



SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Social Studies Department is to foster the growth and adaptability of globally aware students and to cultivate an appreciation of the responsibilities of American citizenship within our students. An emphasis is placed on developing analytical and research skills along with other 21st century skills.

#H13A/B World Cultures Moreau Honors

I Credit Level 3 NCAA

The Honors World Cultures course is one component of the interdisciplinary Moreau Honors Program that integrates the English, World Cultures, and Faith formation courses through long-term projects, analytical thinking, critical reading, research techniques, project-based learning, class discussions and collaborative work. A major emphasis is placed on the development of 21st century skills and the Portrait of a Notre Dame Graduate. The course emphasizes a comprehensive treatment of world cultures in order to inform students about the origin and development of the world's major civilizations. The course encourages the formation of students' critical thinking skills needed to make objective judgments about historical and contemporary issues. Honors students are actively engaged in higher-Level critical thinking and student-centered activities in order to analyze, interpret, and evaluate the historical and cultural patterns of the world.

Requirements for placement: previous record: high verbal scores on the entrance exam: signature of school counselor

#H12A/B Western Civilizations

I Credit Level 2 NCAA

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the ancient and medieval societies of Western Europe with an emphasis on the culture, geography, and government systems. Classes are student driven with a focus on project based learning. The course begins with ancient Greece and extends through the end of the Hundred Years War.

Requirements for placement: freshman status

#H34A/B A.P. U. S. History

I Credit Level 4 NCAA

In a College Board designed and approved curriculum students will learn how to use the AP Historical Thinking Skills and the AP Connecting Themes to understand the nine periods of United States history from pre-contact America to the modern era. Students will work on AP Exam strategies in preparation to take the AP exam for potential college credit.

Requirements for placement: junior status: 90% average in all classes and signature of your second term World Cultures teacher

#H33A/B Honors U.S. History

I Credit Level 3 NCAA

The Honors Level American History program is designed to provide students with an accelerated look into America's history with a focus on developing higher Level skills such as: analysis, evaluation, critical thinking, logical reasoning, and problem solving. Students will be required to regularly write historical essays and papers throughout the course. The course will include the study of the United States from the Colonial Period to the present with an emphasis on the social, political, and economic factors that have shaped the nation.

Requirements for placement: junior status: 85% average in all classes and signature of your second term World Cultures teacher

#H32A/B U.S. History

I Credit Level 2 NCAA

This survey course includes the study of the United States from the Colonial Period to the Present. Emphasis is placed on political, social, economic, geographic, and cultural factors, which have shaped the course of events that has allowed the United States to gain independence, expand, and develop into a modern day world power. Students will read and analyze primary source texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions between political institutions and behavior. They will read and interpret data, develop evidence-based arguments, and engage in student centered research-based projects. An emphasis of this course's thematic focus will be on the political, social, economic, geographic, and cultural factors that led to the development of the United States from a colonial territory to a world superpower.

Requirements for placement: junior status

H44A/B U. S. Government & Politics

I Credit Level 4 NCAA

AP United States Government and Politics is a college-Level introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will read and analyze U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions between political institutions and behavior. They will read and interpret data, develop evidence-based arguments, and engage in an applied civics or politics research-based project. This course is preparation for the Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics examination, which students will be offered to take in May. As part of their senior service project, students are required to work a minimum of ten hours in a municipal, state, or national election campaign.

Requirements for placement: overall 90 average: senior status and signature of your second term US History Teacher



#H43A Honors American Government

0.5 Credit Level 3 NCAA

The focus of this course is to prepare students to participate in exercising their political responsibilities as thoughtful and informed citizens, as well as give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Emphasis is placed on how systems of government are founded, function, and impact individual, local, state, and national decisions. Students will read and analyze U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions between political institutions and behavior. They will read and interpret data, develop evidence-based arguments, and engage in research-based projects. As part of their senior service project, students are required to work a minimum of ten hours in a municipal, state, or national election campaign. 1st semester
Requirements for placement: 85% average in all classes and signature of your second term US History Teacher

#H42A American Government

0.5 Credit Level 2 NCAA

Students will investigate a thematically based study of the development, structure, functions, and politics of American Government at the federal, state, and local Levels. The study of foreign policy, the government's role in our economy, and current events are integrated into discussion. This course is an action oriented program, which involves student participation in the election process in order to combine the theory of the classroom with the realities of government in their role and responsibilities as a faithful American citizen. As part of their senior service project, students are required to work a minimum of ten hours in a municipal, state, or national election campaign.
Requirements for placement: senior status

#HH2B Modern US History

0.5 Credit Level 2 NCAA

This course will focus on the end of the Cold War through the modern day United States history. Students will be able to identify key stressors that are left over from the Cold War era and be able to connect them with the events of 9/11 and beyond. This class will have an emphasis on current events both within the US and on a global scale to promote global and civic literacy and to understand the United States' role in the world.
Requirement for placement: senior status: please note seniors enrolled in Level 4 US Government and Politics and/or have taken US History L4 will be exempt from this course.

#HH3B Honors Modern US History

0.5 Credit Level 2 NCAA

This course will focus on the end of the Cold War through the modern day United States history. Students will be able to identify key stressors that are left over from the Cold War era and be able to connect them with the events of 9/11 and beyond. This class will have an emphasis on current events both within the US and on a global scale to promote global and civic literacy and to understand the United States' role in the world. A heavy emphasis will be placed on an in depth analysis of national and global events.

Requirement for placement: 85% average in all classes and signature of your second term US History Teacher: senior status: please note seniors enrolled in Level 4 US Government and Politics and/or have taken US History L4 will be exempt from this course.

Social Studies Electives

#HH4A/B Social Psychology

0.5 Credit Level 2

This course is an introduction to the behavioral sciences. Social Psychology presents an introductory survey of the individual in society. This course will focus on the systematic understanding of our thoughts and how these thoughts affect us. Topics receiving major attention are collective behavior; communication, socialization, deviance, and culture. The topic of mindfulness as well as the mind/body connection will be explored in great detail. A variety of readings, vlogs, blogs, experiments, video clips will be applied throughout this course. Group projects will be used to test theories and recognize the psychological and social issues we all experience.

Requirements for placement: junior or senior status

#H62A Antisemitism and the Holocaust: Facing History and Ourselves

0.5 Credit Level 2 NCAA

As a chronological and thematically based course, students will investigate the origins of antisemitism and its connection to Christianity. An important focus is on the historical context of Germany to understand the effects of World War I in perpetuating a discriminatory atmosphere towards European Jews. This analysis seeks to create an understanding of the events leading up to, contributing to, and after the Holocaust to allow a more modern investigation of present day antisemitism and political extremism in the world.

Requirements for placement: junior or senior status



#HH6A American Military History

0.5 Credit Level 2

NCAA

This course is designed to examine the American military experience from the American Revolution to the Gulf War. Some of the key battles that we will be examining will be Yorktown, Gettysburg, Manila Bay, Second Marne, Normandy, Pusan Perimeter, Tet Offensive, and the Gulf War. Students will gain a better understanding of how the U.S. military has helped to shape American history through the strategy and tactics used on the battlefield. In addition we will also examine the technological advances in weapons and the improvements in military organization and operational planning. Finally we will also look at the diplomatic, social, political, and economic impact that war has had on the United States. There will be a heavy focus on discussions, project based, and student centered learning.

Requirements for placement: sophomore, junior, or senior status

Business and Life Skills Electives

#U90A Information Technology Internship

0.5 to 1.0 Credits Level*

This internship is designed to offer students the opportunity to serve as an assistant to the Director of Instructional Technology and the IT Specialist in the oversight and execution of various technology based needs. Responsibilities will include setting up and running the microphones and soundboards in the gym and auditorium, installing and updating software applications on school owned devices, instruction on utilizing technology devices such as projectors, phones, wireless applications. Students who have a love of digital creation (music, photography, video, website construction, coding, etc.) will now have a place for others to get in contact with them and utilize their talents. The IT interns will advise, inform, research, and demonstrate multiple areas of technology as well as help implement our current technology to the best of its ability. Time commitment will vary from week to week but will not exceed more than 3 hours of work a week. This internship will open the door for actual employment over the summer and vacation breaks for students who are interested in working for Notre Dame in the IT department.

Requirements: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior: ability to work before and after school to help set up for events: signature of Director of Instructional Technology

#P20B Life Skills

0.5 Credit

Level*

This course deals with personal and health issues in the life of an adolescent. Topics discussed will be building self-esteem, decision-making, relationship skills, public speaking, financial literacy and more. Students' grades will be based primarily on presentations completed during the term.

Requirements for placement: sophomore status

#U42A Entrepreneurship

0.5 Credit

Level 2

This course gives each student an in-depth look at what it takes to plan, start, and maintain his own business. The course is organized into various Levels. The first exposes the student to the basics of entrepreneurship: the second teaches the fundamentals of business planning and the competitive free market environment: the third Level gives each student a comprehensive look at what is needed to manage a small enterprise using Virtual Business simulation software. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America), which is an association for marketing students.

Requirements for placement: sophomore, junior, or senior status

#U52A Marketing

0.5 Credit

Level 2

This course is designed to provide students with the fundamental concepts, principles, skills, and attitudes common to the fields of marketing, merchandising, distribution, and retailing. Instruction will emphasize applications directly involved with marketing areas such as advertising, sales, research, promotions, fashion merchandising, and sports and entertainment marketing. E-Commerce and the Internet's involvement in marketing will also be explored. Students will receive "hands on" experiences through Virtual Business™ simulation software. Also, all marketing students will be encouraged to join DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) an association of marketing students.

Requirement for placement: junior or senior status

#T42A Business Computer Applications

0.5 Credit

Level 2

This course is designed to introduce students to the various tools in the Google Application platform. Topics within the course include manipulation and design of Google Docs, Spreadsheets, and Presentation, website and blog construction, organization and collaboration with Groups and Google+, as well as the integration of mobile devices and Microsoft Office products. Digital citizenship will be an underlying theme of the course.

Requirements for placement: sophomore, junior or senior status