

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Social Studies courses have at their core the teaching that our world belongs to God; it always has and always will. As they study the people, the histories, and the cultures in God's world, students need to understand what discernment is and what a vital role it plays in understanding their kingdom role as "salt and light" in this world.

857 Economics

One Semester

Grade 10-12

Economics is an active and experiential engagement between the individual and the world. Our economy is shifting from a traditional industrial base to an information and service base. Individuals will have a number of jobs in the course of their careers, and those jobs are continually redefined by rapidly advancing technology and changes in the norms that define the culture of the workplace. Successful inhabitants in such a world must make sense of large and shifting bases of information, work effectively in teams, and truly understand and value groups with backgrounds different from their own.

838 Family Living

One Semester

Grade 12

This course involves a study of oneself, adolescence, relationships, dating, engagement, marriage, parenting, and family finances from a Christian perspective. This course is considered a preparation course for marriage and family life. Emphasis is placed on the importance of a stable Christian home. One optional project is the Baby Think It Over computer baby. The Connections curriculum is incorporated into the course. Students will work with a partner on topics of family, personality, relationships, communication and finances. Other curriculums used are "How to Avoid Marrying A Jerk" and the "High School Financial Planning Program" from the National Endowment for Financial Education.

832 Psychology

One Semester

Grades 11 & 12

This is offered as an elective for those who are interested in the study of the mind and human behavior. The different schools of thought are explored with particular attention paid to personality and learning theories. Both wholesome and troubled personality are examined.

834 Social Problems

One Semester

Grades 11 & 12

This course covers problems and trends of American society. The problems most frequently studied are hunger, death and dying (including abortion, euthanasia, suicide, etc.), crime, violence, population, and trends in American society. Much reading is done from books and current literature. One project that involves research and presentation of a social problem is required.

837 Sociology

One Semester

Grades 11 & 12

This course introduces the student to the structure and organization of contemporary society. The student is introduced to methods used by sociologists and generally covers a variety of sociological concepts such as group, role, socialization, culture, ethnic grouping, marriage, and family. The text is supplemented by topical reading and student reports.

811 United States Government

One Semester

Grade 12

In this required course, the basic structure of the government and the operation of the political system are covered. Students are introduced to the real world of politics through a variety of projects, field trips, and speakers. Current news events are followed and each student has his/her own subscription to Newsweek magazine.

810 AP United States Government

Two Semesters

Grade 12

Prerequisites: GPA of 3.3 or higher, a social studies average of 3.3 or higher, or 3.3 of either with permission of teacher. This course is an accelerated version of our regular government course with some different materials and different topic emphasis. The basic principles of American government will be covered with more attention given to the make-up of the Constitution, the media, political campaigns and the political process. 7-8 critical essays will be required in addition to the regularly required government projects. This course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement United States Government Exam.

SOCIAL STUDIES CONTINUED

821 United States History

Two Semesters

Grade 11

This is a survey course of the history of the United States from the Civil War to the present time. Special emphasis is placed on important individuals and their contributions to our nation; the growth and development of American social, political, and economic institutions; and on recurring themes throughout American history. Outside reading is required of all students.

820 AP United States History

Two Semesters

Grades 11 & 12

Prerequisites: GPA of 3.3 or higher, a social studies average of 3.3 or higher, or 3.3 of either with permission of teacher.

This one-year course is a study of U.S. History from the age of exploration and discovery to the present. Solid reading and writing skills, along with the willingness to devote considerable time to homework and study, are necessary to succeed. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, interpretation of primary documents, and historiography. A short research paper linking American literature and history is required.

839 World Affairs

One Semester

Grades 11 & 12

World Affairs would help the student to think about the world from a global perspective; that is, a view of the world which looks at common problems that are shared by all nations. It would stress how events that happen in places far away now affect the quality of our life directly. It would familiarize the student with regions of the world that, due to modern technology, have become our next door neighbors. Global decision-making would be introduced through a study of international organizations and relations. Global issues that are of primary concern for survival are investigated in order to find solutions that will preserve the quality of life on earth.

830 World History

Two Semesters

Grade 10

This is a survey course of the history of the world. Emphasis will be placed on certain eras, events and movements according to their importance in helping the student better understand the present world with all its diversity of cultures. A variety of instructional methods will be used to help the students empathize with particular cultures and movements as well as prepare them for continuing pursuit of historical research.