

Social Studies 12 Syllabus

Course: Social Studies 12

Instructor: Ms. Buezis

Period(s): 2,6, and 7

Course Length: Year

School Year: 2023-2024

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Room: 26

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Course Description: In Social Studies 12 students will spend the year learning about Government, Economics, and World Geography in that order. While studying government students will be learning about the structures and functions of the US and Minnesota government as well as elections and civic rights and responsibilities. While studying Economics, students will learn about and apply the principles of Micro and Macro Economics and personal finance. While studying World Geography students will study the physical, cultural, political, and economic geography of the world while learning the skills utilized by geographers to research the world

Course Objectives:

- Students will understand and analyze the democratic values, documents, and institutions that form the basis of the US and Minnesota governments such as the US Constitution and Branches of Government
- Students will learn about and practice civic skills, responsibilities, and rights given to US citizens
- Students will study and analyze the policy making practices of governments and citizens
- Students will examine and practice budgeting, investing, and other personal finance skills and tools
- Students will understand and practice the microeconomics principles of consumer and producer decision making and resource allocation
- Students will analyze and practice using in context the macroeconomic concepts of employment, inflation, economic growth, and globalization
- Students will be able to know and use tools of geographic spatial analysis such as maps and charts
- Students will study the cultural, political, and physical geography of the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania

Assignments: Students will complete various assignments including projects, readings, participation in class discussions/debates. Make-up work MUST be made up within TWO (2) days of the absence. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO GATHER AND COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS MISSING. Test dates will be determined by the progression of the class.

Attendance: See Student/Parent Handbook for attendance policies. Attendance for the class is required.

Grading Percentages:

A: 94% and Above	C: 74-76%
A-: 90-93%	C-: 70-73%
B+: 87-89%	D+: 67-69%
B: 84-86%	D: 64-66%
B-: 80-83%	D-: 60-63%
C+: 77-79%	F (No Credit): 0-59%

Quarter Grading: Will be based on a combination of tests, homework, projects, and participation.

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- 75% - Summative Assessments (ex. chapter/unit tests, quizzes, projects, presentations, etc.)
- 25% - Formative Assessments (ex. Study guides, worksheets, daily checks on learning, etc.)

Semester Grading: Will be based on a combination of the two quarters and the semester final.

- 45% - Quarter 1 Grade
- 45% - Quarter 2 Grade
- 10% Semester Final Exam

General Classroom Rules:

- Cell phones will be stored in the cell phone pocket holder during the class period unless specified by the teacher for instructional purposes only.
- Computers will be used only for education purposes at designated times
- Arrive to class prepared and on time.
- Keep the room clean.
- Always show RESPECT to classmates, staff, substitutes, guests, and all property belonging to the school and your peers.

Course Outline: Social Studies 12

Unit 1- Government Foundations and Structures

- Founding Documents and the Constitution
- Checks and Balances of the Branches of the US Government
- Legislative Branch
- Executive Branch
- Judicial Branch

Unit 2- Civic Participation and Elections

- How elections run
- How voters act
- Understanding current issues

Unit 3- Civil Rights and the US Government

- The Bill of Rights
- Supreme Court Cases

Unit 4- State, Local, and Tribal Governments

- Structure and history of the Minnesota State government
- Role of local governments
- History of tribal governments and how they work with the state and federal governments

Unit 5- Economics Basics

- What is Economics?
- Economics Vocabulary
- Economic Systems

Unit 6- Microeconomics

- Supply and Demand
- Prices and Consumer actions
- Market Structures

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Unit 7- Macroeconomics

- GDP and other measure of economic output
- Unemployment
- Inflation

Unit 8- Personal Finance

- Budgeting
- Investing

Unit 9- Geography Basics

- 5 themes of Geography
- Approaches to studying geography
- Tools to study geography

Unit 10- Physical Geography

- Physical structures of the earth
- Vegetation and climates
- Weather patterns

Unit 11- Cultural Geography

- Elements of culture
- Cultural differences around the world

Unit 12- Political and Economic Geography

- Different types of governments around world
- Intergovernmental organizations
- How governments interact with each other

Syllabus is subject to change without advanced warning. All changes will be noted in class.