

Social Studies Courses

* World History
*Geography ^
*Civics ^
*U.S. History
Honors U.S. History (H)
*Principles of Economics^
Sociology^
Psychology^
A.P. U.S. Government and Politics^
A.P. Microeconomics^

*Required Courses
^Semester Courses

Course Descriptions

World History

Prerequisites: None
Grades: 9th
Length: Semester

World History covers relevant historical events, people and cultures beginning with creation of the world and ending with current world issues. This course will focus on global development of all major civilizations throughout the various ages of world growth. Lessons will reinforce map skills and knowledge of global geography.

Geography

Prerequisites: None
Grades: 10th
Length: Semester

This course surveys the importance of the study of geography, the different methods of study, the formation of land forms, the formation and prediction of weather, as well as a systematic examination of cultures around the world.

Civics

Prerequisites: None
Grades: 10th
Length: Semester

The main purpose of Civics is to help students acquire the knowledge and the skills necessary to carry out their responsibilities as citizens of the United States. Civics is a survey course designed to expose each student to the basic organization and operation of government at the local, state, and national level. The lessons will emphasize basic knowledge of government institutions, the decision making process, and the applications of those decisions to the daily lives of the citizens of this great country. The purpose and forms of other governments are also covered in this course.

U.S. History

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11th

Length: Full Year

The United States History course encourages students to analyze events, personalities, and movements that have shaped the history of the United States of America. The students will explore how colonization, exploration, and immigration led to the growth of the country. Students will study how different internal conflicts, as well as conflicts with other countries helped improve the nation. Challenges of the future will be applied to current knowledge.

AP United States History

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11th

Length: Full Year

This course is intended to teach American History from a higher level than your average US History class. The class is taught on a college level using a collegiate text as well as other outside resources that require more analysis and understanding than most history classes. You are expected to put in a fair amount of time outside of our daily class lectures and discussions reading your text and other resources, writing historical papers based on primary sources, interpreting documents, maps and graphs and creating projects that show your understanding of historical themes and their significance to our country's history.

This class is also intended to prepare you to take and pass the AP US History test at the end of the school year. We will spend a good deal of time in class preparing the factual knowledge content that you will need to know, as well as learning how to appropriately interpret and analyze historical documents and use them to write an argumentative thesis and essay. You should also spend time outside of class studying for the AP exam. You will be given a book to help with that.

Principles of Economics

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11th – 12th

Length: Semester

Principles of Economics combines a traditional Economics course with a Consumer Finance course. Students will study how individuals, businesses, and governments seek to satisfy their needs and wants. It is a one semester course that covers various economic concepts. The course begins with a study of exactly what economics is and the different economic systems in existence. The focus then shifts to the American economy and how it functions.

Additionally, students will be taught how to be wise stewards of the money that they earn in their lives. Students will take a practical approach towards dealing with their finances to enable them to make wise

monetary decisions after high school. Particular emphasis will be placed on the immediate application of the course's materials for students' to apply to their lives.

Sociology

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11th - 12th

Length: Semester

Sociology examines the behavior of social groups existing in familial, educational, governmental, occupational, and religious structures. Students will investigate the major social issues within each group in an attempt to deconstruct their cause and devise plausible solutions.

Psychology

Prerequisites: None

Grades: 11th – 12th

Length: Semester

This course is designed to be an introduction to the science of understanding, explaining and predicting human behavior. Students will explore the history, scientific methods and development of psychology. Students will have an opportunity to examine their own values, behaviors and beliefs. Life stages and gender difficulties will be studied in conjunction with emotions, personality, and stress factors. A look at abnormal behaviors and treatment will also be included in this course.

A.P. U.S. Government and Politics

Prerequisites: Department Approval

Grades: 12th

Length: Semester

AP U.S. Government and Politics is a one semester course that is offered during the fall semester. Students enrolled in the AP U.S. Government and Politics course have an opportunity to better gauge how the different aspects of the United States government function. The government topics that will be studied are given by the College Board. Since this is the equivalent of a college level government course, students will be able to challenge themselves as they work and learn at a college level pace. This course will be one of the best instruments that students can use to help prepare them for their future studies in college. Furthermore, students will have the opportunity to take the AP U.S. Government and Politics exam in May, and if the students successfully pass the exam, they will earn college credit while in high school.

A.P. Microeconomics

Prerequisites: Department Approval

Grades: 12th

Length: Semester

AP Microeconomics is a one semester course that is offered during the spring semester. Students enrolled in the AP Microeconomics course have an opportunity to better gauge how the different aspects of the United States economy function. The economic topics that will be studied are given by the College Board. Since this is the equivalent of a college level economics course, students will be able to challenge themselves as they work and learn at a college level pace. This course will be one of the best instruments that students can use to help prepare them for their future studies in college. Furthermore, students will have the opportunity to take the AP Microeconomics exam, and if the students successfully pass the exam, they will earn college credit while in high school.