

Office of Teaching and Learning

Teacher Guidance for the Updated Freedom Framework

Executive Order 14172

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) has updated its [Freedom Framework social studies standards](#) to reflect President Trump’s executive order renaming the Gulf of Mexico as the Gulf of America. This change in terminology is reflected in two standards (one in grade 4 and one in grade 5).

Guidance for Teachers

- Updates to the standards will take effect in the 2025-2026 school year and will not affect the 2025 LEAP social studies assessment.
- Teachers of grades 4 and 5 should reference the language of the standards (4.19a, 5.13a) in their instruction and emphasize how instructional materials are routinely revised based on political boundaries and historical events (e.g., the breakup of Yugoslavia in 1992).
- Digital updates to [Tier 1 social studies curricula](#) affected by the change to 4.19a and 5.13a will be available in grades 4 and 5 in the coming months. Teachers should access the updated materials on the publisher’s websites/platforms and the LDOE [Bayou Bridges](#) page once available. All LDOE digital social studies resources in grades 4 and 5, including course frameworks and instructional slide decks, will be updated by the end of summer 2025.
- Teachers may utilize updated maps like the example below (Map data Google, INEGI) to supplement print versions of their current curriculum. Google, Apple, and Microsoft as well as state agencies and major corporations have adjusted their materials and references and may be utilized as well. School systems will not be required to purchase new materials. The updated language will be included as school systems naturally replace their print materials.
- Teachers should follow the guidance provided by their school system regarding the implementation of the standards and use of curricula.

