



SOCIAL STUDIES DIVISION

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SCAN QR CODE TO READ MORE ABOUT SOCIAL STUDIES ONLINE:
WWW.D125.ORG/ACADEMICS/SOCIAL-STUDIES



Social Studies is the integrated study of the social sciences and humanities to promote civic competence. Within the school program, social studies provides a coordinated, systematic study drawing upon such disciplines as anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, history, law, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, and sociology, as well as appropriate content from the humanities, mathematics, and natural sciences. The primary purpose of social studies is to help students develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent 21st century world.

A minimum of three years of study in Social Studies is recommended for college-bound students.

Social Studies Courses Required for Graduation:

- One year of World History and Geography
- One year of U.S. History (or AP U.S. History)
- One semester of Government (or AP U.S. Government and Politics)—Both Government and AP U.S. Government satisfy the Illinois civics requirements for graduation.
- One semester of Economics, AP Macroeconomics, AP Microeconomics, or Personal Finance is necessary for graduation.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS

WWW.D125.ORG/ACADEMICS/COURSEBOOK

COURSES AVAILABLE STARTING IN 9TH GRADE

World History and Geography*
Full-Year Course
SOC101/SOC102

COURSES AVAILABLE STARTING IN 10TH GRADE

World Religions
One-Semester Course
SOC501 or SOC502

Global Relations
One-Semester Course
SOC531 or SOC532

AP European History Honors
Full-Year Course
SOC601/SOC602

AP Human Geography Honors
Full-Year Course
SOC611/SOC612

Constitutional Law
One-Semester Course
SOC511 or SOC512

Law In American Society
One-Semester Course
SOC431 or SOC432

AP Government-Comparative Honors
One-Semester Course
SOC631 or SOC632

COURSES AVAILABLE STARTING IN 11TH GRADE

U.S. History*
Full-Year Course
SOC321/SOC322

AP U.S. History Honors*
Full-Year Course
SOC621/SOC622

American Studies (AP U.S. History and AP English Language and Composition) Honors
Full-Year Course
SOC581/SOC582

Sociology
One-Semester Course
SOC541 or SOC542

Sociology Honors
One-Semester Course
SOC571 or SOC572

Economics*
One-Semester Course
SOC411 or SOC412

AP Macroeconomics Honors*
One-Semester Course
SOC641 or SOC642

AP Microeconomics Honors*
One-Semester Course
SOC651 or SOC652

Philosophy and Political Theory: A History of Ideas Honors
One-Semester Course
SOC671 or SOC672

COURSES AVAILABLE STARTING IN 12TH GRADE

Government*
One-Semester Course
SOC401 or SOC402

AP Government-United States Honors*
One-Semester Course
SOC681 or SOC682

AP Government-Comparative Honors
One-Semester Course
SOC631 or SOC632

Political Thought and Its Literature
One-Semester Course
SOC561 or SOC562

Psychology
One-Semester Course
SOC551 or SOC552

AP Psychology Honors
Full-Year Course
SOC661/SOC662

** Courses marked with an asterisk fulfill social studies graduation requirement*

WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC101—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 9-10
PREREQUISITE: NONE

SOC102—SEMESTER 2
FULL YEAR

World History and Geography is a one-year course required for graduation, and a prerequisite for all courses in the social studies. Students taking World History and Geography develop core academic skills in reading and writing while studying history from the origins human civilizations to the present. Patterns and changes in political and economic systems, social structures, religious beliefs and ideologies, and cultural accomplishments are studied from a global perspective with case studies from every world region. Through collaboration, discussion, and debate, World History and Geography students will improve their: 1) historical and geographic literacy, 2) historical evaluation and analysis, and 3) historical argumentation for the purpose of becoming better readers, writers, and critical thinkers. With the foundational study of World History and Geography, students develop global perspective, appreciation for global and community diversity, and an understanding of the historical forces that have shaped our present world.

WORLD RELIGIONS (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC501—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 10-11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC502—SEMESTER 2
ONE SEMESTER

This course is designed to introduce students to the major religions of the world. Students will analyze each religion's foundations, historical development, principle themes and beliefs, and cultural impact. Its primary purpose is to equip students with an understanding of the major ideas and practices of the world's religions so that they may better understand the world in which they live.

LAW IN AMERICAN SOCIETY (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC431—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 10-11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC432—SEMESTER 1
ONE SEMESTER

In this one-semester course, students will develop a basic understanding of our legal system, its terminology and its procedures. An emphasis will be placed on analyzing real world issues and court cases that relate to our rights as citizens and the role of our legal system. The class will rely heavily on class discussions, group projects, and simulations. We will explore the lawmaking process, civil law, criminal law, and criminal investigations, and criminal behavior. Students will also prepare opening statements, learn how to question witnesses, and engage in mock trial activities. This class will expose students to skills and content that will prove useful for those considering careers in law, criminal justice, crime prevention, and other public occupations.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC511—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 10-11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC512—SEMESTER 2
ONE SEMESTER

Constitutional Law provides students with an understanding of how the U.S. Constitution came into existence, why it took the form it did, and how it functions in contemporary American society. Students will develop analytical and evaluative skills by applying constitutional principles to a variety of legal issues and political controversies. Students will assume a lawyer's role in oral argument activities. Students interested in legal careers, criminal and civil rights, and public service should consider this course.

GLOBAL RELATIONS (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC531—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 10-11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC532—SEMESTER 2
ONE SEMESTER

This one-semester course focuses on significant and contemporary global events. The emphasis in the course will be on international events after the Cold War. A major goal of the course is to encourage an understanding and evaluation of the international system through major current events. Students will be expected to read current news publications in addition to assigned text materials and will be engaged in several issue-based simulations throughout the course.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY (HONORS)

SOC601—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 10-11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC602—SEMESTER 2
FULL YEAR

This course focuses on dominant ideas in the world today (democracy, industrialism, capitalism, communism, the scientific method) through the advanced study of European history, with a focus on understanding how European ideas, culture, politics, and economics have shaped the world from 1450 to the present. Students will collaboratively engage with, discuss, and debate historical evidence in order to improve their capacities in: 1) historical comprehension, 2) historical analysis, and 3) historical argumentation. As a result, students will learn that history is an interpretive, dynamic study of the past that empowers them to impact the future. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take the AP European History exam in May.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (HONORS)

SOC611—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 10-11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC612—SEMESTER 2
FULL YEAR

The purpose of the advanced placement course in human geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of our world. Students employ geographical and spatial concepts and tools to analyze topics such as human population movement and organization, cultural patterns and processes, political organization, agricultural and rural land use, industrialization and economic development, and city and urban land use. Students will be expected to integrate college-level reading with maps, graphs, and other spatial data sets to conduct analyses, apply models, and draw conclusions. A summer reading assignment must be completed prior to beginning this course. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take the AP Human Geography exam in May.

U.S. HISTORY (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC321—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 11
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC322—SEMESTER 2
FULL YEAR

This sequence fulfills the graduation requirement of one year of U.S. history as established by the State of Illinois. With an emphasis on the 20th century, the overriding goal of this course is to give students the opportunity to understand how the current domestic and international status of the U.S. developed. It is designed to help students identify causes and effects, events and philosophies, which led to the contemporary situation, and provide them with an historical basis for decision making. This course builds on the skills associated with historical inquiry introduced in World History and Geography. Geographic themes such as location, mobility, and interaction with the environment are stressed within this historical treatment.

AP U.S. HISTORY (HONORS)

SOC621—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 11
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC622—SEMESTER 2
FULL YEAR

This sequence fulfills the graduation requirement of one year of U.S. history as set by the State of Illinois. In this Advanced Placement course, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change. This course will develop college-level reading and writing skills through the advanced study of United States history. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take the AP United States History exam in May.

AMERICAN STUDIES (AP U.S. HISTORY AND AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION) (HONORS)

SOC581—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 11
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, SOPHOMORE ENGLISH

SOC582—SEMESTER 2
FULL YEAR

Students are scheduled for consecutive periods of history and English, allowing for an integrated study of the two disciplines, development of skills for informed citizenship, and thematic movements in our country's history and literature. This course fulfills the College Board's objectives for both AP English Language and Composition and AP U.S. History, with attention to how a shared focus on both content and skills reinforces the development of the common and separate course objectives, including preparation for both AP exams. The AP U.S. History component focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and an understanding of content objectives and themes. SAT and AP exam preparation are used to sharpen reading, editing, and revising skills. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take both the AP English Language and Composition and the AP United States History exams in May.

ECONOMICS (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC411—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 11-12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC412—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

Students in this course develop the economic awareness and decision-making skills to make rational and informed economic decisions in life, become responsible consumers, and develop essential business and job skills for their futures. Through collaborative and interactive activities and units, students gain an understanding of basic economic concepts, the impact economic factors can have on their lives, and their role in the growing global economy. Students improve their critical-thinking skills to better understand world events and participate as global citizens. This course also fulfills the Economic/Personal Finance graduation requirement.

SOCIOLOGY (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC541—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 11-12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC542—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a chance to examine human social interaction and social organization. Sociology focuses on special topics such as groups, culture, socialization, deviance, and inequalities (gender, social class, race, ethnicity). This class will explore these areas through sociological readings and engaging in discussing and simulation. Students will learn how to become more reflective of themselves, their community, and their society. Students will be required to complete ten community service hours as an alternative to a traditional final exam. Upon completion of this course and required service hours, students should gain a better understanding of themselves and their place in the social world.

SOCIOLOGY (HONORS)

DUAL CREDIT WITH LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

SOC 571—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 11-12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC572—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

ADDITIONAL FEES FOR DUAL CREDIT MAY BE IMPOSED BY THE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY.

Honors Sociology is a dual credit course in partnership with Loyola University Chicago that allows students to take a college course while still in high school. This one-semester class meets the requirements for Loyola University Chicago's *Sociology 101: Society in a Global Age*. The class will be a valuable entry point for students who want to learn about the sociology concepts on the MCAT exam. Sociology analyzes how society shapes individual through structures like family, media, education, and through inequalities like gender, race, and social class. Learning Sociology can give students new insights about everyday life. These insights will hopefully increase student mindfulness about themselves as individuals, their interactions with others and their society in general. Sociology is excellent preparation for working with diverse people and data.

AP MACROECONOMICS (HONORS)

SOC641—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC642—SEMESTER 2
ONE SEMESTER

The purpose of an advanced placement course in macroeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination, and also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. It places emphasis on the different philosophies and theories associated with macroeconomic analysis and policy. Students will analyze both basic and extensive economic concepts in order to become informed economic consumers, producers, and suppliers. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take the AP Macroeconomics exam in May. Successful completion of this class fulfills the Economics/Personal Finance graduation requirement.

AP MICROECONOMICS (HONORS)

SOC651—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC652—SEMESTER 2
ONE SEMESTER

This is an advanced placement level course preparing students for the AP Microeconomics exam. Coursework in AP Microeconomics includes: the basic economic problem, the nature of markets, the firm, the factor markets and the role of government. Successful completion of this class fulfills the Economics/Personal Finance graduation requirement. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take the AP Microeconomics exam in May.

PHILOSOPHY AND POLITICAL THEORY: A HISTORY OF IDEAS (HONORS)

DUAL CREDIT AVAILABLE WITH LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

SOC671—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 11-12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC672—SEMESTER 2
ONE SEMESTER

ADDITIONAL FEES FOR DUAL CREDIT MAY BE IMPOSED BY THE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY.

What is the meaning of life? What is reality? How do I know what I know? This course introduces philosophies and political theories by which humans have attempted to understand and organize their world. It is a college-level elective that explores major world philosophies, their influence on each other, and their influence on the present. Students will contemplate ethical dilemmas to cultivate more thoughtful decision making in their lives. Students will learn the theories of major philosophers and utilize those ideas in discussion, debates, and written assignments. Students will synthesize those ideas into a personal philosophy of their own. Upon successful completion of course requirements, students electing to receive dual credit from Loyola University Chicago will receive three credit hours for *Philosophy 130: This course introduces students to the fundamental philosophical issues that bear on our understanding of persons in three equally weighted components, namely, Persons & Knowledge, Persons & Values, and Persons & Reality.*

GOVERNMENT (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC401—SEMESTER 1
OPEN TO 12
PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, UNITED STATES HISTORY

SOC402—SEMESTER 2
ONE SEMESTER

Topics considered in this course include the fundamental concepts and structure of federal, state, and local government; methods of selecting candidates for office; methods by which individuals and groups may influence government officials, and mechanics of voting. Instruction and assessment will address the principles of representative government, as enunciated in the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the U.S.A. and the Constitution of the State of Illinois. This course satisfies the Illinois civics requirement for high school graduation and Stevenson's graduation requirement of one semester of government.

PSYCHOLOGY (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC551—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, UNITED STATES HISTORY

SOC552—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

Psychology is a scientific study that deals with emotional, behavioral, and mental processes of people in society. Special emphasis includes: abnormal psychology (psychological disorders and treatments) and social psychology (people's perceptions of themselves and others, group behavior, and interpersonal attraction). In addition, other topics covered include personality, learning, memory, and the brain. This course will provide an introduction to topics typically covered in an introductory level college psychology course. Students will learn how psychology applies to their lives by partaking in class discussions and group projects. Upon completion of this course students should have a better understanding of themselves and the wide variety of people around them.

POLITICAL THOUGHT AND ITS LITERATURE (COLLEGE PREP)

SOC561—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 12

PREREQUISITE: UNITED STATES HISTORY AND JUNIOR ENGLISH

SOC562—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

This one-semester elective course, which can be taken as an English credit or social studies credit, helps students develop skills in the areas of reading, literary analysis, writing, oral communication, and research in order to help them be better prepared for future education. Students explore the overarching themes of the course—the individual's understanding of self and others, individualism v. collectivism in democracy, ethics and morals, political partisanship, race relations, diversity, income inequality, politics and media relations, civil liberties, and many other important political issues—through short stories, essays, articles, novels, poetry, drama, and other intriguing texts. Through their reading and inquiry, students are introduced to various stylistic techniques that help them learn strategies to improve their reading comprehension, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students write in multiple formats throughout the year, including narrative and argumentative, which is a framework for critical thinking. Authentic class discussion plays a vital role in that students talk in class as a means of enhancing their speaking and listening skills as a critical thinker. Students will participate in a mock trial, reach outside of the community, participate in class discussions, and examine what it means to develop a world view, and what it means to be a political scientist.

AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (HONORS)

SOC631—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 10-11-12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC632—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

This one-semester elective course introduces students to the rich diversity of political life outside the United States. Students use a comparative approach to examine the political structures; policies; and political, economic, and social challenges of six selected countries: China, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Students compare the effectiveness of approaches to many global issues by examining how different governments solve similar problems by reading and interpreting data, making comparisons and applications, and developing evidence-based arguments. This course does not satisfy the Stevenson government graduation requirement, nor the Illinois Civics requirement for graduation for the State of Illinois. Students are prepared to take the AP Comparative Government and Politics exam in May.

AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (HONORS)—ONLINE OPTION

SOC6301—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 10-11-12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

SOC6302—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

The curricular requirements for this one-semester online course are identical to the traditional AP Comparative Government and Politics course. This course will be offered in an online instructional format as a one-semester elective. The primary mode of instruction, assessment, feedback, and collaboration will be online. There will be no physical class meeting period or time, though some activities will be available to all enrolled students in person during the school day and drop-in hours with teachers will be available. Daily activities and assignments will require 30-90 minutes of work per school day. Assignments will have daily due dates and will receive individualized feedback from the teacher. Digital or in-person peer collaboration will be expected as well. In-person remediation may be required on an individualized student basis with the teacher. This course does not satisfy the Stevenson government graduation requirement, nor the Illinois Civics requirement for graduation for the State of Illinois. Students are prepared to take the AP Comparative Government and Politics exam in May.

AP PSYCHOLOGY (HONORS)

SOC661—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, UNITED STATES HISTORY

SOC662—SEMESTER 2

FULL YEAR

The purpose of the year-long, advanced placement course in psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of humans and animals. This course will provide the student with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in an introductory college psychology course. The course satisfies the psychology requirement typically needed by students wishing to pursue a career in business, engineering, education, law, medicine, and any other health-related fields (including preparation for the MCAT). Particular emphasis includes neuroscience, sleep, mental illness and treatment, memory, personality, and social psychology. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take the AP Psychology exam in May.

AP PSYCHOLOGY HYBRID (HONORS)

SOC661—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, UNITED STATES HISTORY

SOC662—SEMESTER 2

FULL YEAR

This course is a combination of traditional in-person classroom instruction and online learning. The curriculum in this course format maintains standards of intellectual challenge and allows for greater personalization of learning for increased student success. This AP Psychology course will involve using technology to provide every student with a more unique learning experience, including greater individual autonomy with regards to the location, pace, and time when learning occurs. Students will be introduced to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of humans and animals. This course will provide the student with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in an introductory college psychology course. It also satisfies the psychology requirement typically needed by students wishing to pursue a career in business, engineering, education, law, medicine, and any other health-related fields (including preparation for the MCAT). Particular emphasis includes neuroscience, sleep, mental illness and treatment, memory, personality, and social psychology. Students who enroll in this course are prepared to take the AP Psychology exam in May.

AP GOVERNMENT—UNITED STATES (HONORS)

SOC681—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, UNITED STATES HISTORY

SOC682—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

This course gives students the tools to engage meaningfully in the local, state, and national political process. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute United States political reality. Civics skills will be acquired to help students learn to use the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that will prepare them to be competent and responsible citizens. Instruction and assessment will address the principles of representative government, as enunciated in the American Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the U.S.A. and the Constitution of the State of Illinois. This course satisfies the Illinois civics requirement for high school graduation and Stevenson's graduation requirement of one semester of government. Students who enroll in this course will be prepared to take the AP United States Government and Politics exam in May.

AP GOVERNMENT—UNITED STATES (HONORS)— ONLINE OPTION

SOC6Q1—SEMESTER 1

OPEN TO 12

PREREQUISITE: WORLD HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY, UNITED STATES HISTORY

SOC6Q2—SEMESTER 2

ONE SEMESTER

The curricular requirements for this course are identical to the traditional AP Government—United States one-semester course (SOC681/SOC682). Instructional activities are adjusted for an online instructional setting. There will be no physical class meeting period or time, though some activities will be available to all enrolled students in-person during the school day. The primary mode of instruction will be online. Daily activities and assignments will require 30-90 minutes of work per school day. These assignments will have daily due dates. Students will receive individualized feedback from the teacher. A minimum of 60 minutes a week of in-person or digital peer collaboration will be expected. All common AP Government team assessments and the final exam will be conducted in-person during the school day. Daily in-person office hours will be available for all students enrolled in the course. In-person remediation may be required as needed on an individual student basis with their teacher. Students who enroll in this course will be prepared to take the AP United States Government and Politics exam in May.