

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT CURRICULUM OFFERINGS

FULL YEAR COURSES

Grade 9

SS 131
SS 132

Required Course

World History - Honors
World History

Grade 10

SS 230
SS 231
SS 233

Required Course

Advanced Placement United States History 1
United States History 1 - Honors
United States History 1

Grades 11

SS 340
SS 341

Required Course

Advanced Placement United States History 2
United States History 2 Honors

Grades 11 & 12

SS 240
SS 350
SS370
SS 380
SS 382
SS 392
SS330
SS360
SS371
SS391

Elective Courses

Economics
Sociology
Advanced Placement European History
Advanced Placement Psychology
Psychology
Humanities
Cultural Studies
Introduction to Law
A.P. Gov't. & Politics
Honors Humanities

The State of New Jersey requires that the following three social studies courses be successfully completed in order to earn a high school diploma: World History and United States History 1 and 2. Students who wish to further their academic experiences in the field of social studies have a broad variety of electives which they may choose to include in their schedule. Please refer to the curriculum listings for the available elective choices.

Advancement Placement Program - General requirements are minimum 3.5 GPA, recommendation by current teachers, and appropriate prerequisites.

This is a national program in which highly motivated students take **college-level courses** at the high school level. This is done in cooperation with secondary schools, colleges, and the College Board. More than 2,900 universities and colleges worldwide grant credit, advanced placement, or both to students who have performed satisfactorily on the Advanced Placement exams. College credit is not guaranteed, and acceptance of credit is up to each individual institution.

The **United States History Advanced Placement course** is taught over a two year period. The first year, AP United States History 1 is taught in grade ten. The course is continued in grade eleven with AP United States History 2. Both courses are necessary if students are to be prepared for the Advanced Placement exam, which will be administered in May of the second year. AP United States History 1 and 2 satisfy the state requirement of two years of American history. The **Advanced Placement Psychology , Government and Politics, and the Advanced Placement European History course** are completed after one year with the AP exam also administered in May. Students may choose to take AP Psychology, AP European History and/or Government and Politics in the junior or

senior year.

SS 230 United States History I - Advanced Placement (open to grade 10 - first of two year program)

SS 340 United States History II - Advanced Placement (open to grade 11 - prerequisite - completion of AP U.S. History I)

SS 370 A.P. European History - open to 11th or 12th - one year program.

SS371 A.P. Government and Politics - open to 11th or 12th - one year program.

SS 380 Psychology - Advanced Placement (open to grade 11 and 12 - one year program)

REQUIRED COURSE - Grade 9

SS 131 World History Honors (9)

This honors social studies course demands a more advanced level of study, discussion, writing, and examination. It is designed to challenge the more academically talented student who must have demonstrated superior ability in social science and have met established criteria. An individual research paper, projects, in-depth discussions, and extensive readings are required. Areas of study are the same as SS132.

SS 132 World History & Cultures (9)

This course traces the history of the world from the Age of Exploration and Expansion up to the present. A review of the Renaissance, Reformation, and Absolutism in Europe leads into a study of empires in China, Japan, and the areas under Islamic rule. The topic of Revolution includes the influence of the Enlightenment and the revolutions in England, the United States, France, and Latin America, as well as the Industrial Revolution.

Focus then shifts to the growth of European reform movements, along with rising nationalism and its inherent imperialism in Asia, the Middle East, and Africa - leading ultimately to World War I. Attention is also paid to the Russian Revolution. The theme of nationalism is followed into China, Africa, and India.

The final study is of modern Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America, encompassing global issues, such as economic interdependence, diversity, and human rights.

A variety of skills have been integrated into the curriculum, including critical thinking, research, writing, cooperative learning, and analysis of maps and graphic organizers.

REQUIRED COURSE - U.S. History 1 - (10)

SS 230 Advanced Placement United States History 1 - (10)

The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States 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. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgement and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

The area of study for the first year of this two year program will begin with pre-Colonial history and continue through Reconstruction.

SS 231 United States History 1 - Honors (10)

This honors social studies course demands a more advanced level of study, discussion and examination. It is designed to challenge the more academically talented student who must have demonstrated superior ability in social science and have met department determined criteria. An individual research paper, reading of historical novels, projects, in-depth discussions and extensive readings are required. Areas of study are the same as SS233.

SS 233 United States History 1 (10)

This course traces the history of the United States from the immediate Post-Reconstruction Era up to World War I. A brief review of the Colonial Period will serve as a bridge to a critical analysis of the development of the United States from a "house divided" to a modern industrial world power. Aspects of the United States Constitution will be integrated throughout the course.

The growth of the United States will be examined within the thematic contexts of government, society, economy and foreign policy. These themes will be utilized as guides to evaluate the major events that transpired within the chronological periods of 1700-1776, 1776-1820, 1820-1877, 1877-1900, and 1900-1919. Special attention is given to those issues pertaining to geography, leadership, diversity, and topics focusing on New Jersey.

A variety of skills have been integrated into the curriculum including critical thinking, research, writing, cooperative learning, analysis of charts and graphs, role playing, as well as job/workplace readiness proficiencies.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

SS340 United States History 2 (11)

The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States 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 should 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. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgement and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. Prerequisite: Completion of SS230 - AP U.S. History I.

This course traces the history of the United States from Industrialization and urbanization of the post-Reconstruction period up to, and including the present day. Students will examine historical issues from a variety of perspectives. Students will also analyze the causes and evaluate the effects of particular social, political, economic and civic problems of different time frames.

A variety of strategies will be incorporated to communicate the content. Primary documents, individual and group research, and selected pieces of art and literature will be blended into the instructional process.

SS341 United States History 2 (11)

This honors social studies course demands a more advanced level of study, discussion and examination. It is designed to challenge the more academically talented student who must have demonstrated superior ability in social science and have met department determined criteria. An individual research paper, projects, in-depth discussions and extensive readings are required. Areas of study are the same as SS343.

SS343 United States History 2 - Honors (11)

This course traces the history of the United States from the early 20th Century up to the present. A brief review of the World War I era through the Roaring Twenties will serve as a bridge to a critical analysis of the development of the United States from a modern industrial world power to a global superpower. Aspects of the United States Constitution will be integrated throughout the course.

The history of the United States will be examined within the thematic contexts of government, society, economy, and foreign policy. These themes will be utilized as guides to evaluate the major events that transpired within the chronological periods of 1929-1937, 1937-1945, 1945-1963, 1963-1980, 1980-present. Special attention is given to those issues pertaining to geography, leadership, diversity, and topics focusing on New Jersey.

A variety of skills have been integrated into the curriculum including critical thinking, research, writing, cooperative learning, analysis of charts and graphs, role playing, as well as job/workplace readiness proficiencies.

ELECTIVES

SS 240 Economics

Economics is divided into two areas of study. The first focuses on the concepts of microeconomics which deal with decision making by individual people and businesses. The second area of study of economics focuses on the concepts of macroeconomics which studies the decision making of groups of individuals, businesses and governments.

The course explains the important role economics plays in local, state, national, and international public policy. The study of economics enables individuals to understand the forces that affect them daily and helps them identify and evaluate the consequences of private decisions and public policies.

SS 350 Sociology

This course explores the nature of American society as it is reflected in our cultural environment and social groupings. The cultural values and norms we live by will be examined, as well as sociology's evolution and place in the social sciences. The development of personality will initiate a survey of adolescent and adult development, including deviant behavior, its causes, and how society deals with it.

Ethnic groups, minorities, and race relations will be addressed. The major social institutions of family, government, economy, education, and religion and their functions will be studied in addition to the nascent institutions of science and sport. A survey of social movements and collective behavior completes the course.

SS 370 Advanced Placement European History

This college level course takes up where World History left off in Freshman year and is designed to be a natural compliment to the Humanities course. The curriculum addresses, in depth, the political, social, economic, and cultural history of Europe from the Renaissance to the present. Units that will be covered will include: The Renaissance and Reformation; The Scientific Revolution; The Age of Reason; The French and Industrial Revolution; The Age of Nationalism and Imperialism; The 20th Century.

A variety of strategies and processing skills will be incorporated to communicate the content of the course. Primary source documents, individual and group research, as well as selected pieces of art, music and literature will supplement the core material.

As with any Advanced Placement course, the culminating activity of the year will be the option to take the Advanced Placement examination in May affording students the opportunity to earn college credit.

SS 380 Advanced Placement Psychology

The AP psychology curriculum addresses the facts, principles, and phenomenon associated with each of the major subfields of psychology including the biological basis of behavior, learning and memory, human development, motivation and emotion, intelligence, personality, abnormal behavior and psychotherapy, as well as the study of psychology in the social setting.

SS 382 Psychology

This course studies the nature of psychology, the principles of learning, thinking, and memory. It addresses the connection between the human body and human behavior as well as the manner in which the human organism senses and perceives the environment. In addition, the development of the human personality, behavioral disorders and the courses and types of therapy will be explored. Aspects of social psychology and psychological testing will

be examined.

SS 392 Humanities & Honors Humanities SS 391

This course offers an interdisciplinary study of the humanities in western culture, with selections from the Asian and African traditions as well. Historical and cultural periods are covered in chronological order from Greece to the modern world: Classical Greek, Roman, Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and Modern. Great works of philosophy, literature, art, music and film, when applicable, are examined within each cultural period. Primary emphasis is placed on the literary and artistic master works of the western world. Students are to read excerpts from Plato, Aristotle, Descartes, Machiavelli, and Nietzsche; analyze paintings by Raphael, Renoir, Goya, and Picasso; listen to the music of Bach, Handel, Beethoven, and Verdi; read Shakespeare, Tolstoy, and Emerson, and view films such as A Man for All Seasons. The Honors section will require additional research, projects, and assessments.

SS 330 Cultural Studies

American History topics regarding the contributions of African-Americans, Latinos, Asians, and women will be the focus of this course, and students will study the roles, political elements, social aspects, cultural elements and influences of the aforementioned groups, presented topically.

SS 360 Introduction to Law

The function of the legal system, its relation to young people, career opportunities, and basic life skills will all be covered in this course. Courtroom procedures, resolution of legal difficulties and responsibilities, outside speakers, and applicable field trips will also be a part of this experience.

SS 371 Advanced Placement Government and Politics

This course offers an in-depth study of American Government and politics throughout the history of our nation. The Constitution and its principles, political parties, Foreign policy and domestic issues, and contemporary problems will all be investigated, along with political philosophies and constitutional interpretations. The “We the People” constitution contest will also be a part of this experience.