

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Related Careers: The study of Social Studies brings an understanding of historical concepts and foundations for modern civilization. Vocations that depend on an understanding of Social Studies are the political scientist, social worker, economist, geographer, climatologist, teachers, government worker, sociologist, historian, etc.

REQUIRED COURSES:

GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
Civics Geography 9	American History	Contemporary US & World Problems OR College Hist of the US	Social Economics plus One of the following: World Political Geography Turning Pts./Ancient Hist OR: Social Studies for the Real World OR College Hist of the US

ELECTIVE COURSES:

	Current Events The Holocausts of the Modern Age	College General Psych Current Events World Religions Music in History American Conspiracies! World Political Geography Turning Pts/Ancient Hist History of Baseball The Holocausts of the Modern Age	College General Psych Current Events World Religions Music in History American Conspiracies! World Political Geography Turning Pts/Ancient Hist History of Baseball The Holocausts of the Modern Age
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401 **Civics**

2 terms 1/2 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 9 REQUIRED

Course Summary: The main objective of American Civics is to develop good citizens through a better understanding of the Federal, State and Local governments. A study of the structure, organization and operations will assist the students in active participation as citizens. This course will use texts, lectures, speakers, films, and videos for understanding and knowledge.

402 **Geography 9**

2 terms 1/2 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 9 Required

Course Summary: Geography 9 will use the 5 Themes of Geography as a tool to explore and promote discussion of regions around the entire world. Emphasis will be placed upon issues which individual nations and larger regions are facing and the steps being taken to solve these issues. Students will also gain an understanding of the current relationships between the United States and other world nations.

409 **American History**

410 4 terms 1 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 10 REQUIRED

Course Summary: American History takes a broad look at the people and events that were important in the years between 1860 and 1945. We study how the U.S. became an industrial nation, the Spanish American War, World War I, the Roaring Twenties, the Depression, and World War II. We also spend a good deal of time trying to learn what is happening in current events. The textbook for American history is A History of the United States, which is used for studying about past events. The goal of the class is to improve the student's understanding of social issues in the United States today through studying our past. We also hope to further develop the student's ability to look at both sides of an issue and to take an intelligent position on that issue.

415 Contemporary U.S. & World Problems

416 4 terms 1 credit

Grade Level: 11 REQUIRED

Course Summary: 11th grade Contemporary U.S. & World Problems takes a rather detailed look at history of the U.S. and the world during a period of time of 1945 - 2001. The subject content will contain a look at the economics, political, and social changes that occurred in the U.S. during this period. In addition to this, weekly current events materials will be an important part of the class. Videotapes, newspapers, magazine articles, and relevant books will be used to provide the information for the class.

430 Social Economics

2 terms 1/2 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 12 REQUIRED

Course Summary: This course is designed to get at the source of economic understanding, and that is to be able to make sense out of the many economic issues coming to our attention, especially the real costs of maintaining our physical environment. Students will learn about the complementary relationship between their own economic wellbeing and the natural resources of the environment. In addition, students will gain insights into a variety of environmental issues and learn to use economic analysis to understand these issues and to seek solutions. Along with the lessons, numerous activities will lead students toward discovery of important economic principles related to how the natural resources of the environment are used. Occasional films, guest speakers and various A.V. resources will be used to enhance the students' learning. *See instructor for Tech Prep options*

432 Social Studies for the Real World

433 4 terms 1 credit

Pre: Instructor Approval/Recommendation

Grade Level: 12 (Fulfills 12th grade social requirement)

Course Summary: This course is a 4 term class designed to meet the senior social studies requirement. Students will be introduced to practical geographic and economic concepts, which they will be applying to real life situations. Students will also learn more about our local, state, and federal government to understand how each of these affects their own lives. Pertinent social issues and current events will be discussed and when appropriate other subject areas will be tied into projects worked on in this class.

434 World Political Geography

2 terms 1/2 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 11-12 (will fulfill 12th grade required choice)

Course Summary: World Political Geography is a course which will compare, contrast, and discuss the various political and economic systems in use around the world today. Emphasis will be placed upon how citizens living under different world systems are able to interact or influence these systems. Additional emphasis will be placed upon investigation of issues being faced in different regions or nations, the steps being taken to solve them, and current United States relations with other world nations.

438 Turning Points in Ancient History

2 terms 1/2 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 11 & 12 (will fulfill 12th grade required choice)

Course Summary: This course looks at various building blocks of human civilization by examining a variety of ancient cultures and time periods. Students will not only learn events of the ancient past but will be able to see the connections between the history and the modern world.

****All CITHS courses are subject to the entrance requirements outlined in the Registration Guide**

439 College History of the US (CITHS)
440 6 terms 1 1/2 credits RHS 8 College Credits

Pre: CITHS requirements

Grade Level: 11-12 (Fulfills 11th grade history requirement or 12th grade social for seniors.)

Course Summary: The first half of the course examines the history of the United States to 1876. The scope of inquiry includes economic, social and political developments. Topics include: the colonial era, foundation of the American Republic, westward continental expansion and the Civil War. The second half of the course examines the history of the US from 1876 to present. The scope of inquiry includes economic, social and political developments. Topics include: industrialization, the depression and New Deal, the world wars and the cold war.

442 College General Psychology (CITHS)
2 term 1/2 credit RHS 4 College Credits

Pre: CITHS requirements

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Summary: An introduction to the scientific study of human behavior: history, background and methods, development, perception, learning, thinking, motivation, emotion, intelligence, personality, adjustment, mental health, and social psychology.

444 Current Events I
445 Current Events II

1 term 1/4 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 10 - 12

Course Summary: If you were interested in the world around you this would be a good class for you. The class will closely examine the events that are happening in the U.S. and the world at the time of the class. The course content will vary a great deal with a large variety of topics discussed. Newspapers, newsmagazines, video programs and classroom discussions will be used to provide the information. This course can be taken more than once.

Register for NO MORE THAN 2 terms per year

450 World Religions
1 term 1/4 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Summary: Why do the Arabs behave the way they do? What are cults and why do so many young people join them? Is communism religion? These questions and many others will be dealt with in this course. The emphasis will be on the five major religions of the world: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. The course is historical and not evangelical in nature. It is hoped that the student will gain an understanding of the influence of religion on world events, and why world events, and why world crisis are not always as simple to solve as they first appear.

451 Music in History
1 term 1/4 credit

Pre: None

Grade Level: 11 - 12

Course Summary: This course will examine the music of the period from 1945 to the present. The class will depend heavily on student research as the method of learning. Students will be required to select an artist or group, investigate the personal history of that person or group, examine their music, write a paper explaining the connection between that person's music and the history of the times, and do a class presentation using the artists or group music as a focal point. Students will be able to complete an "inquiry" education standard in this course.

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453 American Conspiracies**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre: None****Grade Level: 11 – 12**

Course Summary: American Conspiracies is a course that examines the growing popularity of conspiracy theories. This course presents and discusses conspiracy theories related to several notable events in the history of the United States. These include and are not limited to: the assassinations of President John Kennedy, Martin Luther King Jr., and Robert Kennedy among others. Also discussed are the events involving Pearl Harbor, the Moon Landing, Watergate Scandal, September 11th, and Area 51. We will study examples of conspiracies and conspiracy theories in order to understand how evidence and logic can be used to make judgements about conspiracy claims. We will consider the meanings of truth, facts, and knowledge in the context of today's media overload. We will also consider the growing production of conspiracy theory as popular entertainment. We end the course by asking whether the growth of conspiracy theories has consequences for the wellbeing of democratic society.

455 History of Baseball**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre: None****Grade Level: 11 – 12**

Course Summary: This course is designed to spark student interest in the great game of baseball. The main focus of the course is to familiarize students with the history of our national past time. Each week the course will feature a different interdisciplinary theme. Some examples of these themes are physics (how a curveball curves), math (how to calculate a batting average), phys ed (lets hit the ball) economics (ticket prices vs. player salaries). Each student will be responsible for selecting a major league team to follow throughout the term. They will be required to keep a journal on their team including players, statistics, trivia, and game results.

456 The Holocaust of the Modern Age**1 term 1/4 credit****Pre: None****Grade Level: 10 -12**

Course Summary: This course will explore the unfortunate events of the Jewish Holocaust and other modern cases of genocide. The course will use movies like Schindler's List to understand the historical, social, and cultural backgrounds of the events.

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