.</i>							•	•	✓		✓
SS 4.31	Interpret economic data on an area's cost of living and incomes in various occupations to make life choices.							•	•	✓		✓
SS 4.32	Utilize computers to access information on employment and training opportunities, consumer goods, credit reports, etc. to make informed decisions.							•	•	✓	✓	✓
SS 4.33	Utilize computers to generate a variety of business correspondence. Example: <i>job application, resume, letters, memos.</i>							•	•	✓	✓	✓
SS 4.34	Evaluate the practice of deficit financing by the U.S. government and the impact on the American public.							•	•			✓
SS 4.35	Recognize examples of economic values depicted in photographs, ads, and cartoons. Example: <i>hard work, thrift, charity, greed, materialism.</i>							•	•	✓		✓