Course Descriptions

Social Studies Department

HHS Social Studies department stands out for its innovative and creative teachers who bring history, geography, and civics to life through engaging, real-world learning experiences. Backed by years of experience and a genuine passion for teaching, our educators offer a wide range of dynamic courses that inspire students to think critically and understand the world around them.

Course Offerings in Social Studies

Students are required to earn three (3) social studies credits, which must include one (1) credit in World History, one (1) credit in a US History, and a combination of Economics and US Government.

Social Studies Course Sequences

Grade 9 or 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
European History AP Human Geography AP World History & Geography World History AP	American History SDC US History AP US History to 1877 DE* *AND* US History Since 1877 DE*	Economics* Microeconomics AP* *AND* Macroeconomics AP* US Government & Civics* US Government AP American Government DE ONLINE
Elective Sequences		
African American History* Facing History & Ourselves Honors* Human Geography AP Humanities Honors Psychology AP World History & Geography World History AP	African American History* European History AP Facing History & Ourselves Honors* Human Geography AP Humanities Honors Sociology* Psychology* Psychology AP World History & Geography World History AP	African American History* European History AP Facing History & Ourselves Honors* Human Geography AP Humanities Honors Sociology* Psychology* Psychology AP World History AP

**.5 Credit Course*

Personal Finance Course Offerings

Students are required to earn 0.5 credits in a Personal Finance course.

Grade 10-12	Grade 11 or 12
Personal Finance LDC* Personal Finance Asynchronous*	Personal Finance LDC* Personal Finance Asynchronous* Personal Finance Management DE* ONLINE

**.5 Credit Course*

Course Offerings in Social Studies

World History & Geography

Students will study the rise of the nation-state in Europe, the French Revolution, and the economic and political roots of the modern world. They will examine the origins and consequences of the Industrial Revolution, nineteenth-century political reform in Western Europe, and imperialism in Africa, Asia, and South America. They will explain the causes and consequences of the great military and economic events of the past century, including the World Wars, the Great Depression, the Cold War, and the Russian and Chinese Revolutions. Finally, students will study the rise of nationalism and the continuing persistence of political, ethnic, and religious conflict in many parts of the world. Relevant Tennessee connections will be part of the curriculum, as well as appropriate primary source documents. Students will explore geographic influences on history, with attention given to political boundaries that developed with the evolution of nations from 1750 to the present and the subsequent human geographic issues that dominate the global community. Additionally, students will study aspects of technical geography such as GPS and GIS, and how these innovations continuously impact geopolitics in the contemporary world.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 9-10
Prerequisite: None	

World History AP - *EPSO*

In World History AP, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; completion of AP exam	

Human Geography AP - *EPSO*

Human Geography AP is designed for qualified students who wish to complete studies in the secondary school equivalent to an introductory college course in human geography. The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Students will employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. A final qualifying examination is required, and all students enrolled in the course must pay the fee for this examination. Receiving a qualifying score on the Advanced Placement exam may earn the student college credit.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; completion of AP exam	

European History AP - *EPSO*

The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live. Without this knowledge, we would lack the context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role of continuity and change in present-day society and politics, and the evolution of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of European History AP are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principle 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 (1450

to present). A final qualifying examination is required and all students enrolled in the course must pay the fee for this examination. Receiving a qualifying score on the Advanced Placement exam may earn the student college credit.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 10-12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; Completion of AP exam	



US History AP - *EPSO*

US History AP provides the student with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in American History. This course emphasizes the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. A strong commitment to the subject area is essential. Supplementary materials may also be required for students to purchase in this course. A final qualifying examination is required, and all students enrolled in the course must pay the fee for this examination. Receiving a qualifying score on the Advanced Placement exam may earn the student college credit. Completion of or concurrent enrollment in AP Language and Composition is strongly encouraged.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 11
Prerequisite: Completion of at least one grade 9-10 Social Studies course offering; Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; Completion of AP exam	



American History SDC - *EPSO*

United States History is an academically challenging course aligned with post-secondary standards. Instruction is based on curriculum and resources vetted by high school and post-secondary faculty from across the state. Like the on-level course, students will study the chronological history of the U.S. beginning with Reconstruction and westward expansion until contemporary times. Students will take a challenge exam written by university professors at the end of the course.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 11
Prerequisite: Completion of English 9 and English 10	



US History to 1877 DE - *EPSO*

US History to 1877 DE provides students with a study of the United States from the age of discovery to the post-Civil War era. Students utilize primary and secondary sources to interpret the past through writing and class discussion to better understand and appreciate the social, economic, and political development of the United States. If there are questions about credit transfer, students should inquire with the universities of their choice. Students are responsible for a per semester tuition cost and a fee for textbooks. HIST 2010 & HIST 2020 are companion courses and are scheduled together to complete the course sequence. UofM Course: HIST 2010

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 11
Prerequisite: Completion of at least one World History class; Teacher Recommendation; Admission to UofM; ACT composite 19+; 100 admissions index score; DE agreement; The successful completion of both semesters is required to fulfill substitution for Graduation Requirements	



US History Since 1877 DE - *EPSO*

US History Since 1877 DE provides students with a study of the United States from the Restoration era to present day. Students utilize primary and secondary sources to interpret the past through writing and class discussion to better understand and appreciate the social, economic, and political development of the United States. If there are questions about credit transfer, students should inquire with the universities of their choice. Students are responsible for a per semester tuition cost and a fee for textbooks. HIST 2020 & HIST 2010 are companion courses and are scheduled together to complete the course sequence. UofM Course: HIST 2020

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 11

Prerequisite: Completion of US History to 1877 DE; Teacher Recommendation; Admission to UofM; ACT composite 19+; 100 admissions index score; DE agreement; The successful completion of both semesters is required to fulfill substitution for Graduation Requirements

US Government and Civics

Students will study the purposes, principles, and practices of American government as established by the Constitution. Students are expected to understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens and how to exercise these rights and responsibilities in local, state, and national government. The reading of primary source documents is a key feature of United States Government and Civics standards. To fulfill graduation requirements, students must complete and pass a US Civics examination included in this course.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 12
Prerequisite: None; Students must pass the US Civics Exam with a score of 70%+, per state policy	

US Government AP - *EPSO*

US Government AP examines the foundations of American government, political beliefs, political parties, the organization and powers of the three branches of the U. S. federal government, and American civil rights and civil liberties. In addition to the text, supplementary reading will be assigned. A final qualifying examination is required and all students enrolled in the course must pay the fee for this examination. Receiving a certain score on the Advanced Placement exam may earn the student college credit.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 12
Prerequisite: Strongly suggested students have completed a previous AP course; Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; Completion of AP exam	

American Government DE ONLINE – *EPSO*

American Government DE covers development, structure, and processes of American system of government, including framing principles of U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights; structure and roles of the President, Congress, and the Supreme Court; as well as citizen participation in governing.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 12
Prerequisite: Admission to UofM; ACT composite 19+; 100 admissions index score; DE agreement	
Dual Enrollment Credit: Upon successful completion of the course, 3 hours of college credit (POLS 1030) will be awarded by the University of Memphis.	

***American Government DE ONLINE includes online instruction from faculty at the University of Memphis. The course is not a self-paced, asynchronous course, and students are required to meet expectations for performance and reach pacing milestones set forth by UofM and HHS.*

Economics

Economics includes the fundamental principles of the American system of free enterprise and the factors that influence its function. This course is designed so that students achieve a better understanding as to how basic economic concepts affect decisions made by consumers, producers, and government.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 12
Prerequisite: None	

Microeconomics AP - *EPSO*

AP Microeconomics focuses on the principles that apply to the economic system as a whole, specifically the behavior of individual households, firms, and markets. Students will explore how buyers and sellers interact, how prices are determined, how markets allocate scarce resources, and what happens when markets fail. Topics include supply and demand, elasticity, production and costs, market structures, and the role of government in promoting efficiency and equity. Students will be challenged to analyze real-world scenarios using economic models and data interpretation. Upon completion, students will be prepared to take the AP Microeconomics exam for potential college credit.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 12
Prerequisite: Strongly suggested students have completed a previous AP course; Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; Completion of AP exam	
Special Note: Students must enroll in Microeconomics AP *AND* Macroeconomics AP, resulting in a full credit. The Microeconomics AP exam is optional.	

Macroeconomics AP - *EPSO*

AP Macroeconomics students are introduced to the economic principles underlying aggregate economic behavior. National income and price level determination are major components of the course. Measures of economic performance, such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), inflation, and unemployment are examined. Basic analytical tools such as graphs, charts, and data are used to examine the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, foreign exchange, and international trade. Students complete collaborative assignments, group discussions, and assessments that require them to apply what they have learned to hypothetical situations. Upon completion, students will be prepared to take the AP Macroeconomics exam for potential college credit.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 12
Prerequisite: Completion of Microeconomics AP; Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; Completion of AP exam	
Special Note: Students must enroll in Microeconomics AP *AND* Macroeconomics AP, resulting in a full credit.	

African American History

African American History explores the historical, social, and cultural experiences of African Americans from early Africa and enslavement through the Civil Rights Movement and modern America. Students analyze historical sources to examine identity, resistance, and the lasting impact of African American contributions to U.S. history.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: None	

Facing History & Ourselves Honors

An excellent opportunity for students to experience an Honors course at HHS, Facing History and Ourselves Honors is taught using the principles and resources of the Facing History and Ourselves Organization. The class will examine mankind's methods to promote knowledge, values, and skills needed to preserve and protect democracy. The main case study for the course is the Holocaust. Students will also explore issues of racism and violence, as well as those of courage, caring, and compassion for all humanity.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation; Memo of Understanding	

Humanities Honors

An excellent opportunity for students to experience an Honors course at HHS! The course includes the study of literature, history, philosophy, art, music, and architecture of western culture beginning with the classical world of the Greeks and Romans and concluding with the contemporary world. Some outside readings are required.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 9-12
Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation; Memo of Understanding	

Psychology

Psychology provides an overview of the scientific study of mental processes and human behavior. Topics include memory and cognition, sleep and consciousness, psychological disorders, group interaction, and many more. Several methods and techniques of teaching and learning will be used in this class including lecture, discussion, cooperative learning, independent study, class activities/experiments, and outside projects.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: None	

***Students requesting enrollment in Psychology will be enrolled in Sociology*

Sociology

Sociology is centered on the study of behavior of people in groups. Various topics are discussed including socialization, institutions, social interaction, social change, and collective behavior. Grades are largely based upon group discussions and projections, which reflect the key concepts of the course.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: None	

***Students requesting enrollment in Sociology will be enrolled in Psychology*

Psychology AP - *EPSO*

Psychology AP is designed to introduce students to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes of human beings. To accomplish this, the course provides instruction in each of the following 14 content areas: History and Approaches, Research Methods, Biological Bases of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, States of Consciousness, Learning, Cognition, Motivation and Emotion, Developmental Psychology, Personality, Testing and Individual Differences, Abnormal Psychology, Treatment of Psychological Disorders, and Social Psychology. The majority of class time will be devoted to lectures and discussions. However, time will also be allocated for demonstrations, experiments, and class activities. Active participation in these activities will help clarify certain areas of study.

Sophomores may request Psychology AP; however, enrollment will depend upon available seats.

Credits: 1.0	Grade Level: 10-12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; AP Exam Fee; Completion of AP exam	

EPSO

Course Offerings for Personal Finance

Personal Finance LDC (Local Dual Credit)

Understanding and managing personal finances are the key to one's future financial success. This one-semester course is based on the personal finance competencies and presents essential knowledge and skills to make informed decisions about real-world financial issues. Students will learn how choices influence occupational options and future earning potential. Students will also learn to apply decision-making skills to evaluate career choices and set personal goals. The course content is designed to help the learner make wise spending, saving, and credit decisions and to make effective use of income to achieve personal financial success. Local Dual Credit (LDC) allows students to earn college-aligned course credit by completing approved coursework and demonstrating mastery of the course standards. This credit is awarded through Southwest Community College.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 10-12
Prerequisite: None	

EPSO

Personal Finance Asynchronous

Personal Finance Asynchronous is a fully digital, self-study edition of Personal Finance that prepares students to navigate the real world by covering topics such as taxes, insurance, credit, and debt. With engaging video lessons and activities, students will learn from financial experts and gain confidence in handling their finances and investments. The online course carries the same weight and is based on the same standards as the seated course but will be scheduled as a 9th course/5th block allowing students to complete the course without sacrificing space in their schedule. Sophomores must get approval from their grade-level counselor to take this course.

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: Teacher or counselor recommendation is required for enrollment in the asynchronous course	

***This course is an asynchronous, online course taken outside of the school day.*

Personal Finance Management DE ONLINE - *EPSO*

Personal Finance Management DE is a non-technical course that covers topics such as budgeting, borrowing, credit, insurance, home ownership, investment, and taxes. It is part of the Finance major sequence at the University of Memphis. UofM Course: FIR 1220

Credits: .5	Grade Level: 11-12
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation; Memo of understanding; Admission to UofM; ACT composite 19+; 100 admissions index score; DE agreement	

**Personal Finance DE ONLINE includes online instruction from faculty at the University of Memphis. The course is not a self-paced, asynchronous course, and students are required to meet expectations for performance and reach pacing milestones set forth by UofM and HHS.*