

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Title: *WORLD CULTURES*

Grade Level: 9

Credit: One-half

Length of Course:

One semester

Placement in this course is based upon teacher referral.

This course or one semester of World History is required as part of the two units of Social Studies credit necessary for graduation. World Cultures is the less rigorous alternative within the world studies requirement.

Content: This is a semester course in which current world cultures are examined in an attempt to identify and understand the characteristics which are shared by all cultures and those characteristics which are unique to a particular culture. The course stresses the similarities between all peoples and cultures while encouraging understanding and acceptance of the differences.

Activities: Lectures, large and small group discussions, simulation games, library work, films, and projects.

Out of Class Time Required: While the time required for this course varies according to the interest and ability of the student, a minimum of two to three hours per week is generally required.

Evaluation: Tests, quizzes, projects

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Title: *WORLD HISTORY*

Grade Level: 9

Credit: One

Length of Course:

One year

One semester of this course or World Cultures is required as part of the two units of Social Studies credit necessary for graduation.

Content: This course is a study of the organization, historical development, and current status of various civilizations in the world other than the United States. Study areas for the first semester include the examination of early prehistoric man, original root civilizations, and the Middle Ages. Second semester topics include the development of civilization in the Middle East, Africa, South America, Asia, the Renaissance and Reformation, Exploration, French Revolution, Industrialization, Imperialism, World War I, World War II, and the world today.

Activities: Lectures, large and small group discussions, simulation games, films, library assignments and projects. Projects include book reports, film and television reviews, readings, art projects and surveys.

Out of Class Time Required: Varies

Evaluation: Regular tests, quizzes, projects, and seminar discussions.

Title: ACCELERATED WORLD HISTORY

Grade Level: 9 Credit: One

Length of Course:

One year

This course is the most rigorous alternative within the World Studies requirement. It is designed for the motivated and capable student who wants or needs a full credit of World Studies.

Content: The study of social, political and geographic changes in the world other than the U.S. Study areas for 1st semester include Native American cultures, development of world religions, Middle East Renaissance, Reformation, Exploration and Scientific Revolution. Study areas for 2nd semester include Industrialization, Imperialism, World War I, Russian Revolution, World War II and the world today.

Activities: Lectures, large and small group discussions, simulation games, films, library assignments, projects and geography assignments.

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Title: STATISTICAL ANALYSIS IN CURRENT EVENTS

Grade Level: 10 Credit: One-half

Length of Course: One

Semester

Content: The skills taught will include the reading skills of inferring the main idea of passages, using context clues to determine the meaning of unknown words, identifying details that support the author's purpose or message, identifying cause-effect relationships, and drawing generalizations using details that support the main ideas of a passage. Math skills taught will include working with estimation, using geometric formulas for computing land mass, solving arithmetic problems that involve rates, proportions, and percentages, reading tables and graphs, translating information into a table, graph, or diagram, and determining probability. Technology skills will include word processing, internet searching and reliability, graphing data, online test prep, introduction to graphic information systems (GIS), and using the internet to access satellite technology.

Activities: Labs, discussion, online skills testing, reading, math, and writing.

Out of Class Time Required: One to two hours per week.

Evaluation: Tests, quizzes, participation in class, and projects.

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Title: ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit: One (weighted)

Length of

Course: One year

Content: The course is a survey of American History. Historical information is examined by means of an inquiry approach using the curriculum designated by Advanced Placement. Students may be granted college credit depending on the score they receive on the AP exam given in the spring and the policy of the university in which they enroll.

Activities: Will follow the recommendation of the Advanced Placement curriculum.

Out of Class Time Required: One to two hours per day is possible

Evaluation: Tests, quizzes, participation in class, and projects. It is recommended that the students take the Advanced Placement test for college credit at the end of this course.

Title: *UNITED STATES HISTORY*

Grade Level: 11

Credit: One

Length of Course: One

year

Content: The course is a survey of American History from the period of industrialization during the late 1800's to the present day. Historical information is presented in the "History Alive" curriculum which includes many student-centered activities that put students in historical situations. A major focus of the class is an effort to improve students' understanding of issues and the ability to think and reason critically.

Activities: Besides the above activities, slide lectures, group activities, discussions, and films are included.

Out of Class Time Required: Three to five hours a week will be the average.

Evaluation: All teachers use study guides for the readings, quizzes, tests, and cooperative group activities.

Title: *SOCIOLOGY*

Grade Level: 11, 12

Credit: One-half

Length of Course:

One semester

Prerequisite: One-half unit in World Cultures or World History

Content: The course examines social life and behavior especially in relation to social systems and how they are affected by the people who participate in them. Students enrolled in this course will participate in the systematic study of human group behavior and the actions of the individuals who make up those groups. Emphasis will be placed on the following topics: (1) fundamentals of sociology

(2) the nature of culture (3) conformity and deviance (4) roles, relationships and groups (5) the family (6) religion and education (7) government and economic systems (8) socialization (9) social movements and collective behavior (10) crime (11) social stratification and mobility.

Activities: Lecture-discussion, in/out class projects, small group assignments, individual reading/writing assignments, videos, experiments and simulations.

Out of Class Time Required: This will vary with the student's commitment and goals.

Evaluation: Grades are determined by student performance on tests, quizzes, experiments, projects, assignments, and class participation.

Title: GOVERNMENT

Grade Level: 12
One semester

Credit: One-half

Length of Course:

Content: In this course students investigate, evaluate, and employ the processes by which individuals participate in and influence government. Students also study the structure and function of the United States federal government and the government of the state of Illinois as preparation for the Constitution Test.

Activities: Students conduct research concerning public issues, present oral and written reports, use a decision making model to evaluate public issues, write legislation, and function as a classroom legislative body to accept or reject the proposed legislation. Students also function as legislators or concerned citizens who attempt to steer bills through a legislature composed of representatives of all government classes. A variety of activities including lectures, worksheets, group work, discussions, and debates are employed but active student participation in the political process is stressed.

Out of Class Time Required: While the time required for this course varies according to the interest and ability of the student, a minimum of three to five hours per week is generally required. Students are also required to attend two public meetings during the semester.

Evaluation: Research documents, position papers, quizzes, tests, and especially student participation.

Title: ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Grade Level: 12
one semester

Credit: One half (weighted)

Length of Course:

Content: The course is designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. The curriculum used is designated by Advanced Placement.

Students may be granted college credit depending on the score they receive on the AP exam given in the spring and the policy of the university in which they enroll.

Activities: Will follow the recommendation of the Advance Placement curriculum.

Out of class time required: One to two hours per day is possible.

Evaluation: Tests, quizzes, participation in class and projects. It is recommended that students take the Advanced Placement test for college credit at the end of this course.

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Title: ADVANCED PLACEMENT HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

GradeLevel: 10-12

Credit: One half (weighted)

Length of Course:

One year

Content: The course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. The curriculum used is designated by Advanced Placement. Students may be granted college credit depending on the score they receive on the AP exam given in the spring and the policy of the university in which they enroll.

Activities: Will follow the recommendation of the Advance Placement curriculum.

Out of class time required: One to two hours per day is possible.

Evaluation: Tests, quizzes, participation in class and projects. It is recommended that students take the Advanced Placement test for college credit at the end of this course.

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DUAL ENROLLED SOCIAL STUDIES

NOTE: Students are responsible for payment of tuition and purchase of textbooks.

Title: PSY 103 – INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY

Grade Level: 12

Credit: One-half

Length of Course:

One semester

Content: Psychology is the science of brain, mind and behavior. The introductory course considers the nature of personality including attitudes and beliefs, defensive and coping behavior. Also considered are the processes of learning, memory, thinking and the nature of intelligence and creativity. Attention is given to the psychological measurement of individual differences and to the nature of drives, motives and emotions.

Credit: 3 semester hours of college credit from Sauk Valley Community College.

