

PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Social Science Required and Elective
Courses Offered by grade level

RECOMMENDED 9TH GRADE ELECTIVES

Highly recommended to lay a
foundation for success in required
social studies courses

GEOGRAPHY

Mr. Leander

Semester Elective Course

Open to all grades – great foundational
course for 9th grade social studies

UC Approved Elective

This course would be a great companion
course to required Social Studies courses.

Paired with World Religions

Human Geography

- Prepare a foundation for success in 10th, 11th, and 12th grade – but open to all grades
- Globalization
 - A big world that is getting smaller
- Critical thinking
 - Read and analyze text, maps, etc
 - Writing skills, speaking skills, team work
- End result: Put students on the road to becoming well informed citizens

COMPARATIVE WORLD RELIGIONS (1569)

Semester Elective Course

Open to all grade levels

Excellent companion course to Social Science
course work

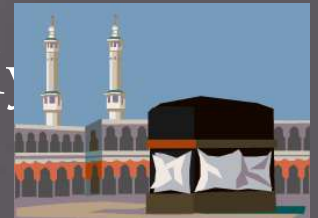
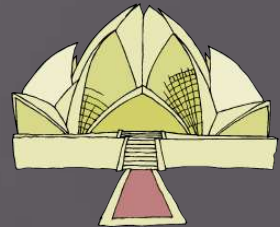
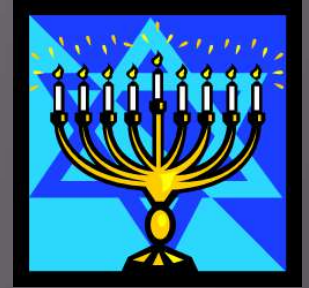
UC approved elective

College Prep

Paired with Geography

Comparative World Religions

- Comparative World Religions is a UC approved semester long elective which is recommended as a great foundation for the study of World History as a sophomore.
- The course will focus on a variety of religions around the world;
 - Middle East (Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Christianity, Islam,) India (Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Sikhism)
 - East Asia (Taoism, Confucianism, Shinto).
- Study will begin with a look at;
 - the foundations of these religions
 - developments that led to variations that have occurred over time
 - conclude with modern issues facing these faiths today.
- Special emphasis will be place on using Holy Texts as source documents to analyze each faith.



AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Mr. Pat Nevens

Common 9th Grade Elective

Highly recommended for IB and AP students

Year long AP Course

Is open to all grade levels

AP Human Geography

What is it?

An intensive study of world cultures from a geographic point -of -view

What topics are covered?

Culture , Population, Economics, Agriculture, Development,
Cities, Religions, Language, Immigration, Ethnicity, Politics

What do we do?

Read – text, primary source documents, maps, and graphs to reveal true knowledge

Write... often! And hone the skills necessary to be successful in academics

Think Critically ... about complex issues and seek true knowledge

Build skills ... essential for students to be successful in grades 10 through 12 and beyond

Why Students Should Take AP Human Geography?

Essential preparation for all other AP and IB courses

Weighted GPA

College Credit*

Helps students become well informed

10TH-12TH REQUIRED COURSES

Regular and AP options for required
courses

WORLD HISTORY

Mr. Kerry Leander, Mr. John Santone,
Mr. Dane Benham, Mr. Jakob Thomas,
Mr. Scott Foster

Graduation requirement
Sophomore level course
College Prep

10TH GRADE WORLD HISTORY

Why! We want to produce involved and productive citizens in an ever changing global community.

What! Age of Revolutions, Industrial Age and Imperialism, the World Wars and the Cold War

Way! Note Taking & Critical Thinking Skills such as Synthesizing Info, Analyzing Documents, Seeing Cause & Effect, Recognizing Change Over Time, & Drawing Conclusions

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

Mr. Dane Benham

- AP course recommended for sophomores
- **Students are strongly encouraged to take AP Human Geography OR Geography/Comparative World Religions as freshmen**
- Fulfills World History Graduation Requirement

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

Renaissance

■ Kings and Queens

■ Versailles

■ Enlightenment/Explorers

■ French Revolution/Napoleon

■ Industrial Revolution

■ Unification of Italy and Germany

■ WWI

■ The Great Depression

■ WWII/Cold War

■ Fall of Communism

■ build on prior academic success/interest in social studies

■ college credits can be earned- there is RIGOR!!!! Prepping for the exam in May....this is more intense studying than the other grade level courses...

■ Reading skills, study skills help student achievement, and students will also grow in these areas

■ must learn how to not only read, but apply what they have read

■ budget study/reading time

■ writing of historical essays needs facts to support claims, thus reading/studying is important..

AP WORLD HISTORY

Mr. Scott Foster, Mr. Scott Husband

- AP course recommended for sophomores
- **Students are strongly encouraged to take AP Human Geography OR Geography/Comparative World Religions as freshmen**
- Fulfills World History Graduation Requirement

AP World History

- AP World History is a weighted UC/CSU approved college level course which focuses on the history of the world outside the west.
- Students may earn college credit if they pass the AP test in May.
- The course will focus on a variety of regions;

- Middle East
- India
- East Asia
- Africa
- Latin America

- Study will focus on;
 - Comparing different cultures
 - Analyzing changes that occurred over time
 - Use source documents to understand history

- It is *highly recommended* that students take either **AP Human Geography** or regular **Geography** combined with **Comparative World Religions** to be prepared for this course.



U.S. HISTORY

Ms. Christie Pollero, Mr. Jakob
Thomas, Mr. Ray Fisher, Mrs. Stacey
Moore, Mr. Dylan Scharf

US History

- Graduation requirement
- Junior level course
- College Prep survey course with an emphasis on US History following the Civil War to the present.
- While being a general survey course, the hope is that students will have a well grounded knowledge of the twentieth century enriched by analysis of key periods and movements as well as connections to the 21st century.

A.P. U.S. HISTORY

Mr. Dylan Scharf
Mr. John Santone

AP US History

- Students are strongly encouraged to take AP European OR AP World History
- If they take regular World History and earn an A, this course will still be tough.
- It is demanding. They will grow through the struggle and learn some history.
- Fulfills US History Graduation Requirement

IB HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS HL

Mrs. Stacey Moore – Year 1

Mrs. Diana Arban – Year 2

2 Year Program – 11th and 12th Grade
Fulfills US History, Government and Economics
graduation requirements

Students are strongly recommended to have taken AP
Human Geography and either AP World History or AP
European History prior to this 2 year course

IB History HL – Year 1

- In depth US History Focus, along with Canada and Latin American history
 - Revolutions in the US and Latin America
 - US Civil War
 - Emergence of the Americas in Global Affairs
 - The Great Depression in the US and Canada
 - Civil Rights and Protest in the US and Latin America
- Alternative Perspectives/Historiography
- Reading, Writing, Discussions, Writing, Writing, Writing
- Internal Exam – research paper on topic of choice
- May choose to take the AP US exam in the Spring, but not part of the course
- IB Exam will be at the end of HL Year 2

IB History HL – Year 2

- In-depth study of a handful of topics
 - Authoritarian Regimes
 - Cuban Revolution
 - Apartheid in South Africa
 - Cold War
 - 1980s-2000s - US Foreign Policy
- Discussion, Socratic seminars, critical thinking, essay writing, essay writing, and more essay writing
- IB External exams in May – 6 essays

GOVERNMENT

Mr. Scott Husband, Mr. Brian Navarro

GOVERNMENT

Graduation requirement

Senior level course

This course covers the foundation of our constitutional republic as well as the core rights and responsibilities of citizens.

Student will study the constitution, Supreme Court cases that have clarified that document, and the structure and working of local, state, and national government

ECONOMICS

Mr. Robbie Robinson, Mr. Ray Fisher

ECONOMICS

Graduation requirement

Senior level course

This course is a general survey with a bit of micro economics, mixed with some macro economics topped off with practical applications of principles of economics. Practical, daily economics is the central theme of this course.

AP GOVERNMENT

Mrs. Arban and Mr. Nevens

- AP course recommended for seniors
- Students are strongly encouraged to take AP social science course work prior to enrolling
- Fulfills Government and Economics (part of this year long course) Graduation Requirement

AP Government

- 12th grade only
- Discussion of American politics and government
- Lots of discussion, questioning, debate, role-playing, and of course....reading, note-taking, and studying ☺
- College level course...it is A.P.
- Satisfies your economics requirement (2nd semester)

SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Offered to all grade levels, but
recommended for 10th-12th

SOCIOLOGY

Mr. Robbie Robinson

Sociology

- Semester Elective / Meets A-G UC Credit
- Paired with Psychology
- The Class is for open to all grade levels
- Discussion Based / Current Issues
- Topics Include
 - What is Sociology?, Culture
 - Socialization, Social Structure
 - Societies, Collective Behavior, Bureaucracy
 - Deviance, Gender, Race and Ethnicity

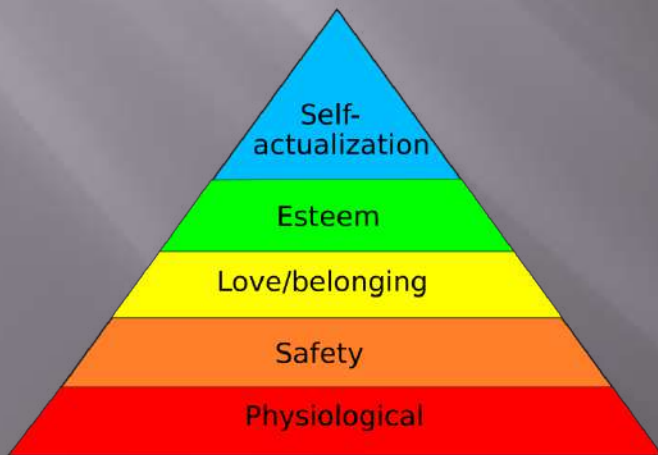
GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

Mr. Kerry Leander

General Psychology



- Semester elective.
- A-G: meets UC, State school guidelines
- Will be taken with Sociology (a semester elective)
- Covers basic concepts of psychology
- Open to all grade levels



A.P. ART HISTORY

Mr. Stephen Secules



Art History

- Receive up to 2 semesters of college credit.
- Fulfills the 1-year VAPA requirement for graduation



Students learn valuable critical thinking and observational skills



A.P. PSYCHOLOGY

Mr. Evan Moore, Mr. Stephen Secules

AP PSYCHOLOGY

- Elective course open to all grade levels
- AP course work in the Social Sciences is highly recommended
 - UC approved elective
 - Year course
 - Weighted grade
- In depth study of psychology

IB SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Open to all students in
11th and 12th grade

IB PSYCHOLOGY

Mr. Evan Moore

IB Psychology HL

- 12th grade
 - HL testing for IB is limited to 12th grade only
- Second year Psychology course following a year of AP Psychology (prerequisite)
- More in-depth focus on psychological research and critical exploration of psychological concepts and theories

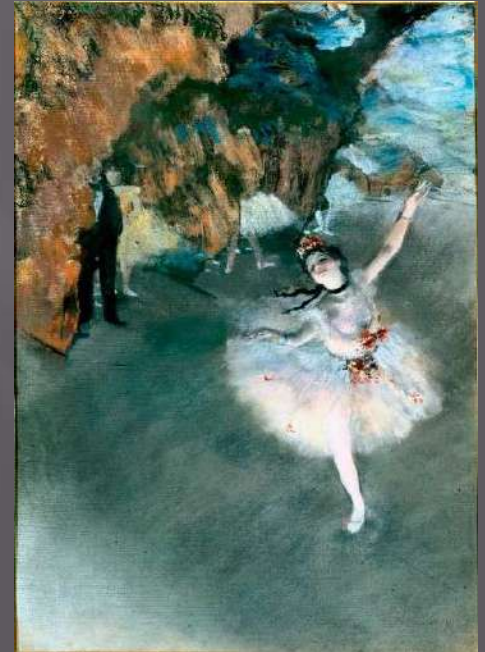
IB ART HISTORY

Mr. Secules



IB Art History

- Same as the AP course and taught together.
- Open to 11th and 12th grade only as part of the IB Diploma Programme.
- Counts as VAPA for graduation and History for IB Diploma.



IB WORLD RELIGIONS (IB 1568)

Mr. Secules

IB World Religions (IB 1568)



- IB World Religions is a year long SL weighted course open to juniors and seniors
- It meets the requirement for Group 3 (Individuals and Societies) of the IB Diploma Program
- A student does not have to be part of the Diploma program to take the course
- The course will focus on 9 religions from around the world:
 - Group 1: Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism
 - Group 2: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
 - Group 3: Baha'i, Taoism, and Jainism
 - Students are also required to do a short research paper (1500-1800 words) on a religious topic of their choice.
- Study will focus on 5 key themes:
 - Rituals, sacred texts, doctrines and beliefs,

