

Top part of each column—**concrete** factors // Bottom part—**concept** factors

...with a few exceptions highlighted ☺

Social Science **Factors**: basic terms & **key concepts**

reference sheet 1

The social sciences examine the interplay and impact of these factors.

Influence of **GEOGRAPHY** and impact of **TECHNOLOGY** affect the Four Worlds

Geography	Four Worlds			
	Politics	Economics	Social	Culture
a. climate b. physical features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> topography vegetation c. natural resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> water minerals rich soil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> arable land trees (lumber) d. trade routes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> rivers, straits mountain passes e. territory, borders, political boundaries	Governing Structure a. type of government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> monarchy, oligarchy democracy, authoritarian centralized, decentralized b. military: armies, weapons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> defense, protection vs. conquest, expansion treaties, diplomacy c. legal system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> laws, standards, rights judges, police, patrol d. taxes, tribute ----- Central Concepts :----- e. security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> order, stability, control state-building (rise & fall) f. power: limits, transfer, balance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> legitimate authority role of govt / functions g. rule of law vs. force / fear <ul style="list-style-type: none"> equality <i>before the law</i> justice, fairness enforcement, recourse h. leadership, stewardship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> public service, duty i. rights & responsibilities j. managing the commons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> public goods, infrastructure redistribution 	Economic Structure a. products / trade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> goods & services b. production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> means of production resources: natural, human, financial tools, equipment, labor c. types of labor, work, jobs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> merchants, artisans, craftsmen, guilds division of labor, specialization d. infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> irrigation, aqueducts roads, bridges, ports e. means of exchange <ul style="list-style-type: none"> barter system system of money f. standard measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> length, weight, volume, distance ----- Central Concepts :----- g. entrepreneurship h. incentives i. scarcity vs prosperity j. innovation & efficiency	Social Structure a. class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> upper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ruling class elite class middle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> common class working class lower <ul style="list-style-type: none"> peasants slaves b. status / position <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mobility privilege c. nomadic v. sedentary d. rural v. urban e. hierarchical v. communal f. integrated v. segregated g. role of women ----- Civil Society :*----- h. civic duty / common good i. education (literacy level) j. equity & access k. advocates, watchdogs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> accountability transparency l. news; distribution of information; <i>role of the media</i>	Religion & Belief Systems a. origins b. teachings — shared values, moral authority c. texts d. practices, rites & rituals e. influence; role in society Other Aspects of Culture a. daily life b. customs c. language d. alphabet / writing system e. literature f. the arts — aesthetics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> visual art, crafts performing arts: music, dance, theater/drama g. architecture ----- Central Concepts :----- h. identity (pride, bonds, loyalty) i. tolerance (harmony) j. respect for authority k. meaning, comfort, hope (esp. to face hardship, suffering) l. cultural blending, diffusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> diversity v homogeneity assimilation v acculturation harmony v conformity
Technology a. discoveries b. inventions impact of technology :* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> infrastructure: e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * transportation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> navigation * communication production weapons medicine, health beliefs, values legal process 				

* Impact of technology across society is the central concept. Civil society is the central concept of the *social world*.

Identifying factors, relating factors, or determining the "most important" factor is **the science** of the **social sciences**.

A history course is about studying how factors are combined differently in each society...

dynamics, effects, outcomes, changes, etc.

Social Science **Factors**: 4W chart of key concepts

These concepts are "factors" of the human condition – that when combined in different ways – produce different types of societies throughout history and around the world today. Some factors are basic to survival while others help establish more order and greater stability. Some of these factors are needed for a thriving, *more humane* existence. Societies have strengths or weaknesses across these factors. Absence or loss of certain factors can lead to the decline of a society.

