

## **Help Your Students Prepare for the Science and Social Studies Sections of the HSEE**

A few states are beginning to test science and social studies on their High School Exit Exams. This trend is expected to continue as research shows that students in the United States have low interest and achievement in areas related to science. It is also increasingly important, as the economy becomes more global, that American students have a more mature awareness of history and politics around the world. The areas most often tested include:

- United States history
- global history
- economic, legal, and political systems
- biology
- earth science and physics

Almost any chapter in your business textbook might reinforce social studies concepts. For example, when you are studying computers in the workplace, have the students create a timeline of the development of computers and the historical events that were occurring in the United States and in the world during that time. When you are reading about the impact of government on business, reinforce the economic, legal, and political systems here and abroad. If possible, collaborate with the social studies and history teachers in your school so that students can see the connections between their academic content and how it applies in the real world.

Scientific concepts can be a little more difficult to highlight in the business curriculum. Have your students research a scientific achievement and the process it went through to become a profit-making product (e.g., fertilizers, penicillin, plastic, etc.). Or ask the students to read and present the biography of a scientist, who became an entrepreneur. When studying employability skills, have the students conduct mock interviews for positions in the biology or physics fields. With just a little thought and imagination, your curriculum will easily tie into the HSEE in your state.