

SOCIAL STUDIES



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WORLD HISTORY (9)

WLD HY

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: None

Ninth grade World History will study the course of world events from the 1500's to the present. Students should learn how past events have shaped the modern world politically, economically, and socially. As a class, we will develop critical thinking skills through analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary source documents and applying historic events to present day world issues.

HONORS WORLD HISTORY (9)

H WLD HY

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Prerequisite: Placement Test and Teacher Recommendations

Honors World History will study the course of world events from the 1500's to the present. Students should learn how past events have shaped the modern world politically, economically, and socially. As a class, we will develop critical thinking skills through analyzing and interpreting primary and secondary source documents. We will also focus on the perspective in which history is written and told from decade to decade. This class is to prepare students to take AP European History next year and will focus on various AP standards throughout the year.

US HISTORY TO 1877 (10)

US HY 1

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: None

This course covers the historic development of America from the Pre-Contact America through the settlement of the American West. Students learn the origins of ideals and institutions of America and consider the political, social, military, and economic forces that have shaped the country. Emphasis will be placed on the pluralistic traditions of the U.S., which includes contributions by diverse cultural populations. Students will engage in chronological thinking, historical analysis and interpretation.

HONORS US HISTORY TO 1877 (10)

H US HY 1

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Minimum B- average in H World History, Minimum A-average in World History, or Instructor Recommendation

This course provides a rigorous, inquiry-based examination of the foundational eras in United States history, spanning Pre-Contact Indigenous civilizations through the late 19th-century expansion into the American West. Students critically evaluate the ideological, institutional, and structural forces—political, economic, social, and military—that shaped the evolution of the nation.

Rather than engaging with history as a static narrative, students systematically employ historical thinking skills to interrogate primary and secondary sources, evaluate historiographical interpretations, and examine the complex, pluralistic realities of the American experience. Central to this course is the systematic study of diverse cultural populations, analyzing both their contributions to foundational American ideals and their ongoing engagement with systems of power and governance.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY (10)

AP EURO HY

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Minimum B- average in H World History, Minimum A-average in Adv World History, or Instructor Recommendation

AP European History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college course. Students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in four historical periods from approximately 1450 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing historical evidence; contextualization; comparison; causation; change and continuity over time; and argument development. The course also provides six themes that students explore to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction of Europe and the world; poverty and prosperity; objective knowledge and subjective visions; states and other institutions of power; individual and society; and national and European identity.

ADVANCED US HISTORY 1877 TO PRESENT (11)

ADV US HY 2

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: None

This course examines the social, political, economic, and cultural transformations of the United States from the aftermath of Reconstruction in 1877 to the modern era. Students will investigate how a post-Civil War agrarian nation evolved into an industrial powerhouse, a global superpower, and a complex, pluralistic contemporary society.

Rather than memorizing isolated facts, students will act as historians—analyzing diverse primary sources, evaluating conflicting historical interpretations, and investigating the ongoing debate over the definition of American democracy, identity, and freedom. Through inquiry-based units, students trace how movements for civil rights, technological innovation, economic shifts, and foreign policy decisions shaped the nation we inhabit today.

HONORS US HISTORY 1877 TO PRESENT (11)

H US HY 2

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Minimum B- average in H US History/AP EUROPEAN, Minimum A- average in US History 1, or Instructor Recommendation

Honors United States History from 1877 is an academically rigorous course where students experience critical reading, analytical writing, and historical inquiry. Spanning from the end of Reconstruction in 1877 to the present day, this course moves beyond foundational narrative history to engage students in the study of the political, economic, cultural, and foreign policy forces that transformed the United States from a post-Civil War republic into a global superpower and modern, pluralistic society. Students will construct evidence-based arguments, evaluate competing historical perspectives, and critically interrogate the shifting definitions of American democracy, liberty, and citizenship across three centuries.

AP US HISTORY (11)

AP US HY

CREDITS: 1.0

PREREQUISITE: Minimum B- average in AP Euro, Minimum A- average in US HY I, or Instructor recommendation

The content of this college-level course is in a survey format, covering 1491 to the present. Included in this study will be an examination of the social, political, international, and economic events, which have transformed and defined the American experience. This fast paced course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to think critically and write like historians. The culminating activity for the course is the Advanced Placement Exam.

ADVANCED ECONOMICS (12)

ECON

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

The study of twelfth-grade economics provides students with a unique opportunity to consider the impact of choice on individuals, groups, and institutions. It offers a lens to understand and analyze human behavior, and it builds a student's ability to make informed decisions based on relevant economic information such as an analysis of costs and benefits; the trade-offs between consumption, investment, and savings; the availability and allocation of natural resources; the distribution of resources among investors, managers, workers, and innovation; the role of the government in supporting, taxing, and investing in industries; and human and physical capital.

AP MICROECONOMICS (12)

AP ECON

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: Teacher or Instructor Recommendation

AP Microeconomics is an introductory college-level course that focuses on the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual economic decision-makers. The course also develops students' familiarity with the operation of product and factor markets, distributions of income, market failure, and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts. The syllabus follows the College Board AP curriculum.

ADVANCED US GOVERNMENT (12)

GOVT

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

This semester-long course focuses on the origins, structure, and functions of government. It explores the development of a republic based on the rule of law, freedom of opportunity, individual liberty, and representative democracy. It includes a detailed study of the US Constitution. Students will engage in the analysis of documents and other primary sources. Its goal is to foster civic competence and participation.

AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (12)

AP US GOV

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: Teacher or Instructor Recommendation

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan 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 study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behavior. They also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. The syllabus follows the College Board AP curriculum.

ELECTIVES

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (10-11)

AP GEOG

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: 3.5 GPA or Instructor Recommendation

The AP Human Geography course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. The course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socio-economic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. The curriculum reflects the goals and standards set by the College Board.

AP COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (10-12)

AP COMP GOV

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

AP Comparative Government and Politics is an introductory college-level course in comparative government and politics. The course uses a comparative approach to examine the political structures; policies; and political, economic, and social challenges of six selected countries: China, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Students cultivate their understanding of comparative government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like power and authority, legitimacy and stability, democratization, internal and external forces, and methods of political analysis. The curriculum is approved by the College Board.

HOLOCAUST STUDIES (10-12)

HOLOCAUST

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

This semester course examines the origins, nature, and meaning of the Holocaust. Class readings, discussion, and written assignments focus on the following: the history and nature of anti-Semitism and its role in the rise of Hitler and the Nazis; the reality of the Third Reich and its racial persecution; Nazi implementation of the Final Solution during World War II; the Jewish experience of war, ghettos, and death camps; Jewish resistance and survival during the Holocaust.

PSYCHOLOGY (10-12)

PSYCH

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

An elective focusing on human behavior (intelligence, creativity, learning, emotions, motivations, problem solving, mental illness, states of consciousness, developmental psychology, gender differences, conflict resolution and human relations) and the extent to which scientific methods can be applied to problems of human behavior. In addition, students will be afforded the opportunity to determine a topic of study such as autism, learning disabilities, schizophrenia, etc. Case studies, simulations, experiments, and a number of other activities will be used to develop critical thinking skills necessary to apply psychological theories to actual situations.

YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT

YIG

CREDITS: 0.5

PREREQUISITE: None

An elective available to 10-12 graders which focuses on the development of citizen participation in government, in part through instruction in the rules and procedures of the judiciary and the legislature. Students will prepare for participation in Youth Judicial and Youth Legislature at the local, regional and state levels.

SOCIAL STUDIES

