

AP African American Studies
AP Comparative Government & Politics
AP European History
AP Human Geography
AP Macroeconomics
AP Microeconomics
AP Psychology
AP United States Government & Politics
AP U.S. History
Career Internship Program
Civics
Constitutional Law
Economics
Global Relations
Introduction to Psychology
Sociology
U.S. History (*ML, Prep, Accel*)
U.S. History American Studies (*Prep, Accel*)
World History, World History (*ML, Prep*)

Social Studies

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Social Studies Department Mission Statement

The Social Studies department at LTHS strives to develop reflective citizens who understand their role in society by connecting the past and present through inquiry, critical thinking, and a desire to take action.

Required Sequences

South Campus 9

- World History (ML, Prep)
- AP Human Geography

South Campus 10

- Civics (ML)
or
- AP United States Gov't & Politics

North Campus 11-12

- U.S. History (ML, Prep, Accel, AP)
- U.S. History American Studies (Prep, Accel)

Elective Offerings

South Campus 9-10

- Global Relations (9-10)

- Economics (10 only)

- AP European History (10 Only)

North Campus 11-12

- Constitutional Law

- Economics

- Intro to Psychology

- Sociology

- AP European History

- AP United States Gov't & Politics

- AP Comparative Gov't & Politics

- AP Microeconomics

- AP Macroeconomics

- AP African American Studies

- AP Psychology

Social Studies Department Standards

The Illinois Learning Standards (ILS) define what all students in Illinois public schools should know and be able to do. The purpose of these rigorous standards is to better prepare students to be college and career ready. The Illinois Learning Standards for Social Science 9-12 focus on inquiry and content skills in Civics, Geography, Economics, and History. All Social Studies courses include the inquiry skills listed below.

Illinois Learning Standards for Social Science 9-12 Inquiry Skills

Developing Questions and Planning Inquiries

Constructing Essential Questions: SS.9-12.IS.1. Create actionable, student-driven (or student-informed) questions that lead to social studies investigations beyond one's immediate cultural environment or lens.

Constructing Supporting Questions: SS.9-12.IS.2. Develop culturally informed, student-driven supporting questions that contribute to inquiry and evaluate the purpose of supporting questions in the research and inquiry process.

Determining Helpful Sources: SS.9-12.IS.3. Develop new supporting and essential questions by primary and secondary investigation, collaboration, and use of sources that reflect diverse perspectives (e.g., political, cultural, socioeconomic, race, religious, gender).

Evaluating Sources and Using Evidence

Gathering and Evaluating Sources: SS.9-12.S.4. Determine the kinds of sources that will be helpful in answering compelling and supporting questions, taking into consideration multiple points of view represented in the sources, the types of sources available, and the potential uses of the sources.

SS.9-12.IS.5. Gather and evaluate information from multiple primary and secondary sources that reflect the perspectives and experiences of multiple groups, including marginalized groups.

Developing Claims and Using Evidence: SS.9-12.IS.6. Analyze evidence and identify counter perspectives to revise or strengthen claims.

SS.9-12.IS.7. Construct arguments using precise and knowledgeable claims with evidence from multiple sources, while acknowledging counterclaims, perspectives, and biases.

SS.9-12.IS.8. Evaluate evidence to construct arguments and claims that use reasoning and account for multiple perspectives and value systems.

Communicating Conclusions and Taking Informed Action

Communicating Conclusions: SS.9-12.IS.9. Develop and prepare communication by identifying stakeholders (or audiences) and evaluate what messages and media are likely to result in stakeholder support or opposition.

Critiquing Conclusions: SS.9-12.IS.10. Solicit feedback from stakeholder representatives and revise communication and action plans accordingly.

Taking Informed Action: SS.9-12.IS.11. Use interdisciplinary lenses to identify local, regional, state, national, or global concerns and anticipate the outcome possible solutions might have on all impacted communities, including marginalized communities.

SS.9-12.IS.12. Analyze existing structures, systems, and methodologies to determine what types of interventions or informed action will lead to increased equity, inclusion, and community and civic good.

SS.9-12.IS.13. Use deliberative processes and apply appropriate civic engagement strategies and procedures to address local, regional, or global concerns, and take action in or out of school.

SS.9-12.IS.14. Take measurable action to effect changes that bring about equity, inclusion, and the community and civic good.

SS.9-12.IS.15. Evaluate the outcomes of informed action and reflect on successes and failures of interventions or informed action that will lead to increased equity, inclusion, and community and civic good.

The Illinois Learning Standards for Civics, Geography, Economics, and History courses can be found at:
<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/SS-Standards-9-12.pdf>

Social Studies Graduation Requirements

- All students must successfully complete 1 year of World History or AP Human Geography, 1 semester of either Civics or AP U. S. Government and Politics, and 1 year of a U.S. History course offering. Civics and AP United States Government and Politics satisfy the U.S. Constitution graduation requirement.

Social Studies Advanced Placement Examinations

AP examinations are available in nine areas. Division chair approval for placement into a Social Studies AP course will be based upon an integrated analysis of the following indicators:

- a. teacher, counselor, and parental approval;
 - b. past performance in social studies courses;
 - c. concurrent enrollment in an English (Accel) or (Hon) course
1. **United States Government and Politics**
In order to be prepared for the United States Government and Politics AP Examination, students should enroll in United States Government and Politics AP. Students may enroll in this course during their Sophomore year to fulfill their Civics graduation requirements or students may enroll in this course as an elective during their junior or senior year. It is expected that students enrolling in the course possess some topical familiarity by reading newspapers and periodicals.
 2. **Comparative Government and Politics**
In order to be prepared for the Comparative Government and Politics AP examination, students should enroll in Comparative Government and Politics AP. Students may enroll in this course and other social studies courses concurrently during the spring semester of their junior and/or senior years.
 3. **Microeconomics**
In order to be prepared for this course and its AP examination, students in this course must have a solid mathematics background. This semester course is offered every year.
 4. **Macroeconomics**
In order to be prepared for the Macroeconomics AP examination, students should enroll in this course. It is expected that students enrolling in this course already possess some topical familiarity by reading newspapers and periodicals. This semester course is offered every year.
 5. **European History**
In order to be prepared for the AP European History examination, students should enroll in this course. To do well in the course and on the examination, students should have a rich and varied background of academic courses. To enroll in the course, students should read and write at high levels since the work is college equivalent. This course is offered in grades 10, 11 and 12 and is an annual course.
 6. **Psychology**
In order to be prepared for the Psychology AP examination, students should enroll in this course. It is expected that students enrolling in this class have well-developed reading and writing skills since the work is college-level equivalent. This course is offered in grades 11 and 12.
 7. **U.S. History**
In order to be prepared for the AP United States History examination, students should enroll in U.S. History AP. This course satisfies the U.S. History requirement for graduation. Students must enroll in both semesters of the course. The course is open to both juniors and seniors. It is particularly desirable that prospective students have an interest in history and have performed well in previous Social Studies and English courses.
 8. **Human Geography**
In order to be prepared for the AP Human Geography examination, students should enroll in this course. This is an annual course that satisfies the freshman World History requirement. It is expected that students enrolling in this class have well-developed reading, writing, and time-management skills, since the work is college-level equivalent. This course is only offered in grade nine.
 9. **African American Studies**
In order to be prepared for the AP African American Studies examination, students should enroll in this course. Students enrolling in this course can expect to apply lenses from multiple disciplines to evaluate key concepts, historical developments and processes that have shaped Black experiences and debates within the field of African American studies. Students should be prepared to identify connections between Black communities in the United States and the broader African diaspora in the past and present, as well as compare and analyze a range of perspectives about the movements, approaches, organizations and key figures involved in freedom movements.

- Independent Study Under specific conditions as outlined on p. 25 of the Guide, students may apply for Independent Study. In all cases, students must secure parent, teacher, counselor, divisional, and building administration approval. Independent Study may not be taken as an 8th semester/annual course.

AP African American Studies

Credit: 1	Level: V	
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual	SS8351 SS8352
Prerequisite: None		

AP African American Studies is an interdisciplinary course that examines the diversity of African American experiences through direct encounters with authentic and varied sources. Students explore key topics that extend from early African kingdoms to the ongoing challenges and achievements of the contemporary moment. Given the interdisciplinary character of African American studies, students in the course will develop skills across multiple fields, with an emphasis on developing historical, literary, visual, and data analysis skills. This course foregrounds a study of the diversity of Black communities in the United States within the broader context of Africa and the African diaspora.

AP Comparative Government & Politics

Credit: 1/2	Level: V	
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Spring	SS8242
Prerequisite: None		

AP Comparative Government is a semester-long introductory college course designed to expose students to the rich diversity of political life outside the United States. The course uses a comparative approach to examine the political structures and challenges of six selected countries: China, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Students will compare the effectiveness of approaches to many global issues by examining how different governments solve similar problems. Students will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments.

AP European History

Credit: 1	Level: V	
Grade Offered: 10	Annual	SS8216 SS8217
11, 12	Annual	SS8211 SS8212
Prerequisite: None		

Students should take AP European History if they have

a strong interest in history and feel capable of reading and writing at a college level. This course is intended to give students an opportunity to experience the pace and intensity of a college-level course in modern European history. Working in the context of Europe from the Renaissance to the present, students develop skills in analysis of historical problems and in the selection and evaluation of sources. An important objective of the course is to prepare students for the AP European History Examination.

AP Human Geography

Credit: 1	Level: V	
Grade Offered: 9	Annual	SS5896 SS5897
Prerequisite: None		

AP Human Geography is open to 9th grade students willing to accept the challenge of an AP class, and will be taught with the first time AP student in mind. In addition to preparing students for the AP Human Geography exam, the course will introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, and the use and alteration of the Earth's surface. In accordance with the College Board curriculum, students will learn about the nature and perspectives of geography, population, migration, cultural patterns and processes, political organization of space, agriculture, food production and rural land use, industrialization and economic development, cities and urban land use. Students will use spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. This course will emphasize recognizing, interpreting, and evaluating information for the purpose of analysis, discussion, and writing. The course is an excellent opportunity for students to become geo-literate, to understand how cultures and societies develop, and analyze the role geography plays in that development.

AP Macroeconomics

Credit: 1/2	Level: V
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Spring SS8262
Prerequisite: None	

This course is aimed at giving students a thorough understanding of the principles and concepts that apply to our economic system. Particular emphasis is on the study of national income and price determination, and the course also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics. Fundamental economic concepts such as scarcity, opportunity costs, and comparative advantages will be included. Current economic topics and questions will be presented in order to prepare students for the AP Examination.

AP Microeconomics

Credit: 1/2	Level: V
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Fall SS8481
Prerequisite: None	

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a thorough understanding of the principles of the economy that apply to the functions of the individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within an economic system. This course will provide basic supply and demand theory, theory of the firm, and micro-analysis of economic problems and situations found in the various markets in our country. Current economic problems and models will be presented. Current economic topics and problem solving will be used in order to prepare the student for the AP Examination.

AP Psychology

Credit: 1	Level: V
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual SS8511 SS8512
Prerequisite: None	

AP Psychology is aimed at instructing and preparing students for successful completion of a college level course, and includes preparation for the AP Psychology Examination. The teaching will emphasize a scientific approach to the study of psychology. Topics include: neuroscience, human development, learning, cognition, social psychology and psychological disorders and therapy. This class also analyzes current research to solidify the learning of psychological concepts and experimentation. Students who enroll in this course will be expected to demonstrate strong reading and writing skills and be able to complete nightly reading assignments in order to be successful.

AP United States Government & Politics

Credit: 1/2	Level: V
Grade Offered: 10 11, 12	Spring SS8317 Fall SS8311
Prerequisite: None	

AP U.S. Government and Politics is a semester long introductory college course. Students will analyze foundational documents such as the Federalist Papers to explain American democracy and other aspects of our government and political system. Students will learn to connect political concepts to real-life situations, explain the impact of U.S. Supreme Court decisions, and analyze data to find patterns and draw conclusions. This course examines political beliefs and behaviors, political participation and voting trends, linkage institutions and their influence on government, civil rights and civil liberties provided in the Constitution, and interactions between the branches of government. Successful completion of AP U. S. Government and Politics during sophomore year will allow students to fulfill the state Civics requirement for graduation. Junior and Senior students who have fulfilled their Civics requirement, can also take this course as an elective.

AP U. S. History

Credit: 1	Level: V
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual SS8111 SS8112
Prerequisite: None	

This course is intended for motivated students seeking a college-level US History course, composed of a chronological survey of eight recurring historical themes, with emphasis on the incorporation of historical thinking and writing skills as constructed by the College Board. Students will analyze texts, visual sources, and other historical evidence, and write essays expressing historical arguments. An important focus is preparing students for the AP U.S. History examination.

Civics

Credit: 1/2	Level: III
Grade Offered: 10	Fall SS6316
	Spring SS6317

Prerequisite: None

Civics is a one-semester course that includes the study of government institutions, analysis of current and controversial issues, simulations of the democratic process, and service learning. Students will gain essential knowledge of American government and politics, including the fundamental principles of our government, the roles of the President, Congress, and the courts, political culture and participation, elections and campaigns, and the influence of interest groups and media. Students will apply theoretical concepts to current issues and events while developing the skills necessary for evaluating media sources for bias, writing claim and evidence statements, and engaging in effective civil discourse. Successful completion of Civics during sophomore year will allow students to fulfill the state Civics requirement for graduation.

Constitutional Law

Credit: 1/2	Level: III
Grade Offered: 11,12	Fall SS6331
	Spring SS6332

Prerequisite: None

This class emphasizes how the legal system applies to all American citizens, and evaluates the impact of court cases on individual rights (including the rights of students). Emphasis is placed on analytical thinking that requires evaluation of evidence and presentation of persuasive arguments. The course includes class discussion, role-play, mock hearings, and a criminal mock trial. In addition, students will research a Supreme Court case that has impacted their individual rights.

Economics

Credit: 1/2 (cr/nc)	Level: III
Grade Offered: 10	Fall SS5916
	Spring SS5917
11, 12	Fall SS5911
	Spring SS5912

Prerequisite: None

This course will help students to develop an understanding of economics, including a focus on the principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics. This course focuses on scarcity and economic systems, market forces of supply and demand, economic indicators, monetary and fiscal policy, and global trade. Students will apply

economic concepts to current events, such as evaluating the impact of scarcity, investing in the stock market, advising the president, and analyzing economic development.

Global Relations

Credit: 1/2	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 9, 10	Fall SS6936
	Spring SS6937

Prerequisite: None

This accelerated course uses U.S. foreign policy as a window into the issues of poverty, globalization, terrorism, and conflict. There is an emphasis on analyzing current international issues. The class challenges students by foregoing use of a traditional textbook while utilizing a variety of written materials that require students to read, write, and discuss global relations at an advanced level.

Introduction to Psychology

Credit: 1/2	Level: III
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Fall SS6111
	Spring SS6112

Prerequisite: None

How can predicting behavior and mental processes help enhance our own human experience? What makes someone human? How do humans thrive, change, and impact others? Introduction to Psychology is a course that will help students answer these questions through the study of personality, decision making, learning, memory, neuroplasticity, and social interaction. Students will identify and evaluate psychological research, as well as apply and analyze behavior and mental processes from the biological, psychological, and social perspectives.

Sociology

Credit: 1/2	Level: III
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Fall SS6011 Spring SS6012
Prerequisite: None	

Sociology is the history of today. It is the scientific study of societies and human group behavior. Students explore issues relevant to 21st century life and how society influences behavior. Students examine global development and how technology and social change relate. Sociology provides the opportunity to explore other cultures, question the causes of social behavior and the relevance of sociology to their lives. Selected topics covered include culture, values, norms, globalization, socialization, social status, roles, deviance, conformity, the social institutions of family, religion, and education, and global inequality and prejudice.

U.S. History (Prep): American Studies

Credit: 2 (1 credit for English and 1 credit for U.S. History)	Level: III
Grade Offered: 11	Annual SS5741 SS5742
Prerequisite: English II	

American Studies III (Prep) is a thematic approach to learning American History/Literature designed for students who want to try something a little different, yet meet all of the requirements of the English III (Prep) and U.S. History (Prep) courses. The course meets daily in a two-hour block of time, at times allowing for a larger class environment to create a greater sense of community. This structure creates the flexibility to more fully explore the people, events, and culture that helped shape this country's history while simultaneously being influenced by the ideas and literature that came from them. For instance, while studying past and current trends of immigration, students will participate in a simulation of Ellis Island, read short stories written by or about immigrants, and research, write, and present about an immigrant group to discover what has shaped their American experience. This course involves group work/collaboration, reading, writing, public speaking/presentation opportunities and tests that are geared to all English III (Prep) and U. S. History (Prep) students.

U.S. History (Accel): American Studies

Credit: 2 (1 credit for English and 1 credit for U. S. History)	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 11	Annual SS7411 SS7412
Prerequisite: English II (Accel) or (Hon)	

American Studies IV (Accelerated) is a thematic approach to learning American History/Literature designed for students who want to try something a little different, yet meet all of the requirements of U.S History (Accel) and English III (Accel) that meets daily in a two-hour block of time, at times combining both classes to create a greater sense of community. This course meets all of the requirements for college preparatory English and U.S. History credit, but differs from a traditional English and history classroom. Students in this course will practice four skills throughout each unit of study: synthesis, asking questions, a broader component of literacy by drawing from sources in the arts and media, and reading the current world. The combination of literature and history allows students to practice these skills by examining American culture and the historical forces that shaped it. This class is organized thematically. In this way, students analyze historical themes using a variety of primary source documents, works of art, and literary texts to make connections to today's world. Students will also examine poetry, music, and documentaries connected to America, historically and culturally. Throughout the course, a major emphasis is placed on written analytical skills that synthesize information from both courses.

U. S. History (Prep)

Credit: 1	Level: III
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual SS5711 SS5712
Prerequisite: None	

U.S. History (Prep) is for the student who wants to learn about historical content centered around themes, such as: immigration, the role of government, innovation and technology. Through an examination of themes students will loop through history, ensuring an in-depth understanding and the ability to make connections to today's society. Students will be assessed on their ability to apply knowledge, analyze history and construct historical arguments. Students will master these skills through discussion, source analysis, research, reading and writing. This course offers students a variety of ways to engage in U.S. History.

U.S. History (Accel)

Credit: 1	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Annual SS7131 SS7132

Prerequisite: None

U.S. History (Accel) is for the motivated student who wants an intensive, high-level thinking course with engaging content centered around themes. Through an examination of themes students will loop through history, ensuring an in-depth understanding and an ability to make on-going contemporary connections. Students will be assessed on their ability to apply knowledge, analyze history and construct historical arguments, and in so doing, students will develop strong historical thinking skills. Students will master these skills through writing, discussions, presentations, and source analysis. Students in this course will experience a faster paced and more in-depth analysis and evaluation of historical texts.

World History

Credit: 1	Level: III
Grade Offered: 9	Annual SS5816 SS5817

Prerequisite: None

World History aims to help students understand the complex world in which they live by developing insights into the thoughts and feelings of people within their own culture/civilization and other cultures/civilizations, as well as relating the past to the present and future. Students learn that although human needs are basically the same everywhere, differences in environment and history have played a determining role in establishing variety in cultures/civilizations. Students learn how to apply historical content, analyze evidence and construct an argument. This course also engages students in the study of geography, economics, political science, and social and cultural life to better understand our world.

Career Internship Program

Credit: 1/2 (dc)	Level: IV
Grade Offered: 11, 12	Fall SS5551 Spring SS5552 Summer SS5558 SS5559

This course is designed for a student who has already secured an internship in partnership with their LT teacher in this department. Detailed information about qualifying for a Career Internship Program class can be found on page 10 of the Guide. It is the sole discretion of each department team to recommend a student for a career internship. An application does not guarantee admission.

Social Studies Classes

When choosing Annual Courses, you will need the first and second semester codes.

Freshman Courses

Annual

SS5816/7 World History
SS5896/7 AP Human Geography

Electives

Fall Only

SS6936 Global Relations

Spring Only

SS6937 Global Relations

Sophomore Courses

Annual

SS8216/7 AP European History

Fall Only

SS6316 Civics

SS5916 Economics

SS6936 Global Relations

Spring Only

SS6317 Civics

SS5917 Economics

SS6937 Global Relations

SS8317 AP US Govt & Politics

Junior and Senior Courses

Annual

SS8351/2 AP African American Studies

SS8211/2 AP European History

SS8511/2 AP Psychology

SS8111/2 AP U.S. History

SS7131/2 U.S. History Accel

SS5711/2 U.S. History Prep

SS5741/2 U.S. History Prep: Am. Studies

SS7411/2 U.S. History Accel: Am. Studies

Fall Only

SS8481 AP Microeconomics

SS8311 AP US Govt & Politics

SS6331 Constitutional Law

SS5911 Economics

SS6111 Introduction to Psychology

SS6011 Sociology

Spring Only

SS8242 AP Comparative Govt & Politics

SS8262 AP Macroeconomics

SS6332 Constitutional Law

SS5912 Economics

SS6112 Introduction to Psychology

SS6012 Sociology

Fall or Spring

SS5551/2 Career Internship

Have You Ever Considered A Career In ?

Anthropology

Anthropology Teacher
Archaeology
Criminology

Ethnology
Linguistics
Museum Curator

Courses

American Studies
Sociology

U.S. History
World History
Human Geography AP

Economics

Accountant
Actuary
Advertising Executive
Analyst
Banking
Business Management
City Manager
Claims Adjuster
Economics Teacher
Economist

Franchise Operator
Industrial/Agricultural
Economist
Insurance Agent
Investment/Financial
Management Trainee
Marketing Researcher
Urban Planner
Taxation Specialist

Courses

American Studies
Comparative Govt AP
Economics
European History AP
Human Geography AP
US Govt & Politics AP

Macroeconomics AP
Microeconomics AP
Psychology
U.S. History
World History

Geography

Biographer
Cartographer
Climatologist/Meteorologist
Demographer
Environmentalist
Foreign Service
Geography Teacher
Diplomat

Geologist
Land Use Planner
Law Enforcement
Oceanologist
Recreation Planner
Resource Management
Travel Agent

Courses

American Studies
Economics
Global Relations

Human Geography AP
U.S. History
World History

History

Antique Dealer
Architect
Archivist
Art Historian
Biographer
Civil Engineer
Columnist/Correspondent
International Business
National Park
Historian/Guide

History Consultant
History Teacher
Judge
Lawyer
Librarian
Museum Curator
Politician
Writer

Courses

American Studies
Civics
Comparative Govt AP
Constitutional Law
US Govt & Politics AP

European History AP
Psychology
U.S. History
World History

Political Science

Criminologist
Foreign Service
Government Researcher
Judge
Lawyer

Political Science Teacher
Politician
Public Administrator
Urban Planner

Courses

American Studies
Civics
Comparative Govt AP
Constitutional Law
Economics
US Govt & Politics AP

European History AP
Global Relations
Psychology
U.S. History
World History

Psychology/Sociology

Camp Director
Career Counselor
Clergyman
Criminologist
Demographer
Employment Counselor
Ethnologist
Industrial Sociologist
Law Enforcement

Personnel Director
Psychiatrist
Psychologist
Psych-Sociology Teacher
Quantitative Analyst
Recreation Director
School Counselor
Social Worker
Urban Planner

Courses

American Studies
Sociology
Psychology
U. S. History