SOCIAL STUDIES

SS01 **American/Arizona History** **AA**
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

American History is a survey course covering the development of our Nation and State from the earliest inhabitants to the present day. The course is structured around lecture, discussion and assigned reading designed to develop an understanding of cultural, political, and economic growth.

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 11, 12

SS12 **Honors American/Arizona History*** **AA**
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

Students in Honors American History are given an opportunity to: 1.) Gain a basic knowledge of events and facts of National and State History from earliest cultures to the present, 2.) Participate in a high level of discussion and debate regarding important issues in American History, 3.) Become familiar with the literature of American History 4.) Develop social studies skills such as map and graph interpretation, 5.) Develop skills in interpretation and analysis of both primary and secondary documents or sources, 6.) Develop historical writing skills.

Prerequisites: Placement by district guidelines
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: High
Grade Levels: 11, 12

SS15 **AP United States (Arizona) History*** **AA**
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

This Advanced Placement Program in American/Arizona History is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems in our history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses. The course covers the period from 1492 to today. The scope of the class includes political, social, economic, diplomatic, intellectual and cultural history. [Board Adopted 1995]

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: High
Grade Levels: 11, 12

SS16 **Honors World Geography*†** **HG†**
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

Honors World Geography is a one-year course that, when coupled with Honors World History meets and exceeds current district social studies requirements at the freshman/sophomore level. It is designed for those students who meet the general criteria for honors level classes established by the district. Curriculum includes both the physical and cultural branches of geography. Physical geography is explored first, including cartography, plate tectonics, and climatology. Mastery of these skills having been attained, a cultural approach to the world's major ethnic regions are also explored at length. Geographic technology will be used to analyze, research and investigate all aspects of the discipline. [Board Adopted 2002]

†This course, when taken with SS28 AP World History, SS14 Honors World History or SS07 World History satisfies the graduation requirement for World History Geography.

Prerequisite: Placement by district guidelines
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: High
Grade Level: 9

SS14 **Honors World History*†** **HG†**
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

Honors World History is a one-year elective course that, when coupled with Honors World Geography, meets and exceeds current district social studies requirements at the freshman/sophomore level. It is designed for those students who meet the general criteria for honors level classes established by the social studies department. The curriculum of the course places an emphasis on the political, cultural, geographical and economic aspects of civilizations from the earliest societies up to the present. Historical knowledge will be used to draw inferences in an attempt to hypothesize where current events will lead. Geographic and historical technology will be used to analyze, research, and investigate all aspects of the discipline. Using primary and secondary sources, individual research will be employed to develop writing and oral skills. [Board Adopted 2002]

†This course, when taken with SS06 World Geography or SS16 Honors World Geography satisfies the graduation requirement for World History Geography.

Prerequisite: Placement by district guidelines
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: High
Grade Level: 10

SS21 **World History/Geography** **HG**
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

World History/Geography is a required course for sophomores concerning the nations and peoples of the world. Included with the history and geography are cultural development, political and economic systems and social structures. The student will be challenged to think critically about international relations, human commonalities and differences and their impact on the student's own life.

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 10, 11, 12

SS23 **Honors World History/Geography*** **HG**
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

This course is designed for those students who meet the general criteria for honors classes established by the district. The course will place an emphasis on history, the themes of geography, cultural, political and economic development of people. The student will do individual research using primary and secondary sources, develop writing skills, develop critical thinking skills and analyze the writings of historians. [Board Adopted 1994]

Prerequisites: Placement by district guidelines
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: High
Grade Levels: 10, 11, 12

SS28 **AP World History (Geography)***
1.0 Cr. **1 Year**

This course is designed to prepare students for a rigorous college curriculum as well as to take the College Board's Advanced Placement World History test. Focused primarily on the past thousand years, students not only learn about the major developments during various periods, but also how these developments compared and contributed to others. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. Specific themes provide further organization to the course.
[Board Adopted 2002]

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: High
Grade Levels: 10, 11, 12

SS03 **U.S./Arizona Government** **GV**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

This course is designed to provide students with a basic knowledge of the purpose, structure, and operation of the national and state governmental systems. The primary content of study is the Federal system and its underlying principles as they are related on National, State, and local levels.

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 12 (or have completed Am/Az History)

SS25 **Honors U.S./Arizona Government*** **GV**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

Honors American Government is a one-semester credit class designed for those students who meet the general criteria for the gifted and the requirements established by the Social Studies Department. Successful completion of this class will satisfy the state mandated government requirement. The course is designed to provide the student with a basic knowledge of the purpose, structure and operation of the national and state governmental systems. Emphasis will be placed on individual research, group activities, and simulation activities. In addition, there will be considerable out-of-class work.

Prerequisites: Placement by district guidelines
Homework: Reading, research, writing and application
Degree of Difficulty: High-"We the People Competition"
Grade Levels: 12 (or completion of Hnrs. Am/Az History)

SS04 **Economics** **FE**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

This course is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of the important relationships of economics to our social and political problems. The course emphasizes the philosophy, development, and operation of our American economic system and its important influence upon the individual and society.
[Board Revised 1996]

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 11, 12

SS26 **Honors Economics*** **FE**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

Honors Free Enterprise is a course designed to study the American economic system. The reading level will be significantly higher than that of the regular Free Enterprise classes. In addition, it is expected that honors students will read a considerable amount of outside related materials. Teaching methods will vary according to topic, but more seminar type discussion and independent study will be utilized than in regular Free Enterprise. [Board Revised 1996]

Prerequisites: Placement by district guidelines
Homework: Reading, research, writing and problem application
Degree of Difficulty: High
Grade Levels: 11, 12

SS10 **Sociology** **EL**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

Sociology is an elective course designed to familiarize students with various cultures and the problems resulting from people living in groups. This course covers such topics as culture, sub-cultures, social institutions, collective behavior, social change, social deviation, the family, religion, racial and ethnic minorities, poverty, and crime. The latter portion of this course deals specifically with the pressing problems of our society, their causes, and possible solutions.

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 9, 10, 11, 12

SS11 **Criminal Justice in the Classroom** **EL**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

Criminal Justice is an elective course designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of the concepts, processes and institutions of the Criminal Justice system; to provide an understanding and appreciation of how laws work to meet human problems; and how interpretations of laws change to meet the needs of a changing social order. This course will include such topics as the juvenile justice system, courts, law enforcement, careers in criminal justice, corrections, and the background to the criminal justice system.

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 10, 11, 12

SS17 **Psychology** **EL**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

This course focuses on the study of human behavior. As an introduction to the field of psychology, this course includes consideration of psychological principles, terminology, major theories, careers, methods of experimentation, and practical applications. Special topics include personality development, problem-solving, group dynamics, and motivation.

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 11, 12

SS44 **Legal Studies** **EL**
0.5 Cr. **1 Sem**

This course is designed to develop higher level thinking skills through comprehensive study of the United States Constitution and of the United States Supreme Court's decisions explaining the principles of the U.S. government. Emphasis is placed on advanced skills in reading, writing, analysis, synthesis and application. The scope of this course is intended to focus on an in-depth study of the U.S. Constitution. It will provide an understanding of the Constitution and an appreciation of the important role that Constitutional interpretation plays in the conduct of our court system in evaluating the constitutionality of actions taken on both the federal and state level.
[Board Adopted 2004]
[Board Revised 2006]

Prerequisites: None
Homework: Yes
Degree of Difficulty: Average
Grade Levels: 11, 12