

## **South Carolina Department of Education Social Studies Inquiry Unit Guide**

The goal of the Office of Standards and Learning is offering educators a suggested set of inquiry units, designed by educators, that represents classrooms from around the state. The inquiry units are accessible to assist educators in creating their daily lesson plans for inquiry and skills-based instruction to support the [\*2019 South Carolina Social Studies College - and Career-Ready Standards\*](#). The development of these units is the work of these educators with the intent of continuous revisions based on classroom application.

The development of these documents was facilitated by the Division of College and Career Readiness through the Office of Standards and Learning under the direction of David Mathis, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent, Division of College and Career Readiness; Anne M. Pressley, Ph.D. Director, Office of Standards and Learning; and Dawn Hawkins, Ed.D., Team Lead, Office of Standards and Learning.

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*All units are created to support the **Overarching Inquiry Question**. Inquiry-Based Learning supports the **Profile of the South Carolina Graduate** where students use skills to explore their inquiries related to the content as indicated in the standards instead of the teacher merely providing the information.*

<b>Economics and Personal Finance Inquiry Instructional Units</b>		
<b>Unit Number and Title</b>	<b>Overarching Inquiry Question</b>	<b>Unit Overview</b>
<a href="#"><u>Unit 1 - Basics of Economics</u></a>	How do scarcity and self-interest impact decisions made at the local, state, national, and global levels?	The study of economics enables students to make informed decisions about limited resources. Scarcity is an unavoidable reality because societies do not have enough productive resources to satisfy the wants and needs of all individuals. Therefore, choices must be made concerning the production and distribution of resources. Understanding basic economic concepts allows students to adequately compete for resources in the marketplace.
<a href="#"><u>Unit 2 - Financial Literacy</u></a>	How does planning for the future impact an individual's financial choices when faced with limited resources?	Financial literacy is imperative in making individual economic decisions regarding spending, careers, and setting short- and long-term financial goals. The tools of decision making, and marginal analysis are essential in evaluating possible financial options. The ability to make wise choices can impact standard of living and future earning potential.
<a href="#"><u>Unit 3 - Microeconomics</u></a>	What factors influence the price of goods and services?	Microeconomics investigates the impact of individual decisions on the distribution of scarce resources. A working knowledge of supply and demand and market structures is necessary to understand the study of microeconomics. Changes in demand, supply, and the level of competition in various market structures can affect price and output levels for consumers and profit levels for producers.

<u><a href="#">Unit 4 - Macroeconomics</a></u>	How do economic indicators, fiscal and monetary policy, and globalization impact the stability of an economy?	Macroeconomics focuses on the behavior and performance of the economy as a whole. Analysis of macroeconomic data provides important information pertaining to the economic well-being of a society and prompts governments to make reasonable corrections as necessary. Government intervention is often used to stabilize and safeguard the economy; however, it is frequently met with strong reactions and opinions from both the public and institutions alike.
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