

SOCIAL STUDIES

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Length: One Semester

American Government focuses on explaining and analyzing the American system of government. Topics include the presidency, Congress, the Supreme Court and federal court system, civil rights and civil liberties, political parties, voting and voter behavior. Emphasis is placed on a deeper understanding of how our government functions today. Students are encouraged to think critically about our government and develop their own thoughts and opinions.

AMERICAN HISTORY 9 - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 9

Length: Two Semesters

American History 9 covers important concepts, people, and events that have affected the course of the United States from the 1870s to the present. *American History 9* is based on the philosophy that nothing happens in isolation. The history of a nation also includes its literature, art, music, and dance. Teachers incorporate group activities, simulations, and writing assignments to illustrate the relationships between the literature and periods of history. This class is required of all freshmen.

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grades: 11, 12

Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisite: A 3.0 cumulative grade point average

AP Government and Politics is a rigorous college-level class with a curriculum established by the College Board to prepare students for the advanced placement examination and potential college credit in United States Government and Politics. In this course students will “acquire knowledge of government and politics including (1) facts, concepts, theories, (2) political processes and their consequences, (3) analyses and interpretations of data relevant to US government and politics.”

AP U.S. HISTORY - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisite: 3.0 overall grade point average; 3.5 grade point minimum in all social studies classes; completed and approved application

AP U.S. History surveys American history from the founding of the republic to the present. Students are required to complete college-level reading and writing assignments so they need strong reading and writing skills as well as high motivation and interest in history. This course is designed primarily for students interested in obtaining college credits through the Advanced Placement Program. The expectation is that all students who take the course will take the College Board exam in May; however, the course will be open to all interested students who meet the prerequisites.

AP MACRO/MICROECONOMICS A&B - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grades: 11, 12

Length: Two Semesters

A.P. Economics is a college level, full year course designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of the principles of economics. A.P. Economics will emphasize the study of national income, economic performance measures, economic growth and international economics. The aim of A.P. Economics is to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in a typical college introductory level economics course. Topics reflect material included in both the AP Microeconomics and Macroeconomics Course Descriptions from The College Board. The course will be cover both areas of focus in order to best prepare students for the AP Micro and Macro exams in May. This course also fulfills the economics graduation requirement.

ECONOMICS - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Length: One Semester

Economics introduces both micro and macro economic concepts, including, but not limited to, supply and demand, scarcity, global alliances, different economic systems, forms of business, inflation, and gross domestic product.

HONORS HUMANITIES A & B: History, Literature, and Culture of Western Civilization - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 12 Length: Two Semesters – Select this course under the English course selections.

Honors Humanities is a two term, 2-hour blocked, interdisciplinary course. Humanities provides for a comprehensive study of Western civilization and culture, including history, literature, philosophy, art, and music. The course begins with Ancient Mesopotamia and continues through Ancient Greece, Rome, Medieval Europe and the Renaissance. This builds a foundation for the rest of the class, which follows Europe's history and culture through the Baroque, the Enlightenment and the 19th and 20th centuries. Students read and discuss classic literature by such authors as Homer, Sophocles, Virgil, Dante, Shakespeare, Voltaire, Swift, Wilde, Kafka, and Frankl, as well as various works of poetry, drama, and a contemporary novel. Class activities include lecture, discussion, analytical writing, film analysis, art, and drama, culminating in a personal philosophical project at the end of the year.

IB BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SL - NCAA APPROVED (for Social Studies)+GPA

Grades: 11 or 12

Length: Two Semesters

IB Business and Management is a dynamic discipline that examines business decision-making processes and how these decisions impact on and are affected by internal and external environments. The course is designed to develop an understanding of business theory, as well as an ability to apply business principles, practices and skills. The application of tools and techniques of analysis facilitates an appreciation of complex business activities. The course considers the diverse range of business organizations and activities and the cultural and economic context in which business operates. Emphasis is placed on strategic decision-making and the day-to-day business functions of marketing, production, human resource management and finance. Links between the topics are central to the course, and this integration promotes a holistic overview of business activity. It aims to help students understand the implications of business activity in a global market. This course can be taken as a group 3 IB course or as a senior level Math DHS course.

IB WORLD RELIGIONS SL - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grades: 11 or 12

Length: Two Semesters

IB World Religions SL course is a systematic, analytical yet empathetic study of the variety of beliefs and practices encountered in nine main religions of the world. The course seeks to promote an awareness of religious issues in the contemporary world by requiring the study of a diverse range of religions. The course consists of an introductory unit, exploring five of the nine living world religions that form the basis of the syllabus. This is complemented by an in-depth study of two religions chosen from six world religions. This course seeks to promote respect for the diversity of religious beliefs, both locally and globally, with the aim of enhancing international and inter-religious understanding. Students will be encouraged to look at contemporary national and international issues regarding religion and how these may impact on ethical and legal issues.

IB PSYCHOLOGY HL 1A & 1B - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grades: 11

Length: Two Semesters

IB Psychology HL 1A & 1B introduces students to a scientific and integrative examination of behavior and mental processes. Learning objectives will center around the modern levels of analysis approach (interactionist approach or biopsychosocial model), which allows students to explore the beneficial application psychological research has for humans and encourages them to appreciate the diverse methodology necessary to synthesize an intercultural understanding of psychology. Specifically, students will practice the ability to evaluate knowledge by exploring issues such as validity, reliability, credibility and certainty. Students will examine to what extent the methods of the natural sciences are applicable to human sciences while also designing, conducting and evaluating their own psychological research experiment. Additionally, the course will include two units of specialized study, Developmental Psychology and Abnormal Psychology. Our study of Developmental Psychology will require students to become knowledgeable about how people change throughout the lifespan in the way that they behave, think and relate to others. The Abnormal Psychology unit of study will discuss the historical and cultural complexities of classifying "abnormal" behavior and will introduce a range of psychological disorders with an emphasis of knowledge on etiology, diagnosis and treatment. In both units, students will be required to demonstrate thinking and writing skills throughout their evaluation of psychological phenomena. This course satisfies the requirement for a Group Three Course for the IB Diploma Programme.

IB PSYCHOLOGY HL 2A & 2B - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grade: 12

Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisite: [IB Psychology HL 1A & 1B](#)

IB Psychology HL 2A & 2B further exposes students to a scientific and integrative examination of behavior and mental processes. Learning objectives will center around the modern levels of analysis approach (interactionist approach or biopsychosocial model), which allows students to

explore the beneficial application psychological research has for humans and encourages them to appreciate the diverse methodology necessary to synthesize an intercultural understanding of psychology. Specifically, students will practice the ability to evaluate knowledge by exploring issues such as validity, reliability, credibility and certainty. Students will examine to what extent the methods of the natural sciences are applicable to human sciences while also designing, conducting and evaluating their own psychological research experiment. Additionally, the course will include two units of specialized study, Developmental Psychology and Abnormal Psychology. Our study of Developmental Psychology will require students to become knowledgeable about how people change throughout the lifespan in the way that they behave, think and relate to others. The Abnormal Psychology unit of study will discuss the historical and cultural complexities of classifying "abnormal" behavior and will introduce a range of psychological disorders with an emphasis of knowledge on etiology, diagnosis and treatment. In both units, students will be required to demonstrate thinking and writing skills throughout their evaluation of psychological phenomena. This course satisfies the requirement for a Group Three Course for the IB Diploma Programme.

IB 20th CENTURY WORLD HISTORY HL 1A & 1B : Rise and Fall of Communism and Authoritarian Regimes - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grade: 11

Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisites: [American History](#)

IB 20th Century World History HL 1A & 1B is a higher level, two-year class that centers on twentieth century events in Europe, Russia, and China. This course satisfies the requirement for a Group Three Course for the IB Diploma Programme. The primary focus is on communism and authoritarian regimes. In addition, an internal research project will be initiated the first year and completed in the second. Students will examine historical world events from an international perspective, attempting to understand how these events affected various world regions, and developing a deeper understanding of the impact of these events on the present.

[Requires Summer work.](#)

IB 20th CENTURY WORLD HISTORY HL 2A & 2B : Rise and Fall of Communism and Authoritarian Regimes - NCAA APPROVED+GPA

Grade: 12

Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisites: [IB 20th Century World History HL 1A & 1B](#)

IB 20th Century World History HL 2A & 2B is the second year of a two-year class that centers on twentieth century events in Europe, Russia, and China. This course satisfies the requirement for a Group Three Course for the IB Diploma Programme. The primary focus is on communism and authoritarian regimes. In addition, an internal research project will be initiated the first year and completed in the second. Students will examine historical world events from an international perspective, attempting to understand how these events affected various world regions, and developing a deeper understanding of the impact of these events on the present.

[Requires Summer work.](#)

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Length: One Semester

International Affairs focuses on major political, social, and environmental issues at both regional and global levels. This course is divided into the following units: Cultural Practices, Ethnic & Territorial Conflict, Nuclear Proliferation, Health and Welfare, Human Rights, and Globalization. The course is designed to prepare the student to investigate both the micro and macro relationships between regional and global issues. Students develop analytical skills to identify issues, conduct research, evaluate different types of resources, analyze current possible solutions to issues, create their own solutions, and explain the results of their research and solution to others.

PSYCHOLOGY - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 11, 12

Length: One Semester

Psychology is a survey course that introduces students to basic concepts, theories and contributions to how the human mind influences personal behavior. Past and current theories are explored. Topics include the nervous system and endocrine system, sensation and perception, learning and memory, developmental psychology, theories of motivation and clinical psychology. Course activities and assessments are designed to develop skills in analysis and evaluation through an exploration of psychological phenomena.

SOCIOLOGY - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Length: One Semester

Sociology introduces students to the scientific study of human society and social behavior. The course emphasizes that the groups to which people belong largely shape human behavior and the social interaction that takes place within those groups. Topics covered include an analysis of culture and its components, social structure and organization, socialization and social self, stratification and societies (gender, race and social class) and deviance theory. Course content and activities are designed to explore society's various institutions through the application of sociological concepts and perspectives.

U.S. HISTORY A & B - NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 11, 12

Length: Two Semesters

Prerequisite: [Instructor/counselor permission required](#)

U.S. History covers chronologically the important concepts, people, and events that have affected the course of the United States from the 1890s to the present. This serves as the credit recovery course for American History 9 A & B.

WORLD HISTORY A & B – NCAA APPROVED

Grades: 10, 11, 12

Length: Two Semesters

This course investigates global patterns and interactions over time through a survey of events and trends within a particular region. **World History A** requires students to explore the contributions geography and historical events have had on the creation of global networks of exchange and its resulting interdependence. **World History B** requires students to further analyze and evaluate global interdependence and how regions attempted to maintain or expand their autonomy. Course content aligns with Michigan High School Content Expectations for World History.