

## HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES

### GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

Thirty units of History/Social Studies are required, to include:

- I. Ten (10) credits of World History
- II. Ten (10) credits of US History
- III. Ten (10) credits of Government/Economics

Social Studies courses will prepare students to identify, understand, and work to solve the challenges facing our diverse nation in an increasingly interdependent world. Education for citizenship will help students acquire and learn to use the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that will prepare them to be competent and responsible citizens for life. Competent and responsible citizens are informed, thoughtful, involved politically, participate in their communities and exhibit moral and civic virtue.

### WORLD HISTORY: Culture & Geography, the Modern World

GRADE LEVEL: 10

PREREQUISITES: 10th grade status

CONTENT: Study of major turning points that shaped the modern world, from the late eighteenth century through the present, including the cause and course of the two world wars. Students trace the rise of democratic ideas and develop an understanding of the historical roots of current world issues, especially as they pertain to international relations. Students learn from the American experience that democratic ideals are often achieved at a high price, remain vulnerable, and are not practiced everywhere in the world. Students develop an understanding of current world issues and relate them to their historical, geographic, political, economic, and cultural contexts. Students consider multiple accounts of events in order to understand international relations from a variety of perspectives. **Satisfies the UC/CSU area "a" History requirement.\*\***

### AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 10

PREREQUISITES: Cumulative grade point average of 3.50; demonstrated ability to write comprehensive essays; recommendation by instructor.

CONTENT: This year-long course is designed to provide an in-depth study of the political, economic, religious, social, intellectual, artistic and ethnic development of

Western Civilization from the Renaissance period to present day. Examination of the role of developmental democracy is emphasized. European History students are expected to research, write or construct, and present two major projects during the school year that highlight modern applications of historical principles. In addition, these history students read and report on current events and analyze the impact of history on current world affairs. Readings from sources other than the text are required to enrich the history experience. Each semester ends with a major examination of topics presented throughout the course. **Students are expected to complete a summer project and take the AP Exam in Euro History. Satisfies the UC/CSU area "a" History requirement.\*\***

### U.S. HISTORY & Geography: Continuity and Change in the Twentieth Century

GRADE LEVEL: 11

PREREQUISITES: 11th grade status

CONTENT: Study of the major turning points in American history in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Following a review of the nation's beginnings and the impact of the Enlightenment on U.S. democratic ideals, students build upon the tenth grade study of global industrialization to understand the emergence and impact of new technology and a corporate economy, including the social and cultural effects. They trace the change in the ethnic composition of American society, the movement toward equal rights for racial minorities and women, and the role of the United States as a major world power. Students understand that our rights under the U.S. Constitution are a precious inheritance that depends on an educated citizenry for their preservation and protection. **Satisfies the UC/CSU area "a" History requirement.\*\***

### AP U.S. HISTORY

GRADE LEVEL: 11

PREREQUISITES: Teacher recommendation, 3.7 GPA or higher strongly recommended. Completion of summer reading and project upon the first day of the new school year is required.

CONTENT: This course is taught at a college level with extensive reading and research. The objective of this year-long course is to increase the student's understanding of United States history from the pre-colonial period to the present with the goal of having each student pass the AP Examination. The areas of concentration include historical, political and economic history coupled with an intense study of culture and

intellectual institutions and their development. **Students are expected to complete a summer project and take the AP Exam in U.S. History. Satisfies the UC/CSU area “a” History requirement.\*\***

**Principles of American Democracy and Economics :**  
**American Government & Economics**

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PREREQUISITES: 12<sup>th</sup> grade status

CONTENT: Students will pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American government. They compare systems of government in the world today and analyze the history and changing interpretations of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the current state of the legislative, executive, and judiciary branches of government. An emphasis is placed on analyzing the relationship among federal, state, and local governments, with particular attention paid to important historical documents such as the *Federalist Papers*. These standards represent the culmination of civic literacy as students prepare to vote, participate in community activities, and assume the responsibilities of citizenship. In addition to studying government in grade twelve, students will also master fundamental economic concepts, applying the tools (graphs, statistics, equations) from other subject areas to the understanding of operations and institutions of economic systems. Studied in a historic context are the basic economic principles of micro- and macroeconomics, international economics, comparative economic systems, measurement, and methods.

***American Government* satisfies the UC/CSU area “a” History requirement.\*\***

***Economics* satisfies the UC/CSU area “g” Elective requirement.\*\***

**AP AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS:**

GRADE LEVEL: 12

PREREQUISITES: Minimum grade B in US History and current instructor’s recommendation. Completion of summer reading and project upon the first day of the new school year is required.

CONTENT: The Advanced Placement course in United States Government and Politics is designed to give students a critical perspective on politics and government. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret United States politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up the American political reality.

**Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Examination. AP American Government satisfies the UC/CSU area “a” History requirement.\*\***

**\*\*These College Prep Social Studies courses must be passed with a grade of “C” or better to satisfy the UC/CSU “a” Social Studies requirement.**