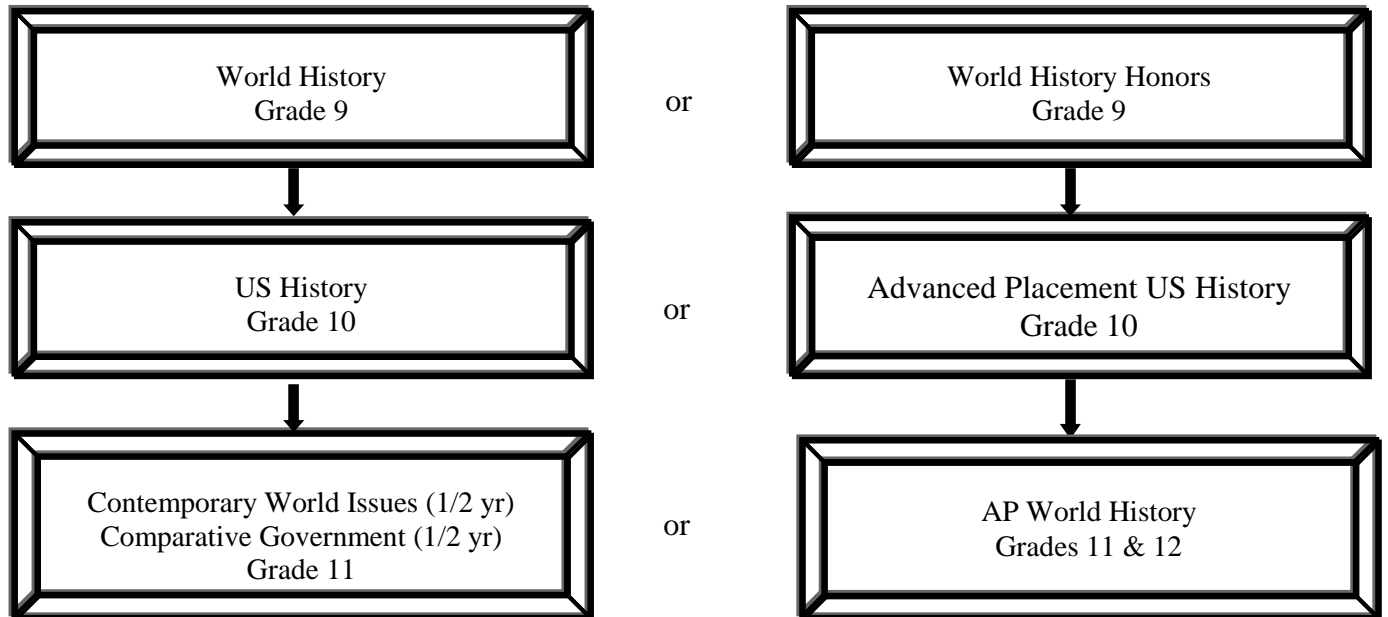
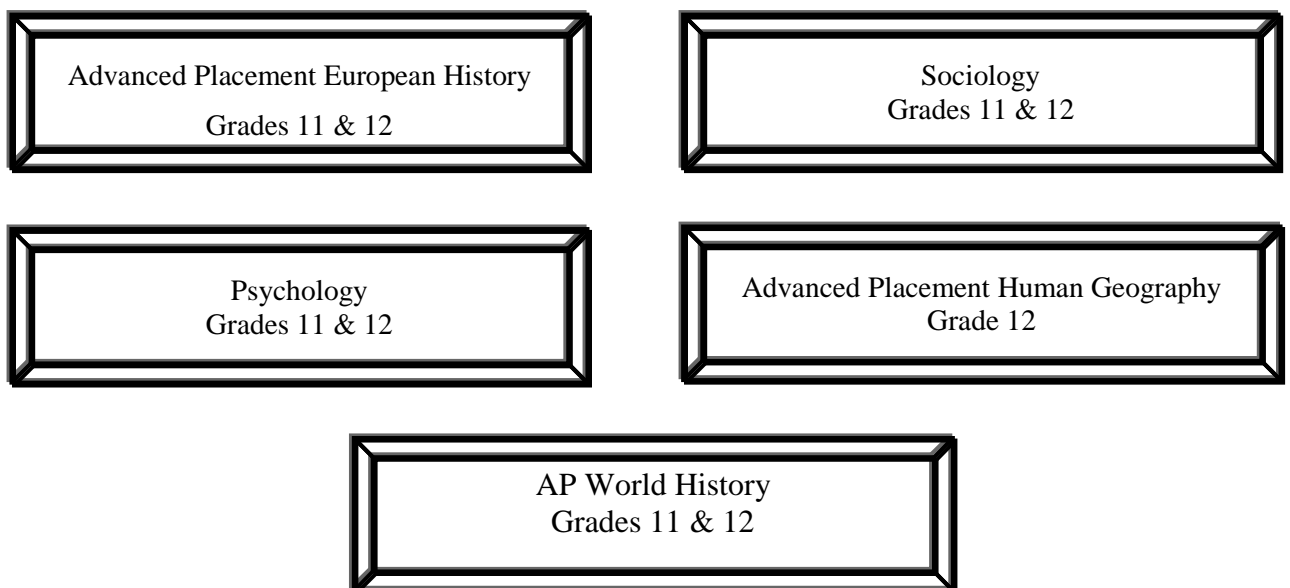


Social Studies

Required for Graduation



ELECTIVES



Standards:

Social Studies classroom instruction at Middletown High School is based upon the ten thematic strands identified by the National Council for the Social Studies. Our specific content standards in United States and World History were identified from the National Standards for History developed by the National Center for History in the Schools and were adopted by the Middletown School Committee, 10/30/98.

The NCSS thematic strands are:

1. Culture
2. Time, Continuity, and Change
3. People, Places, and Environment
4. Individual Development and Identity
5. Individual, Groups and Institutions
6. Power, Authority, and Governance
7. Production, Distribution, and Consumption
8. Science, Technology, and Society
9. Global Connections
10. Civic Ideals and Practices

REQUIRED COURSES

World History - full year - credits: 1

Note: We believe that this course provides the foundation for the successful completion of the Social Studies component of the Middletown High School graduation requirements.

The purpose of the World History course is to develop greater understanding of evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies. The course highlights the nature of changes in global frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as among major societies. The course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge and builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional geography and their impacts on the human experience.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills. B1:, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

World History Honors - full year - credits: 1

Note: This course will involve a deep and rigorous study of history. It will require skills reflective of those established by the state ELA assessment in reading and writing. This class utilizes texts, documents and a rigorous pace that correlate to the standards and expectations established by the College Board for future Honors and Advanced Placement study in this discipline.

The purpose of the World History course is to develop greater understanding of evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies. The course highlights the nature of changes in global frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as among

major societies. The course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge and builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional geography and their impacts on the human experience.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills. B1:, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

U.S. History – full year – credits: 1

Note: We believe the satisfactory completion of World History to be an essential foundation for those electing this course.

This course provides an in-depth study of the founding of the American republic emphasizing the origin and development of our government and political system. The class will trace the development of the United States from its' colonial beginnings through the present time. Key stages in the evolution of pertinent American foreign and domestic policy will be explored. Special emphasis will be given to the critical analysis of texts, maps, documents and other important historical sources of evidence.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills. B1:, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

Advanced Placement U.S. History - full year - credits: 1

Note: This class will involve a deep and rigorous study of history. It will require skills reflective of those established by the state ELA assessment in reading and writing. This class utilizes texts, documents and a rigorous pace that correlate to the standards and expectations established by the College Board for Advanced Placement study in this discipline. A direct goal of this course is to help ensure success in the U.S. History Advanced Placement Exam in May. This exam may lead to college credit.

In this course students will learn to assess the relevance, reliability and importance of historical materials, and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. Students in Advanced Placement will develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. Students admitted to the AP History are expected to meet academic demands that are equivalent to those made by a full-year introductory college course. AP US History is a challenging course designed by the College Board.

To receive an AP designation on their transcript, student must take the AP exam in May. A fee is required to take the AP exam. Students must commit to this by October 1.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills. B1:, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

Contemporary World Issues –half year – credits: .5

This course will provide the opportunity to explore major themes of challenge in our world of today; ethnic and religious conflicts, demographic trends, proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, AIDS and other high impact diseases, globalization and economic equality, human rights, and the environment. Discussions, and supporting study/analysis, will be grounded with an understanding of the geography and history of the major geographic and cultural subdivisions, including the Middle East, South Asia, Europe, Eurasia, Asia/Pacific, the Americas and Sub Saharan Africa.

This course will include the utilization of a variety of school and community resources including the Pell Center, the Naval War College, the internet, journals, newspapers and magazines. Guest speakers may be brought into class to enhance the overall quality and interest level of instruction.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills, B1, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

Comparative Government and Politics – half year – credits: .5

Comparative Government and Politics introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study and processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcome, and to communicate to students and importance of global political and economic changes. Comparison assists both in identifying problems and in analyzing policymaking.

In addition to covering the major concepts that are used to organize and interpret what we know about political phenomena and relationship, the course should cover specific countries and their governments. Several countries form the core of the AP Comparative Government and politics course: China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United States.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills, B1, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

AP World History – full year – credits: 1

Note: This class will involve a deep and rigorous study of history. It will require skills reflective of those established by the state ELA assessment in reading and writing. This class utilizes texts, documents and a rigorous pace that correlate to the standards and expectations established by the College Board for Advanced Placement study in this discipline. A direct goal of this course is to help ensure success in the World History Advanced Placement Exam in May. This exam may lead to college credit.

This course provides a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of

changes in global frameworks and their cases and consequences, as well as comparison among major societies. It emphasizes relevant factual knowledge, leading interpretive issues, and skills in analyzing types of historical evidence. Periodization, explicitly discussed, forms an organizing principle to address change and continuity throughout the course. Specific themes provide further organization to the course, along with consistent attention to contacts among societies that form the core of world history as a field of study.

To receive an AP designation on their transcript, student must take the AP exam in May. A fee is required to take the AP exam. Students must commit to this by October 1.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills, B1, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

Advanced Placement European History - full year - credits: 1

Note: This class will involve a deep and rigorous study of history. It will require skills reflective of those established by the state ELA assessment in reading and writing. This class utilizes texts, documents and a rigorous pace that correlate to the standards and expectations established by the College Board for future Honors and Advanced Placement study in this discipline. A direct goal of this course is to help ensure success in the European Advanced Placement Exam given in May. This exam may lead to college credit.

The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to social, political, economical and cultural developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world I which we live. Without this knowledge we would lack the context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role of continuity and change, in present-day societies and politics, and the evolution of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse. AP European History is available to students who wish to experience the most recent trends in history curricula at the undergraduate level. It provides the opportunity to improve analytical and critical reading skills, and to develop facility in writing history essays and research papers.

To receive an AP designation on their transcript, student must take the AP exam in May. A fee is required to take the AP exam. Students must commit to this by October 1.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills. B1:, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

Psychology - full year - credits: 1

Note: Due to the nature and content of this course we believe that this should be taken only by juniors and seniors.

Psychology is a yearlong course that examines the behavior of the human species. A multi-disciplinary approach with psychology as its core is used. This course provides an introduction

to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Other course criteria include exposure to the psychological facts, principals, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. The following areas will be studied; Methods, Approaches, History, Biological Bases of Behavior, States of Consciousness, Motivation and Emotion, Developmental Psychology, Personality, Testing and Individual Differences, Abnormal Psychology, Treatment of Psychological Disorders, and Social Psychology.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics

Sociology - full year - credits: 1

Note: Due to the nature and content of this course we believe that this should be taken only by juniors and seniors.

Sociology is a social science which studies human society and social interactions. The main focus of the course is on people in groups and their relationships with other members of society and their social environment.

This course of study will employ independent and group projects designed to provide exposure to the terms and definitions most commonly employed in the study of sociology, as well as the situations caused by societal change facing our society today and in the future. It will attempt to broaden our global perspective of who we are and what we do. Evaluation will be based on tests, quizzes, class discussions, oral and written research projects.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills, A5: Physical, mental & emotional health, B2

Secondary: A2: Acquire information – research and problem solving, C2: Personal ethics

AP Human Geography - full year - credits: 1

Note: AP Human Geography provides an introduction to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. It will include the employment of spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. It will also include a study of the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. It is the academic equivalent and experience of a college introductory human geography course.

Geography is both a Physical and a Social Science, which can be approached regionally and/or topically. As physical or natural science, for example, it may focus on climate, soil, topography, landforms and the biosphere. As human or social science its focus is on cultural features, such as language, economics, religion, population, immigration, disease, politics, and urban/rural development. It combines economic and cultural geography to explain relationships among humans and their environments.

This course will involve a deep and rigorous study of human geography. It will require skills reflective of those established by the state ELA assessment in reading and writing. This class utilizes texts, documents and a rigorous pace that correlates to the standards and expectations established by the College Board for Advanced Placement study in this discipline. A direct goal of this course is to help ensure success in the Human Geography Advanced Placement Exam given in May. This exam may lead to college credit.

To receive an AP designation on their transcript, student must take the AP exam in May. A fee is required to take the AP exam. Students must commit to this by October 1.

THIS COURSE TARGETS THE FOLLOWING STUDENT LEARNING EXPECTATION

Primary: A1: Literacy Skills, B1, B2

Secondary: A3: Technology Literacy, C1: Responsibilities of citizenship, C2: Personal ethics