

SOURCE A

Senate Bill 1 (2009) requires that Kentucky revise all required content standards to reflect the necessary knowledge and skills needed to ensure all students are college and career ready. SB 1 suggests that all standards should be rigorous, world class, and internationally benchmarked, while also allowing for deeper engagement around fewer concepts/topics. Adoption of the Common Core State Standards in English language arts and mathematics was the first step taken to address SB 1. Despite the fact that the ELA standards include a section for Literacy in History/Social Studies, there is still a need for a set of Social Studies standards that fully addresses the needs of Kentucky's 21st century learners.

Update on SS Standards Work in KY Karen Kidwell

SOURCE B

"Using the normative discourse of curriculum and standards documents, history is cast into discrete behavioral objectives and measurable student outcomes, readily used by the bureaucracies of schooling such as testing and textbooks. Although the authors of those outcomes often started with compelling questions, central ideas and enduring problems, the bigger issues gradually fall away as the curricula are written, reshaped, vetted, voted upon and adopted. History then arrives at the classroom door as a list of things students must learn and teachers must teach missing the problems that make the content coherent, significant and fascinating." P. 182

"Lists of instructional outcomes rarely frame history as an unfinished mystery that invites students to join the investigation or points teachers toward historiographic questions that might begin and sustain instruction. Nor do curricular lists help teachers anticipate students pre-instructional understandings, develop a reasonable and educationally sound trajectory of lessons, or build connections across content objectives." P. 182

One way teachers can build instructional cohesion is to organize curriculum around key concepts, big ideas and central questions." P. 182

How Students Learn History In the Classroom
(2005, www.nap.edu)