

Social Studies Courses

INTRO TO GOVERNMENT

9

(1/2 Credit- 1 Semester) 372

(Requirement for graduation)

Students will identify rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy and identify the Bill of Rights and other amendments in the Constitution. Students will identify how various levels of government and governmental powers can be used, abused and legitimized. Students will be able explain how different political systems protect individualized human rights and explain an aspect of diversity. Students will also be able to demonstrate ways people may participate effectively in community affairs and influence public policy.

WORLD HISTORY

9

(1/2 Credit-1 Semester) 373

(Requirement for graduation)

World History is an exciting exploration into the study of ancient civilizations and their influence on the world as we know it today! Students will gain an understanding of and demonstrate their knowledge of the impact that science, religion, government and intellectual changes have had on values and beliefs throughout history.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

PRE-COLONIAL TO 1900

10

(1 Credit-1 Year) 374

375

(Requirement for graduation)

This course will concentrate on the history of the United States starting with pre-colonial times. The lives and culture of this period will be examined as a spring board to our forming nation. By the end of this course students will be able to understand and demonstrate their knowledge of:

- Reasons for the economic, social and political development of the early colonies.
 - Events that led to the Revolutionary War and the framework of democratic principals.
 - Key figures that helped shape our nation.
 - Causes and effects of the Industrial Revolution.
 - Political, cultural, and economic aspects of the Civil War and slavery.
 - Consequences and changing dynamics in the relationship between Native Americans and European settlers.
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Social Studies Courses continued

20TH CENTURY U.S. HISTORY

11

(1 Credit-1 Year) 380

381

(Required for graduation)

This course will concentrate on the study of the major events of the U.S. from 1900 to the present. Students will demonstrate an understanding of major political, social, and economic conflicts and their resolutions. Particular emphasis includes the development and struggle for civil rights throughout the century. Students will be able to connect major themes of the 20th Century with today's major social issues through the study of current events. Students will also be able to:

- Analyze relationships of one historical period to another.
- Analyze various documents that influenced the United States.
- Compare and analyze examples of why various countries have sometimes sought peace and have other times gone to war.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. HISTORY

(Honors Course)

11 (12 by special permission)

(1 Credit-1 Year) 384

385

Can replace 20th Century U.S. History

****Teacher Signature Required
from 10th grade History teacher and
Mr. Smith in room 235**

For a general description of Advanced Placement classes please see the General Information section. The Advanced Placement program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the materials in United States History. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. This course will concentrate on the history of the U.S. from pre-colonial to present, starting with a review of last years 10th grade U.S. History class. Students will be able to:

- Write essays on the validity and reliability of various historical interpretations in light of historical evidence.
 - Interpret documents, maps, charts, graphs, statistical tables, pictures, private journals, and correspondence for content, meaning, and usefulness.
 - Take useful notes from both printed materials and lectures or discussions, write essay examinations, and write analytical research papers, with ability to express themselves with clarity and precision and know how to cite sources and credit the persons and ideas.
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Social Studies Courses continued

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
12
(1/2 Credit-1 Semester) 387
(Required for Graduation)

Citizen participation requires an understanding of government. This course will help develop knowledge necessary for participating effectively and responsibility in public life. Students will learn their basic constitutional rights and become informed about issues which will affect their lives. They will compare various forms of government, analyze their basic rights, identify and analyze a variety of social issues, and evaluate the means which public opinion can be used to influence public policy.

MICRO/MACRO ECONOMICS
12
(1/2 Credit- 1 Semester) 388

The focus of this course is on two levels of economic thinking. *Microeconomics* involves the issues of households, businesses and local governments where as *Macroeconomics* deals with how our national economy is run as well as its impact on the global scale.

****1/2 credit of Micro/Macro or Consumer Economics is required for graduation.**

***Meets four-year college requirements**

At the conclusion of this course students will be able to:

- Compare, contrast and evaluate different types of economic systems (D7)
 - Predict how economic concepts (such as supply & demand, shortages, price ceilings) will determine prices and production levels (D10)
 - Explain how federal budgetary and monetary policies influence businesses and households (D5)
 - Use basic economic concepts to explain how decisions about spending are made (D1 & D2)
 - Explain how national levels of income, employment and prices impact how decisions about spending are made by households (D1)
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CONSUMER ECONOMICS
12
(1/2 Credit – 1 Semester) 389

This course will help students develop the knowledge of personal economics concepts necessary for real life monetary situations. At the conclusion of this course students will be able to:

- Analyze the roles and operations of financial institutions (D9 & D14)
 - Explain how interest rates influence the amount of borrowing and spending done by consumers (D11)
 - Use economic concepts to determine the most cost effective method of managing a household budget (D2)
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Social Studies Courses continued

CONFLICT STUDIES
A Historical and Literary
Approach
11-12
(1/2 Credit - 1 Semester)

401

Humans have been entirely at peace for only 268 of the past 3,400 years, or 8% of recorded history. At the beginning of 2003 there were 30 wars going on around the globe.¹ Is conflict inevitable? What is the nature of humanity? Is it possible to live in peace? This class will not provide easy answers, but will offer an opportunity to explore possible answers. Outcomes for students will include: engagement in higher order thinking, effective and accurate research (using primary and secondary resources), literary analysis, and preparation of oral presentations for a mock international conflict. This will be a rewarding class.

¹Hedges, Chris. (2003). *What Every Person Should Know About War*. New York: Free Press.

SENIOR SOCIAL SCIENCE
12 (Honors Course)
(1 Credit-1 Year)

390

391

****Teacher Signature Required**
From your 11th grade History
teacher and Mr. Smith.

This is an honors course with limited enrollment. This class will satisfy the 12th grade social studies requirement. It is a college prep course which emphasizes critical thinking and self-discipline. One component of this class is to have students experience a seminar type atmosphere where major works of literature will be discussed. As a final senior project, students will research and present their projects at the end of the year in front of a panel of academic scholars.

This course is a part of the
“Block program” which combines
portions of AP Literature &
Composition. Must be enrolled
concurrently in AP Literature and
Composition. See your counselor
or Mr. Smith for further
information.

GEOGRAPHY
12
(1/2 Credit-1 Semester)

393

Geography studies the interactions between humans and their environment. Students who take this class will study both the physical and cultural aspects (components) of geography. The physical aspects of geography are about landforms, climate, weather, and resources whereas the cultural aspects of geography are about world culture, religions, and current global issues. By the conclusion of this course students will be able to understand and demonstrate their knowledge of:

- Use various types of atlases and appropriate vocabulary to describe the physical attributes of a region.
 - Analyze the economic patterns of unequal distribution of natural resources throughout the world.
 - Identify and analyze the world’s major ecosystems.
 - Analyze the relationship between cultural values and scientific/technological development.
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Social Studies Courses continued

PSYCHOLOGY I
11-12
(1/2 Credit – 1 Semester) 394

Psychology is the study of the human mind and related behavior. In other words, what people do and why they do it. By the end of this course students will be able to understand and demonstrate:

- Identify the factors which influence a person's mental health.
 - Explain brain structure and function including the influence on learning and behavior
 - The development of four unique personality.
 - Use the behavioral science methods to research and develop an informed position on an issue.
 - Understand the basic concepts of Sociology and Anthropology as they relate to human behavior.
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PSYCHOLOGY II
12
(1/2 Credit – 1 Semester) 395
Offered one semester only

Psychology II is a college-bound student-directed semester course with an emphasis on abnormal psychology, therapy and relationships. Students will be required to critically think, analyze and synthesize information as well as complete rigorous assignments/projects including but not limited to the following:

***Prerequisite: Psychology I**
****Teacher Signature Required**

- 30 hours of community service which will consist of a formal presentation and a written report of their work.
 - 3 book analyses which will consist of summarizing and evaluating.
 - 2 case studies which will consist of research, documentation and an interview.
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INTRO TO AMERICAN LAW
10-11-12
(1/2 Credit – 1 Semester) 396

American Law is a one semester class that focuses on criminal law, with an emphasis on individual rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights as interpreted by the Supreme Court. Student involvement is emphasized through the use of debates, mock trials, and projects. Presentations are a main ingredient of the class. The goal of the class is to develop in students the logical reasoning pattern necessary to form and prove an argument. By the end of this course students will be able to understand and demonstrate their knowledge of:

- Collecting data from various sources to form a reasoned conclusion and develop a coherent argument on an issue of significance.
 - Analyzing how legal interpretations of liberty, equality, justice, and power relating to the Constitution have changed and evolved over time.
 - Identifying the due process rights of accused persons and how they relate to criminal proceedings as well as identifying and analyzing the conflict between individual rights and freedoms and the needs of society.
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Social Studies Courses continued

CURRENT INDIAN ISSUES

9-10-11-12

(1 Credit – 1 Year)

398

399

Counselor Referred

Students will focus on issues pertaining to Native American Indians, both national and local. Historical backgrounds relating to current issues will be investigated.

Eligible Native American Indian students will receive enrollment priority.

Students are limited to one successful course completion. Credit earned may be applied to meet the 10th grade history requirement or it may be used as an elective credit.
