

## SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

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**Ancient World History 6** **Year** **6**  
Study of ancient world history begins with creation and ends in Medieval Europe. Since history is “His story,” students will be learning about how God has been faithful to man and shaped history within a biblical context. Students will also study world religions in the context of their respective civilizations. Simulations will help students experience the ideas we are presenting throughout eleven early civilizations. “Hands-on” lessons will be the primary avenue through which student learning takes place.

**Geography and Medieval World History 7** **Year** **7**  
This course explores medieval history in five (5) regions of the world: Africa, Arabia, East Asia, Europe and the Americas. This course exposes students to the major cultures and civilizations that influenced the medieval world. Students will experience history through dynamic activities, as well as a variety of creative projects. Additionally, students will complete a systematic study of world geography skills and content. Students will continue to discover that World History is the history of God’s creation.

**U.S. History 8** **Year** **8**  
Eighth grade U.S. History is an overview of U.S. history from the period of the explorers to the Great Wave of Immigration, with an emphasis on God’s hand in the nation’s history and on how past events influence today’s thinking. Additionally, students will learn to appreciate the richness of this nation’s freedom, bought with great sacrifice, and learn to apply a wealth of knowledge that will encourage healthy debate and emerging political consideration. At an additional cost, an East Coast trip is available for students who wish to participate in visiting historical sites in New York, Washington D.C., Gettysburg, and Boston.

**Ancient World History 9 \*** **Year** **9**  
In this course, students will learn the story of human civilization from the “classical age” of Greece and Rome up to A.D. 1600. The first semester is a study of the classical civilizations of the world through the fall of Rome and the rise of the Byzantine Empire. The second semester surveys the medieval world and ends with a strong focus on the early development of modern western civilization in the Renaissance and Reformation. The course will integrate a biblical worldview as it surveys the political, religious, and social history of the classical and medieval civilizations.

**Ancient World History 9 Honors \*** **Year** **9**  
In this course, students will learn the story of human civilization from the classical age of Greece and Rome up to A.D. 1600. The class will explore the history of multiple areas around the world including Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas. The first semester will include a study of the classical civilizations of the world through the fall of Rome and the rise of the Byzantine Empire. The second semester surveys the medieval world and ends with a strong focus on the early development of modern western civilization in the Renaissance and Reformation. The course will integrate a biblical worldview as it surveys the political, religious, and social history of all areas of the world. As an honors course, this class will also focus on historical academic writing including persuasive essays and using primary sources.

**Prerequisite:** Completion of U.S. History 8 with an A- or higher.

**\* Course meets UC eligibility**

All course offerings are subject to minimum enrollment levels.

## SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT (CONT'D)

**Modern World History 10 \*** **Year** **10**  
This course is a survey of the events that brought about the modern world. Starting with the global “Age of Exploration,” this course will cover the major events and geographical realities of the 16<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Key movements and trends will be discussed, and emphasis will be placed on cause and effect relationships. Students will have opportunities to explore topics in-depth through simulations, projects, presentations, essay writing, and research reports, building a variety of skills throughout the year. The course will integrate a biblical worldview as it surveys the political, religious, and social history of all areas of the world.

**AP World History: Modern \* ^** **Year** **10**  
The AP World History course content is structured around the investigation of five (5) course themes and nineteen (19) key concepts in six different chronological periods, from approximately 8000 B.C. to the present. The course themes studied across chronological periods include interaction between humans and the environment, development and interaction of cultures, state-building, expansion, and conflict, creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems and development and transformation of social structures. In this course, students develop the historical thinking skills such as chronological reasoning, comparison and contextualization, crafting historical arguments from historical evidence, and historical interpretation and synthesis that are central to the study and practice of history.

**Prerequisites:** Completion of Ancient World History 9 with an A- or higher, or Ancient World History 9 Honors with a B+ or higher, a passing grade on the timed placement essay, and AP Committee approval.

**U.S. History 11 \*** **Year** **11**  
This course is a survey of American history from the Colonial Period to the present day, with an emphasis on the twentieth century. Students will have opportunities to explore topics in-depth through simulations, projects, presentations, essay writing, and research reports, building a variety of skills throughout the year. Students learn about the various political, social, religious, and economic developments that have shaped and continue to shape the United States. Essay writing and critical thinking are emphasized as integral ways of understanding how the past relates to the present and future. The last quarter of the year will emphasize student first-person interviews focusing on eyewitness accounts of a previous era's military conflict in which the United States was involved.

**AP U.S. History \* ^** **Year** **11**  
This college-level course provides an in-depth survey of United States history, focusing on economic progress, political issues, and social change throughout the development of our nation. The class format includes group lectures and collaborative assignments, emphasizing argumentative writing and primary source analysis. In addition to the text, students will read a variety of other sources on historical topics and issues. The course follows the College Board recommended curriculum.

**Prerequisites:** Completion of Modern World History 10 with an A- or higher, or AP World History with a B- or higher, and AP Committee approval.

**Government \*** **Semester** **12**  
This course provides students with a thorough understanding of the U.S. government's structure and process. A brief review is given to the process the Founding Fathers went through to develop the Constitution. The function and operation of each branch of the U.S. government is thoroughly discussed. Students will participate in an interactive simulation to understand the practical application of all three branches of government as well as the Bill of Rights. The course is also designed to prepare students to become informed citizens and to get involved in the political process.

\* Course meets UC eligibility

^ Earns an extra grade point

All course offerings are subject to minimum enrollment levels.

## SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT (CONT'D)

**AP U.S. Government and Politics \* ^** **Semester** **12**  
This college-level introduction to United States Government and Politics course offers students an opportunity to study the complexities and interrelationships of modern American government. The class will pay close attention to current and past political events to analyze the foundations, institutions, beliefs, and groups that participate in American politics. The course follows the College Board recommended curriculum.  
**Prerequisites:** Completion of AP U.S. History with a B- or higher or U.S. History 11 with an A- or higher, and AP Committee approval.

**Economics \*** **Semester** **12**  
This class introduces the student to the basic principles of America's market economy, including competition, opportunity cost, supply and demand, scarcity, prices, incentives, taxation, and monetary and fiscal policy. Students will understand common economic terms and concepts and be introduced to economic reasoning.

**Economics Honors \* ^** **Semester** **12**  
This class covers the same material presented in the Economics course, with more depth and analysis. There will be a greater emphasis on critical thinking skills, essay writing, persuasive argumentation and research of primary source documents. The class will include current and past economic events to enhance analysis of foundations, institutions, policies and consequences.  
**Prerequisites:** Completion of U.S. History with an A- or higher, or AP U.S. History with a B- or higher.

## SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVES

**Introduction to Psychology** **Semester** **10-12**  
This course covers a wide range of psychology topics. The course will begin with a thorough overview of types of research in psychology – natural observation, case studies, correlational studies, and experimental design. Students will gain insight into the scientific nature of the discipline by focusing on experimental design at the outset. Students will then explore various disciplines in psychology including child development, social psychology, learning theory, and cognitive psychology through reading the primary research experiments that shaped the field of psychology. By reading original research, students can see the importance of rigorous scientific methods in the field of psychology and the exciting research questions that lie ahead. The course is structured in a discussion format. Students will be encouraged to think critically and appreciate the incredible design of God in how He made us so similar and yet so unique.

**AP Psychology \* ^** **Year** **11-12**  
This course is designed as a fast-paced, college-level introduction to psychology. Students will learn the history of psychology as well as the scientific study of the mental processes and behaviors of humans and animals. Abnormal psychology, social psychology, developmental psychology, motivation, and emotion are just a few of the topics that will be covered in great detail. This course will require a significant amount of reading, but the information will be especially interesting. The course follows the College Board recommended curriculum.  
**Prerequisites:** Completion of English 10/11 with an A- or higher, or English 10 Honors with a B+ or higher or AP English Language and Composition with a B- or higher, and AP Committee approval.

\* Course meets UC eligibility  
^ Earns an extra grade point

All course offerings are subject to minimum enrollment levels.