

The goals of the Social Studies Department in High School District 211 are:

1. To give students a broad understanding of the development of our institutions and social environment so that they may better adjust to rapidly changing conditions;
2. To prepare students for their opportunities and responsibilities in society by fostering an appreciation of contemporary problems through discussion of current issues and their historical background;
3. To foster attitudes of critical and impartial judgment, tolerance, and open-mindedness;
4. To develop skill in obtaining information pertinent to social issues, in organizing materials, and in communicating ideas.

A major in social studies is recommended for a student who is preparing for law, government service, diplomatic service, social work, teaching of social studies, journalism, psychology, foreign trade, or business. United States History is a state-required course taken in the junior year. A second unit of Social Studies is required for graduation. It can be Social Science Survey, Introduction to Government/Economics, or Advanced Placement Macroeconomics/Advanced Placement American Government and Politics. A 20-hour community service experience is included in all regular education Social Studies senior-level courses.

G143 World Geography

World Geography is designed to combine a survey of geographic principles pertaining to the physical, economic, and political aspects of the world with an application of these principles to the major continents. Approximately one-third of the year will be devoted to geographical concepts. The remainder of the year will include area studies of North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

G146 World History

World History is a survey of western and non-western civilizations. Students will trace the development of nations and learn of the political, economic, intellectual, and social advances of humanity. The course emphasizes the learning of skills that will be helpful in all areas of study.

LEVEL: 1,2,3,4

One year

One unit

G161 Global Studies

This course provides a unique integration of culture, history, economics, government, and geography as its framework. The goal is to have the students critically think about making connections, developing solutions, and understanding cultures. In each of the units, the students will learn active strategies for learning in the areas of reading; note-taking; analyzing maps, charts, and graphs; discussion and listening skills; writing and technology skills.

LEVEL: 1,2

One year

One unit

G216 Multicultural Perspectives

Multicultural Perspectives is designed to increase cultural awareness and to prepare students to thrive in a diverse society. Through the examination of prejudice, self-esteem, cultural similarities and differences, students will be more prepared to function constructively in multicultural settings.

LEVEL: 2,3,4

One-half year

One-half unit

G236 Women's Studies

This course will enhance understanding of the topics and issues of women in contemporary society. It will provide students with a perspective on the role of women in American History, the labor force, education, politics and the law, the family, and research in health care. The various approaches to activism on behalf of women will be investigated so that students will be aware of many perspectives and solutions to the challenges facing women in today's society.

LEVEL 2, 3, 4

One-half year

One-half credit

G300 United States History (Palatine and Hoffman Estates High Schools Only)

In this course, students gain an understanding of our country's history. Federal, state, and local government interrelationships and their impact on daily life are examined. In addition, the role and responsibilities of U.S. citizenship are stressed.

PREREQUISITE: Placement through staff conference recommendation

LEVEL: 3

One year

One unit

G316 Introduction to Criminal Justice

The course is designed to acquaint students with the field of Criminal Justice. Students are introduced to the need for law enforcement in society; legal aspects of law enforcement, including basic principles of arrest, burden of proof, evaluation of evidence, and court/trial procedure. Students also receive an overview of the basic principles of police administration and government. Students and their parents should be aware that some of the content of this course contains graphic displays and language in keeping with simulations of actual field experiences.

Upon successful completion students will earn one-half unit of high school credit and three college credits. This course is offered on the Harper College campus and transportation is provided.

LEVEL: 4

One-half year

One-half unit

G330 United States History (Hoffman Estates High School Only)

This course is designed for students with significant communication deficits. Students are introduced to the major events of American History from exploration to the present. Student explore modern problems.

PREREQUISITE: Placement through staff conference recommendation

LEVEL: 1,2

One year

One unit

G331 American Studies — History

This course combines the study of United States History and American Literature and fulfills the requirements for the third-year United States History. This class is team taught by teachers from the Social Studies Department and English Department. Students should be enrolled concurrently in E331 and G331.

PREREQUISITE: E201 English

LEVEL: 3

One year

One unit

G336 American Studies — History

American Studies offers the student an opportunity to examine the question, “What is an American?” By studying America’s history, literature, music, art, and architecture, the student can discover what makes him or her special as an American. This course combines a chronological or thematic study of United States history and American literature and fulfills the requirements for junior English and United States History. The class meets two consecutive periods a day and is team-taught by teachers from Social Studies and English. Students must be enrolled concurrently in E336 and G336.

PREREQUISITE: E202 English 2 or E208 English 2

LEVEL: 3

One year

One unit

G339 Advanced Placement World History

This course presents a global history from the earliest times to the present. Balanced coverage is offered of Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Europe. Broad themes are explored such as trade, migrations, technology, the spread of religions, disease, war, political organization, gender, and social structure. The course explains how the world has generally become more interdependent.

PREREQUISITE: Department recommendation

LEVEL: 2,3,4

One year

One unit

G341 United States History

This course emphasizes objectives and study projects covering the history of our nation from exploration to the present.

LEVEL: 3

One year

One unit

G342 United States History

The survey course covers the history of our nation from exploration to the present day.

LEVEL: 3

One year

One unit

G343 Psychology 1

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior. The course is designed to help students view their behavior more objectively by studying important topics and principles in psychology. Topics include learning, the brain, personality, emotions, child development, perception, and methods of research and learning.

LEVEL: 3,4

One-half year

One-half unit

G349 Advanced Placement Human Geography

Human Geography is designed to further enhance the understanding of issues and concerns that exist between human beings and their environment. The course provides an additional framework of perspectives on multiculturalism, ethnic-racial-religious conflict, the impact of population on resources, global economics, land-use and the politics of a global community.

LEVEL: 2,3,4

One year

One unit

G353 Psychology 2

This course is similar in design to G343 Psychology 1, but offers the student a more in-depth study of psychology. Topics may include states of consciousness (dreaming, hypnosis), values and attitudes, child development, death and dying, abnormal psychology, clinical psychology, social psychology, and family systems.

PREREQUISITE: G343 Psychology 1 (A,B,C)

LEVEL: 3,4

One-half year

One-half unit

G359 Advanced Placement European History

This elective course is an introductory-level college humanities course that prepares students for the Advanced Placement European History Test. The course examines the cultural, economic, social and political history of Europe from 1450 to the present. The curriculum is also designed to further develop the student’s inquiry and analytical skills through reading, writing, discussions, and a variety of class activities. The mastery of these skills provide an excellent foundation for college and will enable students to explore other areas of interest throughout their lives.

PREREQUISITE: Department recommendation

LEVEL: 2, 3,4

One year

One unit

G365 Law and the Individual

Students in this class learn about the rights and obligations of citizenship, the historical development of our system of law, our court structure and procedure, and substantive criminal law. A primary purpose of class exercises is for each student to develop the ability to think clearly by recognizing the value conflicts present in the law.

LEVEL: 3,4

One-half year

One-half year

G369 Advanced Placement United States History

This is a survey course offered for students of above-average ability and interest. The material used and teaching style employed are at the college level. The students are encouraged to take the Advanced Placement Test.

PREREQUISITE: E208 English 2 or department recommendation

LEVEL: 2,3

One year

One unit

G370 United States History

This is a general survey course in United States History. It combines an overview of colonial development, westward expansion, urban development, and foreign affairs. Attention also is given to building skills in geography.

PREREQUISITE: Placement through staff conference recommendation

LEVEL: 3

One year

One unit

G379 Advanced Placement Psychology

The aim of Advanced Placement Psychology is to further enhance the understanding of the systematic and scientific study of human and animal behavior and mental processes. The focus is on writing, analysis and test preparation for the A.P. exam. Students will learn psychological principles which mirror an entry level college course using higher level thinking skills, application, reading comprehension and test preparation.

PREREQUISITE: Previous AP experience or '08 English or department recommendation

LEVEL: 3,4

One year

One unit

G400 Social Science Survey (Palatine and Hoffman Estates High Schools Only)

Students examine issues that affect their daily lives. Topics covered include family, peer groups, dating, marriage, prejudice, law, and personal decision-making. In addition, students gain an understanding of the responsibilities demanded by the school, the community, and state and federal governments.

PREREQUISITE: Placement through staff conference recommendation

LEVEL: 4

One year

One unit

G417 Introduction to Corrections

This course allows students continued study in the field of Criminal Justice. Topics include: Correctional Ideologies, the Processing of Criminal Offenders, Imprisonment, Capital Punishment, Probation, Parole, and Detention Facilities.

Upon successful completion, students will earn one half unit of high school credit and three college credits and continue work toward a degree in Law Enforcement. This course is offered on the Harper College campus and transportation is provided.

PREREQUISITE: Completion of G316 Introduction to Criminal Justice with a B or higher and instructor approval

LEVEL: 4

One-half year

One-half unit

G430 Social Science Survey (Hoffman Estates High School Only)

This course is designed for students with significant communication deficits. The class emphasizes the student's role as a citizen. Topics covered include: government, social systems, cultural awareness and diversity, map skills, and decision-making skills.

PREREQUISITE: Placement through staff conference recommendation

LEVEL: 1,2

One year

One unit

G441 Social Science Survey

The objectives and content of this course focus on the study of four major social disciplines: anthropology, economics, political science, and sociology.

LEVEL: 4

One year

One unit

G442 Social Science Survey

Social Science Survey is designed to introduce students to the methodology of social studies and to major principles and concepts of the following social studies disciplines: anthropology, economics, political science, and sociology. Class activities are planned to teach students about such topics as other cultures, our economic system and other economic systems, politics in America and other political systems, and the social structure of human societies.

LEVEL: 4

One year

One unit

G446 Community Service

This elective course allows students to explore volunteer service with a community agency beyond the 20-hour requirement in senior Social Studies classes. Students would be required to complete 75 hours of service with an approved community agency outside of the regular school day. Students will keep a timecard documenting service time and a short paper is required explaining the significance of the experience. Grading is pass/fail.

LEVEL: 3,4

one-half year

one-half unit

G462 Introduction to Economics

This course is one semester in length, and must be taken with G472 Introduction to Government to meet the senior social studies graduation requirement.

The goal of the course is to develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand both the American market economy and the larger global economic system. Students will learn what economic choices are being made for the nation and how to make personal economic decisions.

Topics will include basic concepts of our market economy, the role of the federal government, the business cycle, a comparative study of capitalism and socialism, international trade, and a number of contemporary economic issues ranging from poverty to the deficit. Throughout the course critical thinking skills will be emphasized.

LEVEL: 4

One-half year

One-half unit

G466 Introduction to Government/Economics

This is a full-year course combining G462 Introduction to Economics with G472 Introduction to Government.

LEVEL: 4

One year

One unit

G469 Advanced Placement Macroeconomics

This course is one semester in length, offered to students of above-average ability. Students would be expected, but not required, to take the College Board Advanced Placement test in Macroeconomics in the spring.

This course gives students a thorough understanding of the basic principles of a market economy. Students learn about national income and price determination and become familiar with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics.

PREREQUISITE: G369 United States History (A,B) or department recommendation

LEVEL: 3,4

One half-year

One-half unit

G470 Social Science Survey

This course includes units that examine the various social studies disciplines: anthropology, sociology, political science, and economics. An understanding of our American culture and its political, economic, and social systems is developed. Other cultures and their value systems also are explored. Communication and critical thinking skills are emphasized.

PREREQUISITE: Placement through staff conference recommendation

LEVEL: 4

One year

One unit

G472 Introduction to Government

This course is one semester in length, and must be taken with G462 Economics to meet the senior social studies graduation requirement.

The goal of the course is to develop the knowledge, skills, and ideals needed to understand government at the local, state, national, and global levels. Emphasis is placed on political participation and individual responsibilities.

Political change has swept the world, with once totalitarian regimes struggling to embrace democracy. The promise of America's future and interdependence of our global community heighten the demand for students to become aware of and involved with the political process. What is the nature of American government? How has it succeeded, and how might it be improved? Can democracy confront the challenges of our third century? This course endeavors to answer these questions.

LEVEL: 4

One-half year

One-half unit

G479 Advanced Placement American Government and Politics

This course is one semester in length, offered to students of above average ability. Students taking G469 Advanced Placement Economics are recommended to take this course as well. Students would be expected, but not required, to take the College Board Advanced Placement test in American Government and Politics in May.

This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. Students would become familiar with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that comprise the realities of American politics. It involves having students learn basic political principles and develop essential democratic skills.

PREREQUISITE: G369 United States History (A,B) or department recommendation

LEVEL: 3,4

One half-year

One half-unit