

## FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep)

By Cynthia Metcalf PhD

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**FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep)** By Cynthia Metcalf PhD

**REA's *FTCE Social Science Grades 6-12* Test Prep with Practice Tests on TestWare CD**

**Gets Florida Teachers Certified and in the Classroom!**

***Updated 2nd Edition!***

*Nationwide, more than 5 million teachers will be needed over the next decade, and all must take appropriate tests to be licensed. REA gets you ready for your teaching career with our outstanding library of Teacher Certification test preps!*

Scoring well on the FTCE (Florida Teacher Certification Examinations) doesn't just help you get certified to teach, it helps move your career forward! REA's updated second edition of **our bestselling FTCE with TestWare test prep shows you how to score high on the exam and get certified!**

Designed for persons seeking certification as social science teacher in Florida, **our complete study package contains an in-depth review of all the topics tested on the official exam**, including geography, economics, political science, world history, U.S. history, and social science and its methodology. A customized study schedule and REA's expert test-taking strategies offer advice on how to prepare for exam day.

**Two full-length, multiple-choice practice tests in the book and on CD help you test your knowledge** and focus on areas in need of improvement. Each practice test is balanced to include every type of question, subject area, and skill tested on the actual exam. Our practice tests replicate the FTCE question format, allowing you to assess your skills and gauge your test-readiness.

**Both of the book's practice exams are featured on our TestWare® CD with the most powerful scoring and diagnostic tools available today.** Timed testing conditions, automatic scoring, and instant reports help you zero in on the topics and types of questions that give you trouble now, so you'll succeed when it


counts!

Every practice exam comes with detailed feedback on every question. We don't just say which answers are right—we explain why the other answer choices are wrong—so you'll be prepared. Our detailed explanations of answers help you identify strengths and weaknesses while building your skills.

**This book is a must for anyone seeking certification as teacher in Florida!**

*REA books and software have proven to be the extra support teacher candidates need to pass their challenging tests for licensure. Our comprehensive test preps are teacher-recommended and written by experts in the field.*

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## **Editorial Review**

From the Back Cover

### **ARE YOU READY TO TEACH IN FLORIDA?**

### **THEN USE THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE ON THE MARKET TODAY.**

FTCE Social Science 6-12

#### **The Most Complete Subject Review**

Everything you need to know for the FTCE Social Science 6-12 exam, prepared by a leading specialist in teacher education. Comprehensive review chapters cover all the subjects and skills tested on the exam.

#### **The Best Practice Exams Available**

2 practice exams based on the official FTCE Social Science 6-12 test – balanced to include every topic and type of question you can expect on the actual FTCE exam.

#### **Total Explanations of Questions & Answers**

Each practice exam comes with detailed feedback on every question. We don't just say which answers are right – but explain why the others are wrong, so you'll be prepared on test day!

#### **Proven Test Prep Methods**

REA's focused FTCE Social Science content and practical advice have helped millions succeed on their exams. With our step-by-step plan, you can score high on the FTCE and get certified to teach in Florida!

#### **Federal Guidelines for NCLB Compliance**

You can expect that candidates with NCLB-compliant credentials will enjoy preferential status in hiring. This means you need to pass the FTCE. Maximize your exam performance and master the FTCE with the unrivaled certification expertise that only REA can offer.

#### **Get the World's Most Advanced FTCE Software**

REA's FTCE Social Science TestWare combines a realistic test environment with the most powerful scoring analysis and diagnostic tools available. With every practice test you take, you'll gain knowledge and confidence for the real exam. Automatic scoring and instant reports help you zero in on the topics and types of questions that give you trouble now, so you'll succeed on the FTCE!

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#### **About the Author**

Dr. Cynthia Metcalf is Visiting Assistant Professor in the History Department at Manhattanville College in Purchase, N.Y., where she teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses in Middle Eastern history, South Asian history, and World History. She also serves as a senior thesis advisor for history majors and as a freshman advisor and freshman seminar instructor for incoming students. In addition to teaching in a brick and mortar institution, Dr. Metcalf also teaches online as an Adjunct Instructor in History for Baker College Online. She received her Ph.D. in history from the University of Virginia.

She received several major fellowships to conduct her research from the Social Science Research Council, American Research Center in Egypt, American Institute of Maghrebi Studies, and the United States Information Agency Documentation of Cultural Properties Program. Dr. Metcalf received her M.A. in South Asian History and her B.A. in Slavic Languages and Literature from the University of Virginia. Currently Dr. Metcalf is revising her dissertation manuscript and contributing entries to the *Dictionary of African Bibliography*.

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## **Introduction**

### **About This Book and TestWare®**

REA's comprehensive guide to Florida's FTCE Social Science 6–12 Test is designed to assist you in preparing to take the FTCE required for teaching social sciences in grades 6–12. To enhance your chances of success in this important step toward your career as a teacher in Florida schools, this test guide along with REA's exclusive TestWare® software:

- presents an accurate and complete overview of the FTCE Social Science 6–12;
- identifies all of the important information and how it's represented on the exam;
- provides a comprehensive review of every competency and skill;
- presents sample questions in the actual test format;
- suggests tips and strategies for successfully completing standardized tests like this FTCE exam;
- provides diagnostic tools to identify areas of strength and weakness;
- provides two full-length practice tests based on the most recently administered FTCE;
- replicates the format of the official exam, including levels of difficulty;
- provides the correct answer and detailed explanations for each question on the practice tests, which enables you to identify correct answers and understand why they are correct and, just as important, why the other answers are incorrect.

This guide is based on the best research and resources. The editors considered the most recent test administrations and professional standards. They also researched information from the Florida Department of Education, professional journals, textbooks, and educators in the field. This guide includes the best test-preparation materials based on the latest information available. Nonetheless, it is always wise to check for any late updates from the test administrator.

Practice Tests 1 and 2 are included in two formats: in printed form in this book and in TestWare® format on the enclosed CD. We recommend that you begin your preparation by first taking the computerized version of your test since the only format for Florida's entire series of teacher certification exams is computerized. The software provides the added benefits of enforced timed conditions and instantaneous, accurate scoring, making it easier to pinpoint your strengths and weaknesses.

### **About the Test**

Since 1980, the state of Florida has used the Florida Teacher Certification Examinations as a requirement for teacher certification. In 1986, the legislature added the requirement to pass a test in the content area in which the teacher desires to be certified. The purpose of this preparation guide is to help you successfully prepare for the test by providing you with a clear overview of what content is considered essential in the social science curricula for grades 6–12. The guide is not designed to be an all-inclusive source for social science content. The practice tests assume that you have some foundation of knowledge in social science; therefore, not all questions have been drawn from the review section.

There are two versions of the social science test in Florida. Be sure you are registered for the proper test. The version for grades 5–9 is what you should take if you want to be a middle school teacher. The version for grades 6–12 requires greater depth of knowledge. This guide is designed to prepare you for the grades 6–12 test.

As of December 2009, all FTCE/FELE tests are available on computer, and as of January 2010, paper-based testing (PBT) is no longer available. A list of computer-based tests currently available is posted on the FTCE/FELE contractor website: [www.fl.nesinc.com/FL\\_testselection.asp](http://www.fl.nesinc.com/FL_testselection.asp).

To find a list of test sites, visit [www.fl.nesinc.com/FL\\_testsites.asp](http://www.fl.nesinc.com/FL_testsites.asp).

Below are the competencies used as the basis for the FTCE Social Science grades 6–12 examination, as well as the approximate percentage of the total test that each competency accounts for. These competencies represent the knowledge that teams of teachers, subject area specialists, and district-level educators have determined to be important for beginning teachers. This book contains a thorough review of these competencies, as well as the specific skills that demonstrate mastery of each area.

<b>Competencies</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1. Knowledge of Geography	10%
2. Knowledge of Economics	15%
3. Knowledge of Political Science	15%
4. Knowledge of World History	25%
5. Knowledge of U.S. History	25%
6. Knowledge of Social Science and its Methodology	10%

The test has approximately 120 questions and you will have 2.5 hours to take it.

### **Who Administers the Test?**

The Florida Department of Education develops this test. Subject area knowledge tested on the FTCE Social Science 6–12 examination was identified and validated by committees of content specialists from the state of Florida. Public school teachers made up the majority of the committee members, but the committees also included district supervisors and college faculty. Selection of committee members was based on recommendations by professional associations, experts, and teachers' unions. Development of the appropriate content and difficulty levels of the exam involved literature review, teacher interviews, beta tests, and professional judgment. Testing services, including test administrations, for the FTCE are provided by the Evaluation Systems group of Pearson Education, Inc.

### **Can I Retake the Test?**

If you do not achieve a passing grade on the FTCE, don't panic. The test can be taken again after 31 days, so you can seriously work on improving your score in preparation for your next FTCE. A score on the FTCE that does not match your expectations does not

mean that you should change your plans about teaching.

### **When Should the FTCE Be Taken?**

Florida law requires that teachers demonstrate mastery of basic skills, professional knowledge, and the content area in which they choose to specialize. If you've graduated from a Florida state-approved teacher preparation program and made the decision to teach Social Science 6–12, you need to begin the process by applying for a Florida Temporary Certificate in that subject. The Bureau of Educator Certification will evaluate your eligibility only in the subject(s) you request on your application form. The Temporary Certificate is valid for three school years, which allows you time to complete the certification tests while teaching full-time.

For high school graduates and out-of-state educators, the Bureau of Educator Certification will provide you with official information about which test(s) to take to complete requirements for the professional certificate. The FTCE is usually administered four times a year in several locations throughout Florida. The usual testing day is Saturday, but the test may be taken on an alternate day if a conflict exists, such as a religious obligation.

Special accommodations also can be made for applicants who are visually impaired, hearing impaired, physically disabled, or specific learning disabled.

To receive information on upcoming administrations of the FTCE, you should consult the FTCE Registration Bulletin, which can be obtained by contacting:

Florida Department of Education  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 414  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0400  
Phone: (413) 256-2893

Website: [www.fldoe.org/asp/ftce](http://www.fldoe.org/asp/ftce)  
or [www.fl.nesinc.com](http://www.fl.nesinc.com)

Bureau of Educator Certification: [www.fldoe.org/edcert](http://www.fldoe.org/edcert)

The FTCE Registration Bulletin also includes information regarding test retakes and score reports.

### **Is There a Registration Fee?**

To take the FTCE, you must pay a registration fee. You may pay by personal check, money order, cashier's check, or Visa or MasterCard. Cash is not accepted. Utilize the contact information above for any questions.

### **How To Use This Book and Testware®**



## How Do I Begin Studying?

1. Review the organization of this test preparation guide.
2. To best utilize your study time, follow our FTCE Independent Study Schedule. The schedule is based on a six-week program but can be condensed to four weeks if necessary by combining a few weekly periods.
3. Take the first Practice Test on CD-ROM and study the competencies that your scores indicate need further review.
4. Review the format of the FTCE.
5. Review the test-taking advice and suggestions presented later in this chapter.
6. Pay attention to the information about competencies and skills, content, and topics on the test.
7. Spend time reviewing topics that stand out as needing more study.
8. Take the second Practice Test on CD-ROM, review the explanations to your answers carefully, and study the competencies that your scores indicate need further review.
9. Follow the suggestions at the end of this chapter for the day before and the day of the test.

## When Should I Start Studying?

It is never too early to start studying for the FTCE. The earlier you begin, the more time you will have to sharpen your skills. Do not procrastinate! Cramming is not an effective way to study, since it does not allow you the time to think about the content, review the competencies, and take the practice tests. It is important, however, to review the material one last time on the night before the test administration.

It is very important for you to choose the time and place for studying that works best for you. Some individuals may set aside a certain number of hours every morning to study, while others may choose to study at night before going to sleep. Other people may study during the day, while waiting in line, or while eating lunch. Only you can determine when and where your study time will be most effective. Be consistent and use your time wisely. Work out a study routine and stick to it.

## Users Review

### From reader reviews:

#### Corey Valenzuela:

The book with title FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep) has lot of information that you can study it. You can get a lot of profit after read this book. This particular book exist new expertise the information that exist in this guide represented the condition of the world today. That is important to you to find out how the improvement of the world. This specific book will bring you within

new era of the globalization. You can read the e-book in your smart phone, so you can read this anywhere you want.

**Frances Temple:**

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The publication lovers usually prefer to select book like comic, limited story and the biggest one is novel. Now, why not attempting FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep) that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied simply by reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world a great deal better then how they react in the direction of the world. It can't be stated constantly that reading behavior only for the geeky individual but for all of you who wants to end up being success person. So , for every you who want to start reading as your good habit, you may pick FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep) become your starter.

**Mary Jones:**

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 or maybe 15 minute in your day to upgrading your mind skill or thinking skill possibly analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book than can satisfy your limited time to read it because all of this time you only find publication that need more time to be examine. FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep) can be your answer given it can be read by anyone who have those short extra time problems.

**Leroy Barker:**

Beside this FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep) in your phone, it can give you a way to get nearer to the new knowledge or data. The information and the knowledge you may got here is fresh from the oven so don't possibly be worry if you feel like an aged people live in narrow community. It is good thing to have FTCE Social Science 6-12 w/ CD-ROM (FTCE Teacher Certification Test Prep) because this book offers to your account readable information. Do you oftentimes have book but you seldom get what it's facts concerning. Oh come on, that will not happen if you have this with your hand. The Enjoyable blend here cannot be questionable, like treasuring beautiful island. Use you still want to miss this? Find this book and read it from now!

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