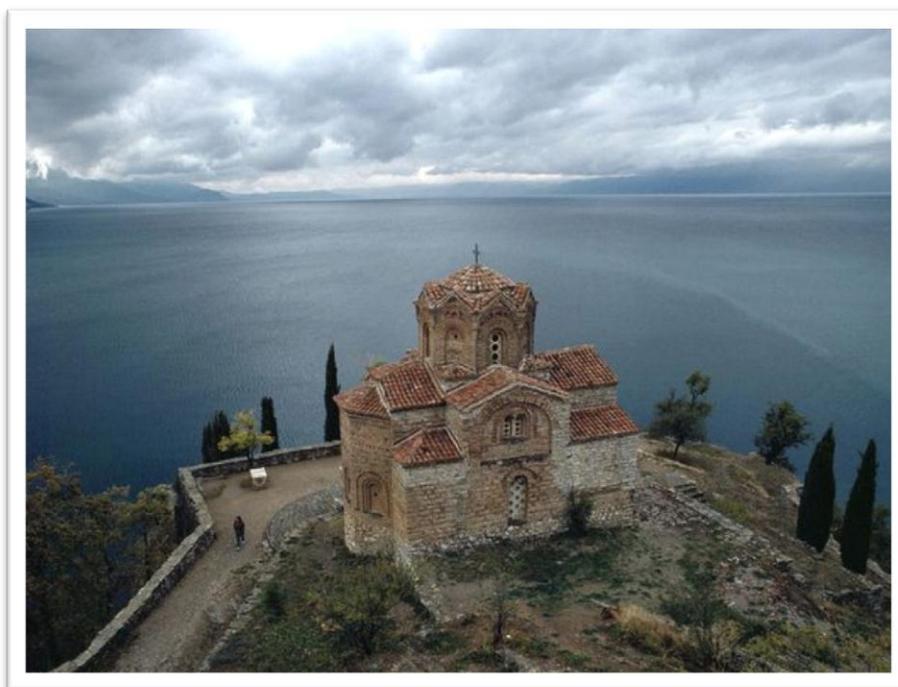


Macedonia: A Curriculum Guide for Secondary School Teachers



Center for Russian and East European Studies

University Center for International Studies

University of Pittsburgh

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Introduction

Macedonia: A Curriculum Guide for Secondary School Teachers was created to provide information on the historical and contemporary development of the Macedonian nation, and in so doing, to assist teachers in meeting some of the criteria indicated in the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Academic Standard Guidelines (http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/state_academic_standards/19721). To fulfill the fundamental themes for many of the disciplines prescribed by the state guidelines, this curriculum guide provides the following information:

- A description of the unique traits of Macedonian culture.
- A description of the effects of political, economic, and cultural changes and how these changes shape present-day Macedonia.
- Identification and explanation of the contributions of key historical individuals and groups in politics, science, the arts, and religion in Macedonia.
- Examination of the evolving economic and political systems of Macedonia, and how these changes have affected Macedonian society.

These and other areas of Macedonian society and culture are explored in an attempt to assist secondary school teachers in fulfilling the Academic Standard Guidelines. As the unique conditions in Macedonia provide a laboratory for studying political, economic, and cultural change, this guide may be additionally useful as a means for comparison with our own country's development. Whether as a tool for meeting the Academic Standard Guidelines, or as a means to explore issues affecting a changing society, we expect that this guide will be useful in your classroom preparation.

Each section of this guide is designed to be suitable for classroom use either independently, or as part of a comprehensive study of Macedonia covering the entire guide. Therefore, you may tailor your use of the guide to fit the amount of time that you have available and the specific topics that are most relevant to your subject area. The guide also contains references to sources of additional information.

This guide was prepared by the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, with funding from the U.S. Department of Education. It is part of a series of curriculum guides on countries in Eastern Europe that entered the European Union in 2004 and 2007, as well as those such as Macedonia that are candidates for EU membership in upcoming years.

About the Center for Russian and East European Studies

Founded in 1965, the Center for Russian and East European Studies (REES) at the University of Pittsburgh is designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a National Resource Center. This distinguishes REES as one of the nation's strongest language and area studies centers. The Center is responsible for coordinating the efforts of the University of Pittsburgh in teaching, research, and public service related to the former Soviet and Central/East European world region. The 71 faculty members affiliated with REES are based in 15 arts and sciences departments and seven professional schools at the University of Pittsburgh.

REES offers undergraduate and graduate certificates to students who complete a multi-disciplinary study of the area and attain proficiency in a language of the region. The Center coordinates the collection of materials on its world region in the University of Pittsburgh's library system, publishes the *Carl Beck Papers in Russian and East European Studies*, maintains academic exchanges with 30 overseas partner institutions, and sponsors lectures and special events on a weekly basis. REES also sponsors study abroad programs and, since 1986, a Summer Language Institute for students throughout the U.S., offering intensive courses in 12 Slavic and East European languages.

The REES Outreach Program is dedicated to providing elementary, secondary, and post-secondary schools and community organizations with a broad understanding of the cultures, languages, histories, politics, and economies of former Soviet and Central/East European nations. For educators at all levels, REES offers a school visits program, instructional resource lending library, outreach newsletter, and professional development workshops. Most of these services are free of charge. For more information, please see the REES Outreach website at <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/crees/outreach.html>.

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Part 1: Background

Maps



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Quick Facts

GEOGRAPHY

Location:	The Republic of Macedonia is a country located in the central area of the Balkan Peninsula in Southeastern Europe. A landlocked country, Macedonia is bordered by Albania to the west, Kosovo and Serbia to the north, Bulgaria to the east, and Greece to the south.
Area:	25,713 square kilometers
Capital and Largest City:	Skopje
Climate:	Warm, dry summers and autumns; cold winters with heavy snowfalls

PEOPLE

Population:	2,066,718
Life Expectancy:	74.68 years
Nationality:	Noun: Macedonian(s) Adjective: Macedonian
Religions:	Macedonian Orthodox (64.7%) Muslim (33.3%) Other Christian (0.37%)
Languages:	Macedonian (66.5%) Albanian (25.1%) Turkish (3.5%) Roma (1.9%) Serbian (1.2%)
Ethnic Groups:	Macedonian (64.2%) Albanian (25.2%) Turkish (3.9%) Roma (2.7%) Serb (1.8%)
Literacy:	96.1%

GOVERNMENT

Government Type: Parliamentary Democracy
Current President: Gjorge Ivanov (since May 12, 2009)
Independence: September 8, 1991
Constitution: Adopted November 17, 1991

Flag:



ECONOMICS

GDP per capita: \$9,100 (2009) (figure expressed in purchasing power parity)
Industries: Food processing, beverages, textiles, chemicals, iron, steel, cement
Agriculture: Grapes, tobacco, vegetables, fruits, milk, eggs
Labor Force: Services (51.9%); industry (29.5%); agriculture (18.6%)
Exports: \$2.687 billion (2009)
Imports: \$4.844 billion (2009)
Export Partners: Germany (20.31%), Greece (13.09%), Italy (11.08%), Bulgaria (10.61%), Croatia (7.74%)
Import Partners: Germany (15.11%), Greece (14.88%), Bulgaria (9.08%), Italy (7.68%), Turkey (7.59%)
Currency: Macedonian denar
Exchange Rate: 1 U.S. dollar equals 45 denars (2009)

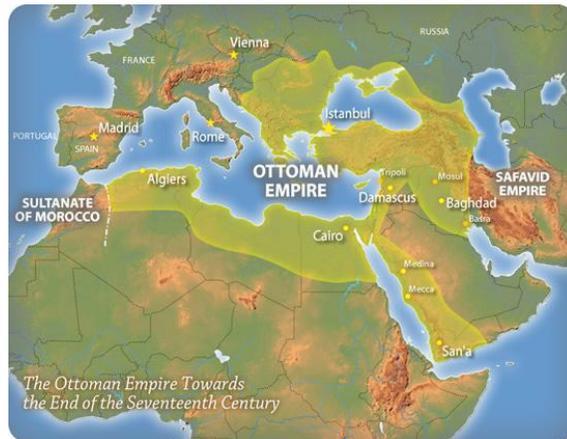
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Central Intelligence Agency. "The World Factbook." 2010. Available at:
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History

The term “Macedonia” has three distinct meanings. It refers to the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), a country that declared independence in 1991 during Yugoslavia’s dissolution. The term also applies to the north-central region of Greece; in this use, Macedonia and Thrace comprise “northern Greece.” Historically, the term also refers to a larger region in southeastern Europe that includes the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and surrounding areas in Bulgaria, Albania, Serbia, and Greece.

The Macedonian region has existed since the ancient world and throughout medieval times, when Christianity was solidified as the dominant religion. The Ottomans incorporated Macedonia into their empire from the fourteenth century until 1913, when the Turks were expelled from the region. In 1914 Macedonia was occupied by Bulgaria, but in 1918-19, following World War I, it became a part of Serbia. In 1929, the Kingdom of Yugoslavia (previously known as the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes) was established.



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In 1943 the Kingdom of Yugoslavia became the Federal People’s Republic of Yugoslavia, and then in 1963 the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, which was a communist regime, lasted until 1992 when the state of Yugoslavia broke apart. Arguably the most important figure during the communist period was Josip Broz Tito, who served first as prime minister (1945-1953) and then as president (1953-1980).

The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia incorporated six republics: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia. Each of these republics gained full independence at different points during and after the collapse of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia: Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1992; Croatia in 1991; Macedonia in 1991 (declared in 1991 but recognized in 1993); Montenegro in 2006 (from Serbia and Montenegro); Serbia in 2006 (from Serbia and Montenegro); and Slovenia in 1991. In 1993, the United Nations granted membership to Macedonia under its current name, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, due to Greece’s objection to use of the term “Macedonia.”



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Throughout the 1990s, the Macedonian government faced severe tensions with ethnic Albanians, who desired their own autonomous region and greater rights within the Macedonian state. In 2001, the National Liberation Army emerged to defend the rights of ethnic Albanians in the country, but it disbanded after the Macedonian government agreed to grant greater recognition of Albanian rights and amnesty to former rebels as part of a NATO arrangement.



© BBC

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“Macedonia.” *Britannica Online Encyclopedia*. Available at: <<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/354223/Macedonia>>.

“Timeline: Macedonia.” *BBC News*. March 3, 2011. Available at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/country_profiles/1410364.stm>.

Part 2: Political, Economic, and Social Issues

Government & Politics

Macedonia is a parliamentary democracy. Its constitution was adopted on November 17, 1991 and amended in 2001, 2005, and 2009. The 2001 amendment was especially important as it strengthened minority rights, including rights for ethnic Albanians. Macedonia's legislative assembly is called the Sobranje. It consists of 120 seats and elects the prime minister (head of government). The president (head of state) is elected by popular vote for a five-year term, and the Council of Ministers (presidential cabinet) is elected by majority vote of all deputies in the assembly. The judicial system has three tiers: municipal courts, district courts, and the Supreme Court. The Republican Judicial Court appoints (and the parliament confirms) judges.

Political parties in Macedonia include: Democratic Alliance, Democratic Party of Serbs in Macedonia, Democratic Party of the Albanians, Democratic Party of Turks in Macedonia, Movement for Reconstruction of Macedonia, Democratic Union for Integration, Liberal Democratic Party, Liberal Party, New Alternative, New Democracy, New Social-Democratic Party, Party for Democratic Action in Macedonia, Party for European Future, Social Democratic Union of Macedonia, Socialist Party, United for Macedonia, VMRO-DPMNE Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity, VMRO-Macedonian, and VMRO-Peoples' Party

Macedonia's local government structure consists of 123 municipalities, in which council members and mayors are directly elected for four-year terms.

References:

"Background Note: Macedonia." U.S. Department of State. March 31, 2011. Available at: <<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/26759.htm>>.

"Macedonia – Government." Encyclopedia of the Nations. Available at: <<http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Europe/Macedonia-GOVERNMENT.html>>.

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"Macedonia – Local government." Encyclopedia of the Nations. Available at: <<http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Europe/Macedonia-LOCAL-GOVERNMENT.html>>.

"Macedonia – Political parties." Encyclopedia of the Nations. Available at: <<http://www.nationsencyclopedia.com/Europe/Macedonia-POLITICAL-PARTIES.html>>.

Economy



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While it was a part of Yugoslavia (1943-1991), Macedonia was the poorest of the Yugoslav republics and required economic aid from the rest of the federation. During this time, Macedonia produced various manufacturing products, such as sheet and strip metals, and agricultural products, such as tobacco and rice. In the 1980s, tourism became important to the Macedonian economy.

Even though Yugoslavia was a socialist bloc, the private sector remained important in Macedonia, especially in the areas of agriculture, craft production, and retail trade. The country relied heavily on Yugoslav markets (and transfer payments) rather than foreign markets during this time period. Since the country's economic relations were primarily with other Yugoslav republics and countries in the Soviet bloc, its economy suffered during the breakup of these blocs. United Nations sanctions on Serbia, as well as Greece's frustration with the country's use of the name "Macedonia," further exacerbated the problems involved in economic reform.

National infrastructure has been improved where international requirements have demanded it, but communications have been poor in eastern Macedonia, since it conducts little trade with other areas.

Exports: \$3.35 billion; GINI Index: 38.99; Human Development Index: 0.797; Income Category: Lower middle income

References:

"Macedonia – The economy." Britannica Online Encyclopedia. Available at: <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/354223/Macedonia>.

"Macedonian Economy Stats." Nation Master Encyclopedia. Available at: <http://www.nationmaster.com/country/mk-macedonia-republic-of/eco-economy>.

Education



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Primary Education

Primary education in Macedonia is compulsory for eight years and provided for children from ages 7 through 15. The student-to-teacher ratio is 20:1, and the primary education enrollment rate is 92.8%.

Secondary Education

Secondary education in Macedonia consists of four years and focuses on general, technical, vocational, or special education. Specialized schools provide secondary education on a voluntary basis. The student-to-teacher ratio is 16:1, and the secondary education enrollment rate is 84.2%.

Tertiary Education

The country has two universities: the University of Skopje, which was founded in 1949, and Bitola University, which was founded in 1979. The tertiary education enrollment rate is 35.5%.

Overall, Macedonia ranks moderately high on the 2010 U.N. Human Development Report in terms of education, with an adult literacy rate of 97%.

References:

“Macedonia.” Britannica Online Encyclopedia. Available at:
<<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/354223/Macedonia>>.

“Macedonia.” Encyclopedia. Available at:
<<http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Macedonia.aspx>>.

United Nations Development Program. “Human Development Report 2010.” New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010.

Health



Summary

Overall, the level of health standards in Macedonia is moderately high. Physicians are adequately trained, and the physician-to-person ratio is 25:10,000. Nonetheless, because there is a shortage of medical equipment and pharmaceuticals, patients will sometimes go abroad for treatment.

Health Expenditures

Macedonia spends 6.9% of its GDP on health expenditures. This equates to spending 749 dollars per capita (PPP).

Children's Health

5% of children are lacking immunization against DTP (diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis) and 2% lack immunization against measles. The infant mortality rate is 10 per 1,000 live births, and the under-five mortality rate is 11 per 1,000 births.

Adult Health

The adult mortality rate is 79 per 1,000 people for females and 144 per 1,000 people for males. Life expectancy at birth is 76 years for females and 72 years for males.

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"Macedonia." Encyclopedia. Available at:
<<http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Macedonia.aspx>>.

United Nations Development Program. "Human Development Report 2010." New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010.

World Health Organization. "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia." Available at:
<<http://www.who.int/countries/mkd/en/>>.

Part 3: Culture

Religion



Church of St. Sophia in Ohrid, Macedonia
© www.ohrid.org.mk

According to the CIA World Factbook, approximately two-thirds of Macedonians are Orthodox Christian and one-third are Muslim. Most Slavs in the country are Orthodox and most Turks, Albanians, and Roma are Muslim.

Language

А а, Б б, В в, Г г, Д д, Ѓ ѓ, Е е,
Ж ж, З з, С с, И и, Ј ј, К к, Л л,
Љ љ, М м, Н н, Њ њ, О о, П п,
Р р, С с, Т т, Ќ ќ, У у, Ф ф, Х х,
Ц ц, Ч ч, Џ џ, Ш ш.

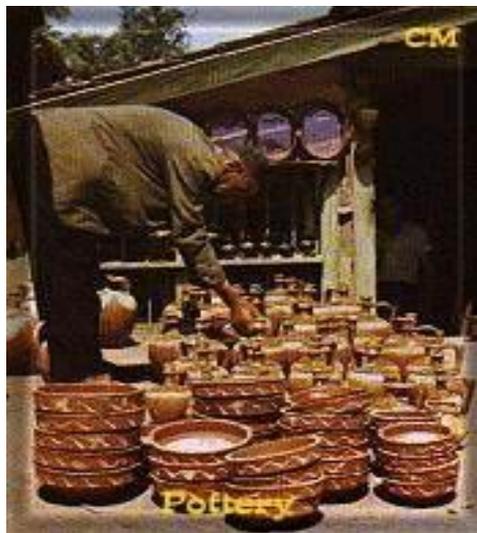
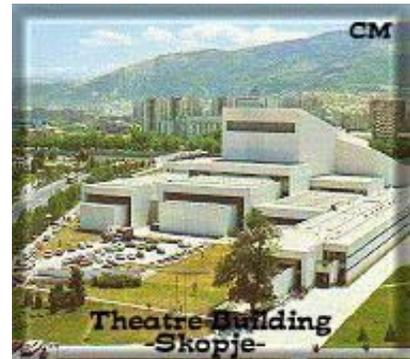
The Macedonian Alphabet
© www.cybermacedonia.com/

The Macedonian language is the most widely spoken language in Macedonia. It bears resemblance to Bulgarian and Serbian. Minority languages include Albanian, Turkish, Roma, and Serbian.

References:

Central Intelligence Agency. "The World Factbook." 2010. Available at:
<<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/mk.html>>.

Arts



Macedonia has endeavored to preserve and promote its culture through educational and media communication campaigns. The majority of cultural institutions are in Skopje, apart from those that are associated with ethnic minorities. Macedonia is particularly known for its Struga poetry festival and the plays of Goran Stefanovski.

References:

Cyber Macedonia. "Macedonian Arts and Culture." 2001. Available at:
<<http://www.cybermacedonia.com/mculture.html>>.

"Macedonia." Encyclopedia Britannica. Available at:
<<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/354223/Macedonia/42796/Cultural-life>>.

Cuisine & Recipes

Potatoes in Bechamel Sauce



Recipe:

500 grams of peeled potatoes, cut into large cubes

For the Bechamel sauce:

1/4 cup butter

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

2 cups milk

2-3 cloves minced garlic

Pinch of nutmeg (optional)

Salt and pepper

Boil or steam the potatoes until they are cooked. In the meantime, make the Bechamel sauce. Warm the milk in one saucepan, but do not bring it to boil. In another saucepan on low heat, melt the butter until it starts to foam. Add the flour, and with constant stirring cook it for 3-4 minutes or until the flour is lightly yellow. Then add the warm milk and whisk it with a wire whisk so that the sauce remains smooth and without lumps. Cook it for 10 minutes on low, constantly stirring. Then add the potatoes, garlic, salt, pepper, and nutmeg, and cook it for another 5 minutes. If the sauce is too thick, add some water.

Rice and Tomatoes



Recipe:

200 grams of rice (any kind)

100 grams of finely chopped tomatoes (save the juice)

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 tablespoon dry oregano

1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley

Salt and pepper

Clean and rinse the rice until the water starts to become clear (around 5 times). This way you rinse the starch and the rice will not stick. Then cook the rice until it is done (40 minutes or so in a steamer). Add the olive oil, tomatoes, oregano, parsley, and tomato juice, and mix everything. Add salt and pepper and it is done. You can add more vegetables or some sauce.

Homemade Chicken Meat Pate



Recipe:

300 grams of cooked chicken meat (boiled, steamed, or baked)
1 tablespoon of butter (if using chicken breast meat, you can add 1 T more)
1-2 tablespoon tomato puree (or ketchup will do)
2 cloves garlic
1 tablespoon of brandy for aroma (optional)
Salt and pepper

First, melt the butter. In a blender or food processor, add the meat, butter, garlic, and tomato puree, and blend until smooth. If it is too thick, add more tomato puree or just a little water, chicken stock, or olive oil. Blend until very smooth. Season with salt and pepper. Add some herbs if you like, such as dried thyme, parsley, etc. You can put it in an airtight container and it will last for a couple of days in the refrigerator.

Reference:

“Macedonian Food, Cuisine and Recipes.” Available at: <http://macedonianfood.blogspot.com/>.