

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## **Citizenship and Government 9** F-6010, W-6011, S-6012

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

This course is a general survey course that studies the three levels of government: local (including city, village, township), state, and federal. Emphasis is placed on the practical aspects so as to enable students to better understand the democratic system. Students will also understand their rights, duties, and privileges that citizenship in such a system provides. This course is also designed to give students a better understanding of themselves by evaluating their interests, aptitudes, and scholastic ability. With this information students will explore the world of work and develop a technique to research occupations and their varying qualifications, requirements, and economic impact.

## **Honors Citizenship and Government 9** F-6013, W-6014, S-6015

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: Strong performance in middle school Social Studies

Honors Civics and Citizenship is a year-long course that will examine the same content areas as the regular Civics and Citizenship course sequence but will study the content areas with more depth and breadth. This advanced program is for the motivated student and will be more challenging than the regular Civics and Citizenship course with its increased amount of independent work and use of a college level textbook in addition to the regular text.

## **Survey of US History** F-6024, W-6025, S-6026

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: Must have instructor approval to enroll in this course.

## **US History** F-6027, W-6028, S-6029

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: None

United States History is a chronological approach to the various time periods of our past. This investigation will look at the social, political, cultural and international aspects of various periods. Trimester 1 involves an overview of the United States from 1800 through Reconstruction, trimester 2 includes the Gilded Age through the Great Depression and trimester 3 covers World War II to the present.

## **Advanced Placement® US History** F-6047, W-6048, S-6049

Grade: 10-11-12 (Grade 11 and 12 elective credits only)

Prerequisite: Strong performance 9<sup>th</sup> grade social studies class.

Advanced Placement® US History is a course designed for eligible college-bound sophomores who have special skills in historical study. It may be taken in lieu of the regular 10<sup>th</sup> grade US History curriculum. It is also open to interested juniors and seniors who wish to take this course in addition to the regular junior and senior curriculum. Students will do intensive note taking, essay writing, and reading in a college-level text. This course will help students prepare to take an optional Advanced Placement® exam by which they could earn college credit.

## **World Civilizations** F-6054, W-6055, S-6056

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: Must have instructor approval to enroll in this course.

## **World History** F-6064, W-6065, S-6066

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: None

This class enlightens students to the events that have shaped our modern world. In this course students will explore a history of early ideas and cultures. Trimester 1 involves an overview of the world from prehistory through 1500, trimester 2 includes the Renaissance through the revolutions of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century and trimester 3 will cover the period from 1800 through the present. The class finishes with a look at the regions and events that have influenced today's global world.

**Advanced Placement® World History: Modern** F-6074, W-6075, S-6076

Grades: 11-12 (grade 12 elective credit only)

Prerequisite: None

AP® World History: Modern is a course designed for college-bound juniors and seniors who have special skills and interest in historical study. It may be taken instead of on-level 11<sup>th</sup> grade World History. It is also open to seniors who wish to take the course in place of the standard senior curriculum, though Economics is still required. Students will do extensive note taking, essay writing, and reading in a college-level text. This course will help prepare students for success in college and has the potential to give them college credit if they take and pass an optional Advanced Placement Exam.

**American Economics** 6116

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Must have instructor approval to enroll in this course.

This course introduces students to the basic concepts of economics. Topics within Microeconomics and Macroeconomics may be explored such as the role of the consumer, businesses, supply and demand, employment, money, and globalization. Attention will also be given to personal finance and credit decisions.

**Economics** 6113

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: None (one trimester course)

This course introduces students to the basic concepts of economics. Topics within Microeconomics and Macroeconomics will be explored such as the role of the consumer, businesses, supply and demand, employment, money, and globalization. Attention will also be given to personal finance and credit decisions.

**Advanced Placement® Economics** F-6117, W-6118, S-6119

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: None

This year-long course works to understand wealth, production, and scarcity. The first part of the year will deal with basic principles such as choice, production, and supply and demand. The second focus of study is various microeconomic principles such as consumers and producers, different market types and their workings, public goods, taxes, and types of firms or businesses. The last third of the year will be used to look at macroeconomic principles such as measuring the national and global economy, the government's role, international trade, money, and economies in the long run. This course is meant to prepare students to take both the AP® Microeconomics and AP® Macroeconomics exams which may allow them to earn college credit. This course fulfills the social studies credit for all three trimesters and should not be taken in conjunction with regular economics.

**\*NOTE: At least one trimester of Economics is required for graduation.**

**Advanced Placement® U.S. Government and Politics** W-6162, S-6163

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: None (two-trimester course)

This course is designed for college-bound seniors who are interested in an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The course will focus on the following six themes: 1. Constitutional Underpinnings of United States Government; 2. Political Beliefs and Behaviors; 3. Political Parties, Interest Groups, and Mass Media; 4. Institutions of National Government; 5. Public Policy; 6. Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. This is a two-trimester course.

**Criminology 6103**

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: None

Criminology is a study of deviant behavior; including the causes, the consequences and society's and governmental responses. Topics will include crime, juvenile delinquency, correctional institutions, police enforcement, FBI, the court system, and the prevention of deviant behavior.

**Sociology 6106**

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: None

Sociology is a course of study to gain an understanding of the human person and his/her relationship to others. Emphasis will be placed upon human relations, institutions, in particular the family, and groups in our society.

**Psychology 6111**

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: None

This introductory course in Psychology will attempt to help students better understand themselves and others. Personality development, mental health, and how we learn will be emphasized topics. Students will be involved in activities and experiments to further the learning process.

**Advanced Placement® Psychology F-6142, W-6143, S-6144**

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: None

This year-long course is an in-depth investigation into the scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of the mind. Students will conduct experiments, study psychological principles, phenomena, ethics, and methods within this field as a way of better understanding, amongst other things, behavior, perception, and the mind. The course will also focus on preparing the students to take the AP® Psychology exam in the spring which may allow them to earn college credit.

**Developmental Psychology F-6121, W-6131, S-6141**

Grade: 12

Prerequisite: Instructor approval

Developmental Psychology, or DP, is a uniquely structured course that allow students to learn about various aspects of psychology and teaching. Areas of focus include: the psychology of growth and development, group facilitation meant to increase trust and openness, the physiological systems of the body and the effect that drugs can have on them, exploring and applying teaching methodologies, and an introspective approach to the above by seeing how these are reflected in the students' own lives. Students will also have the opportunity to be part of the district's drug education program where they will travel to district middle schools, teaching sixth grade students about the impact that drugs can have on their lives. This course will also allow students to potentially earn three college credits via a dual enrollment option through Minnesota State, Mankato.

*\*\*Students should be aware that DP is a two-hour block class when they are registering for their Senior courses.*

**College in the Schools – An Interdisciplinary Look at the Family in Multicultural America F-6080, W-6081**

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: None

This course (U of M course: FSOS 1211) will focus on families in contemporary America; within the context of the country's increasing diversity. Using an ecological lens (focusing on individual relationships and communities within wider society) this course will examine families in their singular and interdependent environments—how individuals shape and are shaped by families, their human built environments, their sociocultural environments, and their natural-physical environments. This course includes service-learning component that will be arranged through AVHS.