

SOCIAL SCIENCES

GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 9 & 10

Grades: 9 & 10

Credit: 1 credit each

Global History is a two-year course of study, which ends with a statewide Regents examination. All regular education students must pass this examination as part of their graduation requirements. The curriculum includes a chronological view of global history and includes area studies along with the development of world culture. Grade 9 will focus on the development of world history through the mid seventeenth century (approximately 1600). Grade 10 begins with the French revolutions and continues through contemporary problems and world events.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY

Grade 10-12

Prereq: Global History 9

Credit: 1

The Purpose of the AP World History course is to develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. This course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge deployed in conjunction with leading interpretive issues and types of historical evidence. Focused primarily on the past thousand years of the global experience, the course builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional, and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the human stage prior to 1000 C.E. Periodization, explicitly discussed, forms the organizing principal for dealing with change and continuity from that point to the present. Specific themes provide further organization to the course, along with the consistent attention to contacts among societies that form the core of world history as a field of study.

AMERICAN HISTORY 11

Grade: 11

Prereq: Global History 10R or AP World History

Credit: 1

The American studies course focuses on the history and politics of the United States. It stresses development and understanding of such concepts as the role of the presidency, problems of minority groups of the past and present, the relationship between big business, labor, the middle class and US policy in the Cold War and mass media. The goals include: to develop the ability to deal with varied circumstances on a rational and analytical level; to develop the full range of necessary skills -competence in writing, reading and verbal expression; ability to interact socially, and to develop in the student the ability to retain and configure information. This course completes with the state Regents or Regents Competency exam in US History.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT AMERICAN HISTORY

With ENGLISH 11 HONORS

Grade: 11

Prereq: 90 average in English & Global Studies 9 & 10 or approval of instructor

Credits: 2

****See description under the English Section.**

SOCIOLOGY

Grades: 11-12

Prereq: Global Studies 10

Credit: .5

The sociology course provides insight into societies and their social groups. It tries to expand upon the experiences that students have had with others. It teaches the relationships that are common to groups, races and cultures no matter where they are, whether in Africa or Asia, ten years ago or today. Sociology reveals the social forces

influencing individuals and groups in the school or the community. Sociology teaches many important political, psychological and economic principles.

PSYCHOLOGY

Grades: 11-12

Prereq: Global Studies 10

Credit: .5

Psychology is the study of human mind and human behavior. The course is intended to allow students to explore areas of interest as well as to introduce them to the fundamental concepts and vocabulary required at the college level. Topics that are covered are research methods, biopsychology, life span development, personality, psychological disorders and learning.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY

Grade: 11-12

Prereq: 85+ avg.in Soc. Sci. or Recommendation

Credit: 1

The purpose of the Advanced Placement course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior of the mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub fields within psychology. The students also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. A non-refundable fee is required for the AP exam.

ECONOMICS

Grade: 12

Prereq: American History 11

Credit: .5

The economics course provides a brief overview of the major topics in the science of economics. Students begin by studying the function of an economic system and comparing socialism and capitalism. From the field of microeconomics market mechanisms and legal business organizations are studied. Measuring the health of the United States' economy, fiscal policy, monetary policy and international trade are topics from macroeconomics.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT MICRO ECONOMICS ADVANCED PLACEMENT MACRO ECONOMICS

Grade: 12

Prereq: American History 11

Credit: 1

This course is an advanced course reviewing the college level material of macroeconomics and microeconomics. This course fulfills the twelfth grade social studies requirement. All students are required to pay a non-refundable fee to take both AP exams.

AP U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

Grade: 11-12

Prereq: Student has completed a course in U.S. History.

Credit: .5

AP U.S. Government and Politics will offer students the opportunity to develop analytical perspectives on government and politics in the United States, including both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. The course will also assist students in developing a familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. Additionally, students will become acquainted with a variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes in American political life.

The class will be conducted in a Seminar format, with students dictating and conducting a majority of the class discussion. Since this is an Independent Study course, we will meet every other day for the entire school year. Additionally, students will be required to complete reading and written assignments, and will be given periodic quizzes and tests, from which their quarterly grades will be computed. In the 4th quarter, (after the AP Exam) students will be required to complete a Final Project as their Final Exam grade for the class.

PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT

Grade: 12

Prereq: American History 11

Credit: .5

This is a required senior social studies course. Special emphasis is given to public policy and public policy issues on a national, state and local scale. Additional areas revolve around the US Constitution and citizens civil liberties. A variety of alternative assessments are used. It is also through this course that the senior community service requirement will be monitored and discussed.

GOVERNMENT internships are available through Albany County Legislative Internship Programs sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension. See Guidance for applications.