SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

1204/2204 Civics/Economics
Grade 9

This course covers the U.S. Constitution and analyzes the principles of U.S. democracy. We explore the structure of U.S. Government and how different groups impact the political process. Students will apply their learning in simulations of the government policy-making process. During the economics portion of the course, students will learn about how people confront scarcity--by balancing costs and benefits and making choices. Major microeconomic topics are supply, demand, prices, and market failures. Macroeconomics includes an examination of the economy overall and of government policy.

1206/2206 Honors Civics/Economics
Grade 9

This course covers the same curriculum as the regular ninth grade course. The differences are in the amount and rigor of assigned reading and writing, the level of required independent work, the depth of curriculum exploration, and the speed of classroom progress.

1215/2215 World History
Grades 10, 11, 12

Many people look at the world with questions and very little understanding. War, poverty, trade imbalances, and immigration are a few of the world topics that leave the average American feeling confused. The World History course is designed to give students an understanding of the ideas, events and people that have shaped the world we see today. World History will focus on the historical development of countries and cultures in many different regions of the world. A corresponding focus will be the impact of human interactions between regions. Students will act as historians as they complete a History Day project of their choice first semester.

1226/2226 AP World History
Grades 10, 11, 12
Prerequisite: Contract agreement required

Challenge yourself and pursue your interest in history through a study of the global human experience from the Neolithic era to the present. What makes human civilizations unique? What is similar about the way that people across the world live? Within each unit, students examine several societies and regions, comparing political structure, commercial and cultural exchange, gender and family organization,
technology and environmental impact. It is the expectation that students take the AP exam.

1210/2210 U.S. History
Grades 11, 12

Who are we? That is the question that U.S. History will address as students explore the political, social, economic, intellectual, technological, religious, and aesthetic development of the United States through the significant themes of American history. Students will learn about the conflicts that arose in each era as a result of competing interests and ideals and conduct research in order to better understand the impact these conflicts have had on American society.

1220/2220 AP U.S. History
Grades 11, 12
Prerequisite: Application process required

Learn the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the political, social, economic, intellectual, technological, religious, and aesthetic development of the United States. Students will draw conclusions based on informed judgment and present them with supporting evidence in clearly written essays. Students may earn advanced standing or college credit based on their exam scores. It is the expectation that students take the AP exam.

1225/2225 AP European History
Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced Placement European History is a chronological study of Western European history from 1450 to the present. According to the AP Course Description, "These events and movements are explored through three themes; intellectual and cultural history, political and diplomatic history, and social and economic history. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goal of the AP program in European History are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence, and (c) an ability to analyze and express historical understanding in writing." It is the expectation that students take the AP exam.

1230/2230 AP Psychology
Grades 11, 12

The AP Psychology course is designed to offer students an opportunity to complete studies in secondary school equivalent to an introductory college course in psychology. Qualified students may earn college credit or advanced standing in psychology at their future college or university. The course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes
of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods of psychological research. It is the expectation that students take the AP exam.

1231/2231 IB Psychology SL
Grades 11,12

The course of study for IB Psychology SL focuses on the systematic study of human behavior and the mental and experiential factors that influence our behavior. This course can be used as either an International Baccalaureate Group 3 selection or as an IB elective. Students will develop an understanding of the historical roots of psychology as well as an appreciation for the diversity of the human experience. Through the study of the three major approaches to behavior—biological, sociocultural, and cognitive—students will learn the skills of critical thinking and methods of empirical investigation that are the hallmarks of psychology. Attention will be given to ethical procedures and issues throughout the course. Students will also have the opportunity to design and administer a psychological experiment when completing their internal assessment. The Standard Level IB curriculum will explore one of four optional subject areas in depth. It is the expectation that students take the IB exam.

1221/2221 IB History HL-1: History of the Americas
Grade 11

This is the first year of a rigorous two-year college level course designed to promote historical research, critical thinking skills, and reflection on past and present issues. By a broad and deep study of history, students will develop an appreciation and understanding of history as a discipline, including the nature and diversity of its sources, methods, and interpretations. Students will do an in-depth exploration centered around three core units: 1) Slavery and the U.S. Civil War, 2) World War II in North America 1933-45 and 3) Civil Rights and Social Movements. During the first year of this course students will complete an IB Internal Assessment research project. If students complete both years of the IB HL course, they will take the IB History HL exam, for which they can earn college credit.

1223/2223 IB History SL: 20th Century Issues
Grade 12

This is a one-year course focusing on 20th Century History and has the same content as the second year of the IB History HL class. See the following description for the content of the class. It is the expectation that students take the IB History SL exam, for which they can earn college credit.
**1222/2222 IB History HL-2: 20th Century Issues**  
Grade 12

This is the second year of a rigorous two-year college level course designed to promote historical research, critical thinking skills, and reflection on past and present issues. By a broad and deep study of history, students will develop an appreciation and understanding of history as a discipline, including the nature and diversity of its sources, methods, and interpretations. Studies this year focus on two main themes of 20th century history: authoritarian dictatorships, and the causes, practices, and effects of wars. Students will complete a research project on a historical subject of their choice. It is the expectation that students take the IB History HL exam, for which they can earn college credit.

**1235 AP Microeconomics**  
Grades 11, 12

Economics is the study of how people make choices given the reality of scarce resources. In this one-semester course, students will learn fundamental economic principles, how markets work, how firms compete, how markets fail, how income is distributed, and how government intervention impacts market outcomes. In addition to introducing the vocabulary of economic analysis, the course emphasizes drawing, manipulating and interpreting graphs that represent economic reality. This will be valuable preparation for anyone with a college economics course in his or her future. Students may earn college credit if they take the Advanced Placement Microeconomics Exam in May. It is the expectation that students take the AP exam.

**2235 AP Macroeconomics**  
Grades 11, 12  
Prerequisite: Microeconomics

Macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole, using broad measures of output, employment, income, and prices. Students will learn about measuring the economy, how it functions, and how it can be distributed or stabilized. In addition, we will explore the role of money, banking and international trade in our economic system. This one-semester course is good preparation for college economics courses. In addition, it will enrich the perspectives of students with a particular interest in political science and government. Students may earn college credit if they take the Advanced Placement Microeconomics exam in May. It is the expectation that students take the AP exam.

**0276 Law and Public Policy**  
Grades 10, 11, 12

This course gives students the basic understanding of how law and policy function to influence their everyday lives. The first half of the course examines civil and criminal
law. We cover topics from how to sue your neighbor to how to prosecute a homicide case. In the second half of the course, we focus on public policy topics like immigration, firearms, energy, environment, education, etc. This course will teach you to be a savvy debater, well-informed citizen, and a thoughtful media analyst.

0281 Introduction to Criminal Justice  
Grades 11, 12  
Articulated College Credit Available

The goal of this course is to help students develop an introductory understanding of the criminal justice system in the United States. We study law enforcement, courts, prisons, jails, parole, and capital punishment. Additionally, we analyze the relationships between criminal punishment and social processes, including: ethnic, racial and class inequality; political and economic change; and popular representations of crime and criminals.

0282 World Religions  
Grade 12

Did you know there are over four thousand religions in the world?! World Religions is a course to introduce students to the multiple ways in which people from across the globe carry out their faith. In this course we will explore many different religions, including the five major world religions of Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Buddhism and Hinduism. Other religions and ways of life will also be explored that include, but are not limited to: Jainism, Shintoism, Confucianism, Bahaiism and Indigenous Peoples religions. We will explore how history, geography, and culture have impacted these religions and the way they are practiced. Students should come prepared with an open mind and a strong desire to understand these belief systems.

0273 Sociology  
Grade 12

Ever wonder how things become the "norm"? Why girls like pink and boys like blue? Why anyone who is "different" is "awkward"? In this course, we will explore the effects of socialization through different aspects of identity such as race, gender and religion through various cases of crime, family, and media. We will learn to critically examine the subtle and overt lessons surrounding us in everyday life that push us into conforming into mainstream American society. This course will give you the tools to understand why politicians, actors, athletes, families, teachers, classmates, friends, and even yourself act the way they do and the consequences of this norming.
0283 Revisiting Ethnicity and Culture in U.S. History
Grade 12
Prerequisite: U.S. History

This class will explore the historical impact of African American, Latinx, American Indian, Pan-Asian, and GLBTQIA communities, both in the United States and locally here in Minnesota. Together, we will unpack the history of these underrepresented groups and analyze the contributions made by each community. In addition to examining rich primary sources and uncovering forgotten and suppressed history, you will also have the opportunity to produce radio broadcasts about the contributions of each group for 98.9 FM – The Southside Media Project, write lesson plans for the Minnesota Historical Society about our state's rebels and reformers that will be implemented by 6th grade Minnesota Studies teachers statewide, and participate in a spoken word poetry project that will seek to find meaning in our nation's troubled past with local rapper Toussaint Morrison.