

SOCIAL STUDIES

FOUR-YEAR PLANNING FOR SOCIAL STUDIES

A student must earn 3.0 credits in Social Studies to graduate. Two semesters (1.0 credit) is required for freshmen, one semester (.5 credit) for sophomores; two semesters (1.0 credit) for juniors and one semester (.5 credit) for seniors.

Listed below are the required and elective courses from which students may select to fulfill their Social Studies requirements.

Graduation Requirements

9 th Grade	Washington State History/Pac Rim (1 year) with Humanities Block
10 th Grade	Civilizations (1 semester) or Civilizations (1 year) as a block with Expository Writing
11 th Grade	U.S. History (1 year)
12 th Grade	American Government (1 semester)

College-Bound Recommendations

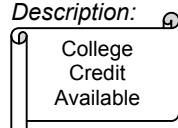
Same as graduation requirements, but students are encouraged to take Honors Level and Advanced Placement classes when available

SOCIAL STUDIES

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (SS or EL)

Prerequisite: None
Length: 1 semester (.5 credit)

Description: The uniqueness of the American federal system is studied, as are civil rights, voting, political parties, Congress, the Presidency, and the principles of the Constitution. A major emphasis is placed on the role of the individual in the American system of government.

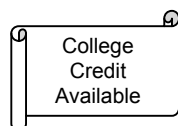


Grade Level: 12
Graduation Requirement

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT - AP (SS or EL)

Prerequisite: A grade of 'B' in US History or teacher consent
Length: Year long (1.0 credit)

Description: This college level course will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes the study of both general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. Students successfully completing this course will understand important facts, concepts, and theories, recognize typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences, and be able to analyze basic data relevant to U.S. government and politics. Because the focus of this course is preparing students for the AP exam, students must maintain a self-disciplined reading and homework schedule at a 12th grade level. This class covers six aspects of government in preparation for the AP exam: Constitutional Underpinnings, Political Beliefs/Political Behaviors, Interest Groups/Political Parties/Media, Institutions, Public Policy, and Civil Liberties/Civil Rights.



Grade Level: 12
Meets Graduation Requirement

AMERICAN LITERATURE/UNITED STATES HISTORY (E, SS or EL)**Grade Level: 11**
(Two-period Block)

Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of Expository Writing with a “C” or better grade, consent of instructor based on demonstrated writing ability, and demonstrated ability to work individually without direct supervision.

Length: American Literature & US History are both year long (1.0 credit) classes.

Description: In this consecutive two-hour block course students study U.S. history and American Literature through present times. Course study emphasizes the emergence of the U.S. as an economic, political, military, and cultural influence. Students will apply critical thinking and inquiry skills to read and write effectively while forming reasoned conclusions through historical discovery and literary analysis.

CIVILIZATIONS (SS or EL)**Grade Level: 10**
Graduation Requirement

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 semester (.5 credit)

Description: Topics will cover the Stone Age through Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Chinese, and Indian civilizations. Emphasis will be placed on comparisons and the impact of early civilizations on contemporary civilizations.

CIVILIZATIONS AND WORLD CULTURES (SS or EL)**Grade Level: 10**
Meets Graduation Requirement

Prerequisite: None

Length: Year long (1.0 credit) taken in conjunction with Expository Writing

Description: In this survey course students explore selected world civilizations and their diverse cultures from ancient times to the present. Course study emphasizes the common factors of human civilization and how they are uniquely expressed in different parts of the world at different times. Students examine influences of past civilizations on contemporary societies as well as study current world situations. Diversity, global interaction, and change are major themes. Students apply critical thinking and inquiry skills to read and write effectively while forming reasoned conclusions about humankind’s past and today’s world.

CONTEMPORARY SOCIAL ISSUES (SS or EL)**Grade Level: 11, 12**

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 semester (.5 credit)

Description: Students will examine current social changes in the United States, as well as cultural differences around the world. Other social issues include world health issues, racial conflict, family structure, the environment, the role of women, and the workplace.

ECONOMICS (O, SS or EL)**Grade Level: 10, 11, 12**

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 semester (.5 credit)

Description: Students will learn how the economy of the United States functions and their role in it. Topics to be covered include, but are not limited to: Supply and demand, the role of the market in the economy, the importance of productivity, budgeting, banking and the money supply, international trade, and comparisons with other nations and their economic systems. For students planning to attend college, this class will give them a good background if they plan on taking business course and/or if they plan on taking economics to help satisfy their college’s social science requirement.

EXPOSITORY WRITING/CIVILIZATIONS – BLOCK (E, SS or EL)**Grade Level: 10**
(Two-period block)

Prerequisite: **District application.** Satisfactory completion of ninth grade English with a “B” or better grade, consent of instructor based on demonstrated writing ability, and demonstrated ability to work individually without direct supervision.

Length: Expository Writing and Civilizations, both year long (1.0 credit) classes

Description: In this consecutive two-hour block course, students explore selected world civilizations and their diverse cultures from ancient times to the present. Students will learn how to research, organize, and present information in written and oral forms. Students will examine influences of past civilizations on contemporary societies as well as study current world situations. Students will apply critical thinking and inquiry skills to read and write effectively while forming reasoned conclusions about humankind’s past and today’s world.

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORY (SS or EL)

Prerequisite: None

Length: 1 semester (.5 credit)

Description: Washington State History will cover the various explorers, fur traders, and Indians of the Pacific Northwest. The establishment of boundaries, settlements of the Northwest, and current resources and industries of the Pacific Northwest will be studied. Included are the structure of Washington State's government from territorial days to its present political form, and the migration of people moving to the Northwest. This course will be offered every other year and Summer School every year for retrieval credit.

Grade Level: 9
Graduation Requirement