Mali as a case study for teaching Africa in compliance with Michigan social studies standards and benchmarks

“THREADS OF CHANGE: THE TRANSFORMATION OF WEST AFRICAN TEXTILES;”
Integrating the African Arts in Middle and High School Social Studies Curriculum

For quick reference on Mali visit the links on the Mali page on MSU Global Access:
http://www.msuglobalaccess.com/geo/africa/country.php?subGeoID=50

I. Integrating exhibit into (i) Eastern Hemispheric Studies (Africa) and (ii) World History and Geography.

- Use of works of art is analogous to use of music and written/oral literature to enrich and elucidate historical, social, economic, political themes.
- Use exhibit with focus on Mali – integrated lessons that cover multiple standards and benchmarks

A. Eastern Hemispheric Studies:

- H1 World in Temporal Terms Habits of the Mind
  o 1.1 Temporal thinking—change as part of social, political and cultural systems of Mali—including material/aesthetic culture viz textiles. Exploring Africa Module 12: African Art
    http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m12/
  o 1.2 Historical Inquiry and Analysis—what factors contribute to change in Mali (including change in art & material culture) Use resources on Threads of Change exhibit developed for this website.
  o 1.3 Historical Understanding: How art in Mali is dynamic and contributes to as well as reflects changes in social, economic and political systems/structures. See sections contributed by David Wiley, Steve Esquith, Rob Glew, and Candice Keller

- W3 WHG Era 3 – 3.2 The growth and development of world religion: Islam and the development of centralized states in the Sahel/Mali
  MaliMaps_Influenceofspatiallocation.docx

- Geography
  Exploring Africa Module Six: African Geography (all learning activities)
  http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m6/
  o G1 Spatial thinking G 2.1 Physical characteristics of PLACE—overview of Mali Link to maps of Mali [PolMap_Mali; PhysicalMap_Mali; MaliMap_WestAf]
  o G 2.2 Human characteristic of place (demographics of Mali)
  o G3.1 Physical processes: how climate, topography, vegetation, eco-system of Mali impact development of political, economic and cultural systems which in term impact material and aesthetic culture (use physical, vegetation, climate maps)
    Link to file: MaliMaps_Influenceofspatiallocation.docx
  o Human Systems:
    o 4.1 Cultural Mosaic: peoples, cultures and religions of Mali (Country File: Exploring Africa)
      http://www.msuglobalaccess.com/geo/africa/country.php?subGeoID=50
And,

Exploring Africa
Module Eight: Culture and Society in Africa
http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m8/overview.php

- 4.3 Patterns of Human Settlement (migration/movement)
  Exploring Africa, Module Seven  (A) African History
  Activity Three: “West African Kingdoms.”
  http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m7a/activity3.php

- Politics
  - C3 Characteristics of Nation-States (colonial and post colonial states—
    Africa)—Focus on the peculiar nature of the colonial state in comparison to
    the "western" model of the nation-state that developed in Europe and North
    America in the 19th century
    Exploring Africa
    Module Ten African Politics and Government
    Particularly activities three, four and five.
    http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m10/

- Economics
  - E2 The Role of Government—role of colonial and post-colonial state in
    Africa—emphasis on types of government/governance and the role of
    government in promoting socio-economic development and (colonial and
    post-colonial)
    Exploring Africa
    Module Nine: African Economies
    Activity 7 “Case Study of Mali”

  - E3 International economy: Emphasis on Africa’s position in global economy
    and on explanations why African economies have failed to thrive since the
    end of colonial rule.
    Exploring Africa
    Module Nine: African Economies
    Activity Ten: Globalization and African Economies

B. World History and Geography:

History:

- 4.3 Regional Expectations (Era Four: Expanding and Intensified Hemispheric
  Interactions)

Africa Lessons • [MSUM logo] • Threads of Change Resources
4.3.1 Africa to 1500 (Mali is highlighted in standard)
Exploring Africa Module Seven (A) African History to 1500
Learning Activity 3: Great West African Kingdom
http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m7a/activity3.php

5.2 Interregional or Comparative Expectations (Era 5 The Emergence of the First Global Age)
  o Trans-Atlantic & Trans Africa slave trade (Mali on trans-Saharan slave route)
    Exploring Africa Module Seven (B) The Era of Global Encroachment
    Learning Activity One: The Atlantic Slave Trade
    http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m7b/activity1.php

6.2 Interregional or Comparative Expectations (Era 6 Age of Global Revolutions)
  o 6.2.4 Imperialism/Colonialism in Africa, Asia, Latin America—Use Mali as case study
    Exploring Africa: Module Seven B: African History-The Era of Global Encroachment ;
    Activity Three: The Practice and Legacy of Colonialism
    http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m7b/activity3.php
    Module Nine: African Economies
    Activity Four: The Economics of Colonialism
    Activity Seven: Case Study of Soudan/Mali
    Module Ten: African Politics and Governments
    Activity Three: The Political Heritage of Colonialism
    http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m10/activity3.php
  o 6.3.3 Evaluate the different experiences of African societies with
    colonialism north and south of the Sahara—Case study of Mali—politics and economics.
    Exploring Africa: Module Nine: African Economies
    Activity Seven: Case Study of Soudan/Mali

7.3.6 Rise of African Nationalism—comparative perspectives (Mali case study)
Exploring Africa:
Module Seven B: African History-The Era of Global Encroachment
Activity Four: African Resistance, Nationalism & I
http://exploringafrica.matrix.msu.edu/teachers/curriculum/m7b/activity4.php

Era 8 The Cold War and its Aftermath
  o 8.2.1 The legacy of Imperialism/colonialism (reference politics and economics with special reference to Mali:

Africa Lessons • [MSUM logo] • Threads of Change Resources
Exploring Africa:
Module Nine: African Economies-
Activity Eight: Post-Colonial Economies
Activity Nine: Globalization and African Economies
Module Ten: African Politics and Government
Activity Four: Post Colonial Government
Activity Six: International Relations (Impact of Cold War)

- CG (Current Global Issues)
  - CG2 Resources “Explain the changes over the past 50 years in the use, distribution, and importance of natural resources”—case study of cotton in Mali its relationship to global economy, food production, environmental issues (land use and degradation, global warming) and general well-being of people.
  - CG3 Patterns of Global Interaction: “Define Globalization and evaluate the merit of this concept to describe the contemporary world by analyzing:
    - Cultural diffusion and different ways cultures/societies respond to “new” cultural ideas and patterns
    - Economic interdependence of the world’s countries and world trade patterns
    - Distribution of wealth and resources and efforts to narrow the inequitable distribution of resources.
  - Excellent for study of change in Malian art/music as well as cotton trade in “modern” global era.

Exploring Africa
Module Nine: African Economies-
Activity Eight: Post-Colonial Economies
Activity Nine: Globalization and African Economies