

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

The Social Studies Department seeks to achieve three major educational goals: (1) to teach students about human behavior in both individual and social contexts; (2) to provide students with essential information about the cultural history of mankind, the traditions of their own society, and the present state of the world; and (3) to develop certain attitudes and skills. A sampling of appropriate and desirable attitudes would include respect for evidence even when it goes against prejudices and preconceptions; tolerance of differing points of view; appreciation of human dignity; a sense of civic responsibility; and devotion to the welfare of the country. Appropriate skills are those associated with problem solving; the ability to discover relevant facts and to organize the facts into a meaningful pattern; to weigh conflicting evidence and discount biased statements; and to choose among various interpretations and policies.

Students who master these skills will have the ability to carry on independent inquiry. Since dynamic change appears to be the only constant in this modern age, members of the Social Studies Department hope to prepare students in such a way that learning can continue even after formal education ceases. To satisfy graduation requirements, students must complete Global History (one credit); U.S. History or Advanced Placement U.S. History (one credit); and U.S. Government & Economics (one-half credit) or Advanced Placement U.S. Government & Economics (1 credit). In addition, students must select an additional one-half credit course for a total of three credits.

COURSES OFFERED

Grade	Course #	Course Title	Credits
9, 10, 11, 12	2030	Global History	1
9, 10, 11, 12	2070	History for ESL Students	see descriptions
10	2110	U. S. History	1
12	2170	U.S. Government and Economics	1/2
12	2420	U. S. Political Thought and Radicalism	1/2
11, 12	2460	Introduction to Behavioral Sciences	1/2
10, 11, 12	2280	African American Studies	1/2
10, 11, 12	2240	Global Cultures	1/2
10, 11, 12	2260	Native American Cultures Studies	1/2
10, 11, 12	2265	Native American Cultures Studies + Art	1
10, 11, 12	2220	Classical Humanities	1/2
10, 11, 12	2200	Advanced Placement U. S. History	1
11, 12	2190	Advanced Placement European History	1
11, 12	2210	Advanced Placement U. S. Government	

GLOBAL HISTORY

2 Semesters
1 Credit

Grades: 9,10,11,12
Prerequisite: None
Graded: Conventional

The purpose of this course is to promote students' understanding of significant events in human history from earliest times up to the present. The various theories of history that convey the relationship of the past to the present are emphasized in this course. Students also gain an understanding of the interrelationship between geography, economics, government, behavioral sciences, and history. Significant areas of study are: Greece and Rome; the rise of India, China, and Japan; civilizations in Sub-Saharan Africa; the Medieval Period; the European Renaissance and Reformation. Also included are: the emergence of modern nation states; Scientific Revolution and Enlightenment; the French Revolution and European Nationalism; the Industrial Revolution and European imperialism, including its impact on Asia, Africa and South America; the causes, nature, and effects of both World Wars; and the world since 1945. Current world events are also considered. The instructional format proceeds in chronological order.

U. S. HISTORY

2 Semesters
1 Credit

Grade: 10
Prerequisite: None
Graded: Conventional

The aim of United States History is to provide students with the knowledge and understanding of our nation's past required to more effectively respond to its present, prepare for its future, and to serve as responsible participants in the American democracy. Major cultural, political, social, and economic trends are emphasized. Continuity between the pre-Industrial and post-Industrial United States is achieved through a selective enrichment of students' earlier study of pre-Industrial development.

The first semester of United States History will focus on the colonial period to the 1920's. The second semester will focus on events and themes from 1920 to present day. Students will gain the knowledge and skills necessary for effective participation in a representative democracy. Students will analyze the impact of social change and the functioning of the U.S. economy. Instructors will emphasize major historical, political, social and economic developments to help students better

understand U.S. History and prepare for the Ohio Graduation Test.

Students will also receive basic instruction in elements of personal financial literacy, both within the context of U.S. History and in a separate unit on that topic.

Evaluation will be based upon objective and essay tests, projects and/or papers, and homework assignments.

U.S. GOVERNMENT & ECONOMICS

1 Semester
1/2 Credit

Grade: 12
Prerequisite: U. S. History
Graded: Conventional

The emphasis of the course concentrates on the governmental role in influencing the economic and social structure of the nation. Special emphasis is placed upon the basic government institutions and the patterns and policy-making processes that enable the government to use its authority and power to bring about basic economic decisions. The course attempts to integrate the disciplines of economics and political science while recognizing that both disciplines are strongly influenced by various social forces. Units of study include: introduction to the Constitution and nature of a representative democracy; the three branches of government and how they function; civil liberties and civil rights; foreign policy; the form and function of state and local governments; political parties and the election process; influence of the mass media and public opinion on governmental policy-making; U.S. governmental influence upon inflation, unemployment, taxes, expenditures, transfer payments; the Federal Reserve, regulatory agencies; and broad social goals. Students must be willing to read current literature from contemporary sources in order to study the actual structure and functions of government. Also, students must be willing to discuss and share their knowledge with classmates and instructors. Evaluation will be based on tests, quizzes, and research papers.

U. S. POLITICAL THOUGHT AND RADICALISM

1 Semester
1/2 Credit

Grades: 12
Prerequisite: None
Graded: Conventional or pass/fail

U. S. Political Thought and Radicalism examines U. S. political thought, both past and present, with an emphasis on recent history. Political and social movements, dissent and protest (both peaceful and violent), and radical thought are major themes of the course. Alienation of individuals and groups, the social-historical context of radical movements, and the political labeling process receive considerable attention. Present-day interest groups from the extreme right to the far left of the political spectrum and their literature are invited to express their views. This course will help students to understand political thought in all its diversity; to critically analyze American society; to understand the role of violent and non-violent protests; to express themselves verbally on different issues involving society; to understand and use the political continuum; and to be aware of the many and varied political organizations of today. The inquiry teaching method is utilized together with a multimedia approach. Evaluation is based primarily on group projects, periodic examinations, and student writing.

INTRODUCTION TO BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

1 Semester
1/2 Credit

Grades: 11, 12
Prerequisite: None
Graded: Conventional or pass/fail

In Introduction to the Behavioral Sciences, students will explore various methods for studying human behavior and learn basic concepts in the fields of sociology and psychology. Some of the topics discussed in this course are culture, human development, personality disorders, crime and other social issues, organizations and roles within society. Introduction to the Behavioral Sciences will help students to learn more about themselves; to identify the function of social groups; to explain the behavior of people in groups; to develop an awareness of the problems arising from social and cultural differences, learn more about sociology and cultural anthropology; to determine whether the scientific process can be applied to the study of human behavior; and to become independent thinkers. Evaluation is based primarily on exams, and projects.

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

1 Semester
1/2 Credit

Grades: 10,11,12
Prerequisites: None
Graded: Conventional or pass/fail

This course will be presented through an interdisciplinary global approach. This includes an historical, cultural, economic, political, geographical and sociological

analysis of the African-American in Western Civilization. African folklore and culture are focal points. The course begins with a broad investigation of the migration of the African peoples into the territories of the Americas. Eras reviewed include the migration, Antebellum, Civil War, Post-Bellum, Civil Rights, and Post Civil Rights eras. Review of current media forms will be essential in the understanding of both divergent viewpoints and basic sociological phenomenon like racism, discrimination, the inferiority theory, reverse discrimination and stereotyping. The course concludes with an examination of today's African-American: urban, rural and suburban America, the Human and Civil Rights Movements and the rebirth of the students/scholars' Afrocentric understanding for the future. Objective and essay tests, projects, papers and quizzes are the used for evaluation of student performance.

GLOBAL CULTURES

1 Semester
1/2 Credit

Grades: 10,11,12
Prerequisite: none, although
Global History recommended
Graded: Conventional or pass/fail

Global Cultures is a discussion-based cultural geography course. It is designed to help students recognize ethnocentrism, dispel stereotypes and increase student awareness of the multicultural nature of our society and the world. The main focus of this course is directed at seeking exposure to and understanding of a variety of contemporary cultures such as those found in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Emphasis is placed on geography, literature, religion, education, and family organization found within various cultures located in these regions. Past and present historical roles of these cultures are also examined as they relate to the shaping of their current lifestyles. This course qualifies as a geography credit if required as a college entrance requirement. The concepts are presented and/or discovered via class discussion of reading assignments, guest speakers, video presentations, and individual research. Evaluation is based on homework, frequent tests, and a project.

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE STUDIES

1 Semester
1/2 Credit

Grades: 10,11,12
Prerequisite: None
Graded: Conventional or pass/fail

Native American Studies will be presented through an interdisciplinary approach. This approach will include an anthropological, historical, cultural, political and sociological analysis of the American Indian. Native American Studies begins with a broad investigation of the approximately 230 historic Indian nations indigenous to the territorial U.S. The differences and similarities between the natural thought of the native people and the scientific thought of our own society will be explored as well. As a highlight, a discussion and demonstration of several wilderness survival skills, as implemented by the Indians, will be offered. The course will conclude with an examination of today's Indians: their plight on the reservation, their militancy within the American Indian Movement, and the rebirth of their Natural Spiritual Ways for the future. Objective and essay tests, projects, papers, and quizzes are the major criteria for evaluating student performance.

NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE STUDIES & ART

1 Semester
1 Credit (1/2 Soc Studies, 1/2 Art)

Grades: 10, 11,12
Prerequisite: None
Graded: Conventional, Pass/Fail

An art specialist will aid and instruct students in their creation of Native American style art work relating to the Native American Studies curriculum. Art of indigenous people and the role of art in culture will be explored. Media may include ceramics, fibers, beading, and other natural materials. This class meets for a blocked period each day for a semester.

CLASSICAL HUMANITIES

1 Semester
1/2 Credit

Grades: 10,11,12
Prerequisite: None
Graded: Conventional or pass/fail

This course is devoted to the study of Classical Greek and Roman Civilization. Students examine Greek mythology, Greek theatre, the original Greek plays, and Greek and Roman history and culture, including art, architecture, philosophy, literature, religion, industry, famous leaders, and everyday life. Classical Humanities will help students to understand allusions to mythological characters in world literature through a study of the major Greek heroes, deities, and legends; to develop the ability to understand the role of mythology in any culture; and to appreciate mythology as a way of explaining the unknown; to develop an

awareness of Greek and Roman contributions to modern man in the fields of art, architecture, philosophy, literature and engineering; to understand the United States government through an in-depth survey of the first democracy in Athens; and perhaps to see parallels between the United States and Rome and draw conclusions about the power of the United States today. Evaluation is based on class participation, homework, frequent tests and quizzes, and projects. The materials are presented through discussion, lecture, student skits, slides, filmstrips, movies and various activities.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT U. S. HISTORY

2 Semesters
1 Credit

Grades: 10(R), 11, 12(E)
Prerequisite: Global History
Graded: Conventional

The Advanced Placement Program in U. S. History is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems and materials in U. S. History. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full year introductory college courses. Students will learn to assess historical materials - their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance - and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. Major themes of the course include constitutional development, the presidency, foreign policy, economics, reform and idealism, race relations and minorities, feminism, and social history. The course requires extensive reading and writing, and students are required to read a variety of selections from a summer reading list. Students will have the option of taking the Advanced Placement Examination in U. S. History in May. Motivated students who enjoy an intellectual challenge and are willing to make the commitment of time and energy will appreciate this study of the meaning and message of the United States of America.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT EUROPEAN HISTORY

2 Semesters
1 Credit

Grade: 11,12
Prerequisite: Global History
Graded: Conventional

The A.P. European History course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Examination given at the end of the year. The course helps students learn to use higher-order cognitive skills that derive from the discipline of history. This goal is facilitated by the heavy emphasis on the development of critical writing skills. Students have the opportunity to develop an appreciation for the rich cultural contributions made by those who created our Western Heritage. The course reveals the problems faced by people during given periods of history and relates these problems to the present. Students study the major problems faced by humankind during the past five-hundred years, and develop an awareness of the consequences of European contact in the global community. The course will require students to critically analyze and synthesize the material, to weigh evidence and reach conclusions on the basis of facts, and to develop basic research skills. Motivated students that enjoy an intellectual challenge will enjoy the course and commitment. Students are required to read a variety of selections from a summer reading list.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT U. S. GOVERNMENT

2 Semesters
1 credit

Grade: 11,12
Prerequisite: U.S. History or concurrently
taking U.S. History, permission of the instructor
Graded: Conventional, Weighted

The Advanced Placement U. S. Government course is designed to provide the serious student with the opportunity to gain a critical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret United States politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It will also familiarize students with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up the United States political reality. Students will also investigate the American electorate including developing their understanding of their beliefs as active participants in the democratic system. Through the development of critical writing skills, students will learn to recognize and clarify value conflicts and communication problems; examine and weigh alternatives; and project consequences and make decisions to solve problems in public policy. Emphasis will be placed on analysis and research. This course will require a greater number of reading and writing assignments than normally given in regular classes and students are also required to read a variety of selections from a summer reading list. Students will be encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Examination in U. S. Government at the end of the year. Motivated students who enjoy an intellectual challenge and are willing to make the commitment of time and effort will enjoy the course.