

SOCIAL STUDIES

The goals of the Social Studies program are:

- to prepare students for responsible citizenship.
- to enable students to understand the interdependence of all global human society.
- to enable students to evaluate the past and the present based on the best available data.
- to empower students to make rational decisions for the future as active participants in our democratic society.

All students must earn at least four credits in Social Studies and fulfill the following core requirements: complete a two-year Global History and Geography sequence (grades 9 and 10) and pass the corresponding New York State Regents exam at the end of grade 10; pass the United States History and Government course and Regents exam at the end of grade 11; and complete a full year course in Economics and Government in grade 12.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS

410 GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 9
416 GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 9H
420 GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 10
428 AP WORLD HISTORY
430 US HISTORY & GOVERNMENT 11
436 AP US HISTORY
439 ECONOMICS & GOVERNMENT 12
442 AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

437 AP EUROPEAN HISTORY
**454 20th CENTURY LATIN AMERICAN
REVOLUTIONS**
448 PHILOSOPHY
450 SOCIOLOGY
405 SOCIAL STUDIES WORKSHOP
453 CIVIC RESEARCH

410 Global History & Geography 9

Grade: 9

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Social Studies 8

This is a two year course which chronologically examines Global History and Geography. The Grade 9 curriculum focuses on the history of civilization starting from the beginning of man to the Age of Enlightenment. Important historical, geographic, political, and economic characteristics of the societies that developed in each region of the world are studied. Students study the six major themes of Global History: cultural diffusion, trade, migrations, belief systems, conflict, and the establishment of multi-regional empires; as well as the major events and turning points in history.

These themes are supported by the emphasis on developing interpretation skills through the use of primary documents, secondary sources, political cartoons, map reading, and chart and graph interpretations. This course fulfills the first half of a two-year sequence. Students are required to take the New York State Regents Examination at the end of Global History and Geography 10.



416 Global History & Geography 9 Honors

Grade: 9

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Social Studies 8 average of 95% (immediate acceptance), 92% - 94% (application and assessment)

This advanced course for highly motivated students focuses on the history of civilization in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. Important historic, geographic, political and economic characteristics of the societies that developed in each region are studied. The six themes of Global History and Geography – cultural diffusion, trade, migrations, belief systems, conflict, and the establishment of multi-regional empires – are analyzed through textbook, primary source and secondary source document readings. This course is both reading- and writing-intensive, requiring sophisticated abilities in these areas. Critical reading skills are developed through nightly readings, class discussions and assessments. Writing thematic essays and document based questions (DBQ) complement the higher order thinking skills that are emphasized in this course. *Students will compile a portfolio of coursework designed to aid in assessing the individual's ability to challenge the AP World History Course in the tenth grade.*

420 Global History & Geography 10

Grade: 10

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Global History 9

This course fulfills the second half of a two-year sequence studying Global History and Geography. The Grade 10 curriculum focuses on the history of civilization starting from the French Revolution through current world events. Important historical, geographic, political and economic characteristics of the societies that developed in each region of the world are studied. Students study further the six major themes of Global History: cultural diffusion, trade, migrations, belief systems, conflict and the establishment of multi-regional empires; as well as the major events and turning points in history. These themes are supported by the emphasis on developing interpretation skills through the use of primary documents, secondary sources, political cartoons, map reading, and chart and graph interpretations. This course culminates with the New York State Regents Examination in Global History and Geography.

428 AP World History

Grade: 10

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: AP World History Committee Approval. Must have a final grade of 88% in Global 9H or 94% in Global 9R. Teacher Recommendation will be reviewed based upon the student's effort, study habits, and motivation.

This challenging college level course is intended for qualified and highly motivated students. An exceptionally rigorous level of academic independence and responsibility is expected of each student. AP World History has a very simple mission: teach the world's history. In reality, the class is about multiple perspectives and historical analysis, not merely about memorized facts, dates, places, and events. Students will piece together global patterns over space and time, compare movements, and assess universal standards. Throughout the course students will be asking themselves: What do these revolutions have in common or are they unique? How are they connected? What universal human needs do they meet? Writing will focus on three different types of essays: analysis using documents, change over time, and comparison/contrast. Each type uses a different set of skills. During this two-year course, students will be thinking historically, constructing historical arguments, and analyzing data within an historical viewpoint. All students are required to take the AP exam in May.

430 United States History & Government 11

Grade: 11

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Global History 10

Students study the development and evolution of the U.S. Constitution and its application throughout US history. The course emphasizes the following periods: 1800-1860, the Civil War, the Industrial Age, the Progressive Era, World War I, the 1920's and the Great Depression, World War II and the US as a global leader during and following the Cold War. Emphasis is placed on interpretive reading and writing skills by using primary documents, secondary sources and many research-oriented assignments. Thematic essay writing and document based question essay writing are also emphasized. This course culminates in the New York State Regents examination in US History and Government.

436 AP US History

Grade: 11

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: AP US History Committee Approval. Must have an 88% average in AP World History or a 94% average in academic Social Studies courses.

Teacher recommendations will be reviewed based upon the student's effort, study habits, and motivation.

This challenging college level course is intended for qualified and highly motivated students. An exceptionally rigorous level of academic independence and responsibility is expected of each student. Beginning with pre-colonial history, the course follows a chronological approach from the early 17th century through the present. Students are expected to read and write extensively, engage in ongoing historical research, and analyze and interpret events and documents. This course requires students to reason and think critically as they manage competing theories and confront historical contradictions in the development of their own original theories. All students are required to take the AP exam in May.



439 Economics & Government 12

Grade: 12

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: US History

This course encompasses basic macro and micro economic concepts, focusing on the economic system of the United States. It includes such topics as our monetary system, the corporation, supply and demand, banking, and the Federal Reserve. Additionally, the course studies the operation and function of American government, studying the processes of the judicial, legislative, and executive branches. This highly interactive course will include lectures, projects, debates, simulations, traditional writing and testing. Economics and Government 12 satisfies the credit requirements to graduate for both Economics and Government.

442 AP US Govt & Politics

Grade: 12

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Global History & Geography 9 & 10, US History & Government, and committee approval based on the criteria below.

All students must have an 88% average in honors Social Studies courses or a 94% average in academic Social Studies courses.

Teacher recommendations will be reviewed based upon the student's effort, study habits, and motivation.

AP US Government & Politics is the equivalent of a college level history course. This senior elective teaches how people behave politically. The course investigates the American political system: how it is structured and how it functions in a pluralistic society. Students examine and evaluate our institutions of government, the people who run them, the public policies made and the influences of the electorate on policies. American politics involves the study of those involved in public conflicts and the institutions charged with resolving those conflicts. Major units include Constitutional Underpinnings of the U.S. Government, Political Beliefs and Behaviors, Political Parties, Interest Groups and Mass Media, Public Policy Congress, the Presidency, the Judiciary, Government Bureaucracy, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. Infused through the curriculum is also a study of macro- and micro-economic principles, including such topics as our monetary system, supply and demand, the corporation, banking, and the Federal Reserve System. All students will take the AP exam in May. This course satisfies both the Economics and Government courses required by New York State.

437 AP European History

Grades: 10-12

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Global History & Geography 9 and committee approval based on the criteria below.

All students must have an 88% average in honors Social Studies courses or a 94% average in academic Social Studies courses.

Teacher recommendations will be reviewed based upon the student's effort, study habits, and motivation.

The Advanced Placement course in European History is designed for the highly-motivated student. After a study of the Western intellectual tradition, this course covers a chronology from 1450 C.E. to the present which interrelates and explores political, economic, diplomatic, intellectual, social and cultural issues. The goals of the AP program in European History are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European History, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and (c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing. Students may be granted college credit or placement for this course based upon their performance in the nationally administered exam which is required of all students in May.

454 Twentieth Century Latin American Revolutions

Grades: 10-12

Unit of Credit: 1

Prerequisite: None

This college-credit course will focus on the changing nature of Latin American Revolutions as they developed across the twentieth century. In studying these revolutions, we will consider the role of social class, race, and gender in fomenting and influencing these movements. We will also evaluate the rising power of the United States and its impact on politics, economies, and societies across Latin America.

This course receives AP weighting. Students have the option of receiving 3 college credits through the University at Albany. (Cost: \$190)

405 Social Studies Workshop

Grades: 9-12

Unit of Credit: None

Students who need assistance with literacy and social studies skills as well as those who need to prepare for one of the two required social studies Regents exams will be assigned to this workshop.

The following Social Studies electives may be taken for additional credits in Social Studies beyond the yearly required credit. Each elective is a one semester, half-credit course.

448 Philosophy

Grades: Grades 9-11

Unit of Credit: ½

Prerequisite: None

This course is an introduction to Western Philosophy. Students do not need any background in philosophy, or any plans for further study. The course has three broad aims: to introduce students to the tradition of philosophical argument via primary texts; to teach students how, in general, to make and evaluate philosophical arguments and to strengthen written and verbal communication skills. This introductory philosophy course will provide students with the foundational skills necessary for successful research in any discipline.

450 Sociology

Grades: 10-12

Unit of Credit: ½

Prerequisite: Global History 9

This semester course focuses on how people learn human behavior; it is divided into three basic units: Culture and Society; The Emergence of Personality and Self; and Small Group Behavior. Students explore different theories of such noted social scientists as David Reisman, Lawrence Kohlberg, Charles Cooley, Benjamin Bloom, Sigmund Freud, Carl Rogers, B.F. Skinner, Abraham Maslow, Erich Fromm, and others. The course emphasizes experiential learning and is conducted in a seminar style. Students and the teacher write detailed performance evaluations and program analyses.

453 Civic Research

Grades: 10-12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Global 9

This full-year elective course provides students with the opportunity to study and take informed action around local issues impacting our school district, the town of Eastchester, Westchester County, and the greater Hudson Valley Region. Working individually or in a small group, students will investigate an issue of their choosing in depth, culminating in an oral and written presentation that describes both the historical context of the issue and its impact on the community today. Students will work with a mentor in the field, such as an elected official or local organization leader, to supplement their research and to develop and execute a community-based action project. Students are expected to engage in the role of informed citizens who identify problems and participate in finding solutions. Research and projects will be completed utilizing a model of inquiry in which students seek to understand, communicate, and take action. Students may be eligible to earn honors credit.

