



# Social Studies

## World History 1-2

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Course #4101-4102

Grade: 10  
Full Year = 1 credit

This course focuses on World History from approximately the mid-1300s to the modern day. Students will examine important concepts in geography, history, and culture pertaining to regions around the globe. Students will analyze significant events, individuals, developments and processes across the world from the perspective of multiple and varied voices for a vivid and complex picture of history. This course is global in nature, with a multicultural, rather than Eurocentric, approach. Students will engage in historical thinking, robust academic discussions, and informational and argumentative writing. Some of the topics of study will include, but are not limited to, the following: the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, global expansion, empires and kingdoms of the world, the Enlightenment and revolutions, the rise of nation states, imperialism, industrialization, WWI, 20th Century revolutions, global depression, WWII, decolonization, the Cold War, globalization, and modern issues.

## AP World History

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Course #4111-4112

Course Fee: \$94 for AP Exam

Grade: 10  
Full Year = 1 credit (Advanced Placement)

This course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university world history course. In AP World History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides five themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures. Students are required to take the AP exam in May. All AP exams have a cost associated with them.

## World Geography

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Course #4117-4118

Grade: 9, 10  
Full Year = 1 credit

This course is an integrative discipline that brings together the physical and human dimensions of the world in the study of people, places, and environments. Designed within the guidelines set forth in the National Geography Standards, its subject matter is Earth's surface and the processes that shape it, the relationships between people and environments, and the connections between people and places. Students will analyze significant events, individuals, developments and demographics across the world from the perspective of multiple and varied voices for a vivid and complex picture of cultural geography. Students will be encouraged to examine and understand the inter-connectedness of the world around them. The course will focus on major world regions, including: the United States, Canada, Latin America, Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia, Africa and Oceania. The content of this course meets the World History requirement for graduation.

## World Geography - Honors

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Course #4119-4120

Grade: 9  
Full Year = 1 credit (Honors)

This course is an integrative discipline that brings together the physical and human dimensions of the world in the study of people, places, and environments. Designed within the guidelines set forth in the National Geography Standards, its subject matter is Earth's surface and the processes that shape it, the relationships between people and environments, and the connections between people and places. Students will analyze significant events, individuals, developments and demographics across the world from the perspective of multiple and varied voices for a vivid and complex picture of cultural geography. Students will be encouraged to examine and understand the inter-connectedness of the world around them. The course will focus on major world regions, including: the United States, Canada, Latin America, Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia, Africa and Oceania. The content of this course meets the World History requirement for graduation. The honors course focuses heavily on the development of academic writing and discourse.

## AP Human Geography

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Course #4181-4182

Course Fee: \$94 for AP Exam

Grade: 10, 11, 12  
Full Year = 1 credit (Advanced Placement)

This course is equivalent to an introductory college-level course in human geography. The course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. The curriculum reflects the goals of the National Geography Standards (2012). Students are required to take the AP exam in May. All AP exams have a cost associated with them.

## US History 1-2

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Course #4131-4132

Grade: 11  
Full Year = 1 credit

This course focuses on the history of the United States from the turn of the century to the present day. American founding documents and democratic principles will provide for the foundation referenced throughout this course while maintaining focus on the multicultural history, economics, civics, and geography of the modern era. This course includes multiple and varied voices and perspectives for a vivid and complex picture of U.S. History. Students in the course will engage in historical thinking, robust academic discussions, and informational and argumentative writing. Some of the topics of study will include, but are not limited to, the following: Nativism/Populism, Imperialism, the Gilded Age/Industrial Revolution, Progressivism, WWI, the 1920s, the Great Depression, WWII, the Civil Rights Movement, the Cold War, the rights movements of the 1970s, globalism, terrorism, and modern issues.

## AP US History

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Course #4145-4146

Course Fee: \$94 for AP Exam

Grade: 11  
Full Year = 1 credit (Advanced Placement)

This course is aligned to a two-semester introductory college U.S. history survey course. In AP U.S. History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians. The course framework organizes U.S. history into nine periods and presents key conceptual understandings that students should explore in that period. The framework also organizes U.S. history into seven themes, or large-scale topics of historical inquiry that students explore throughout the course, including: American and National Identity; Politics and Power; Work, Exchange, and Technology; Culture and Society; Migration and Settlement; Geography and the Environment; and America in the World. These themes help students connect the historical content they study to broad trends and processes that have emerged over centuries. The learning objectives within each theme clearly state what students should know and be able to do by the end of the course. Students are required to take the AP exam in May. All AP exams have a cost associated with them.

## American Government 1-2

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Course #4161-4162

Grade: 12  
Full Year = 1 credit

Productive civic engagement requires knowledge of the historical foundations and principles of American democracy, understanding the unique processes of local, state, and national institutions, the skills necessary to apply civic dispositions and democratic principles, and an understanding of the complex workings of the American economy. In this year long course, students will analyze the powers and civic responsibilities of citizens and examine the origins, functions, and structure of the U.S. government. Content will include multiple historical eras and the various changing perspectives in America's past, as well as connections between historical events. Economics is grounded in knowledge about how people choose to use resources. Economic decision making involves setting goals and identifying the resources available to achieving those goals. Students will examine concepts and tools necessary to foster an economic way of thinking to better understand the interaction of buyers and sellers in markets, workings of the national economy, and interactions within the global marketplace. Some of the topics of study will include, but are not limited to, the following: founding documents, the federal system, the legislative process, the judicial system, the executive branch, elections, political parties, interest groups, rights and responsibilities of citizens, international relations, public policy, economic policies, media literacy, and contemporary issues.

## American Government/We the People - Honors

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Course #4173-4174

Course Fee: \$94 for AP Exam (Optional)

Grade: 12  
Full Year = 1 credit (Honors)

The "We the People" instructional program provides students with a course of instruction on the historical development of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the basic principles of constitutional democracy. The program is designed to foster civic responsibility through the development of an understanding of the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the fundamental principle and values they embody. The program also helps the student gain an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in our constitutional democracy. The "We the People" curriculum examines the following topics at levels appropriate for students at the senior high school/college level: political philosophy, history and experience, writing the Constitution, establishing the government, protection of basic rights, and the responsibilities of citizenship. Students in this course will be competing in simulated congressional hearings on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and will be giving oral presentations before a panel of judges from the community. Students will be required to do research on their own outside of class. Students will also be required to give unit presentations before other classes, community organizations, and community professionals.

## AP US Government & Politics

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Course #4171-4172

Course Fee: \$94 for AP Exam

Grade: 12  
Full Year = 1 credit (Advanced Placement)

This course provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behavior. They will also engage in disciplinary practices that require them to read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments. In addition, they will complete a political science research or applied civics project. The AP U.S. Government and Politics course is organized around five units, which focus on major topics in U.S. government and politics. The units are: Foundations of American Democracy, Interaction Among Branches of Government, Civil Liberties and Civil Rights, American Political Ideologies and Beliefs, and Political Participation. Students are required to take the AP exam in May. All AP exams have a cost associated with them.

## Introduction to Economics & AP Comparative Government

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Course #4204-4169

Course Fee: \$20  
\$94 for AP Exam

THIS COURSE WILL BE OFFERED EVERY OTHER SCHOOL YEAR. IT WILL BE OFFERED IN 2020-2021 BUT WILL NOT BE OFFERED IN 2021-2022. RISING JUNIORS WHO WANT OR NEED TO TAKE THIS COURSE MUST DO SO IN THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR.

Grade: 11-12  
Full Year = 1 credit

Prerequisite: Teacher approval

This course consists of a one semester survey of economics, and a one semester comparative government course. For economics, the goal is to provide students with a broad understanding of the concepts of both microeconomics and macroeconomics. The focus of the microeconomics section is individual consumers and producers, supply and demand, the impact of government policies such as taxes, tariffs, and control of monopolies. Students will study the factors of production: land, labor, and capital. The focus of macroeconomics is the study of economic systems as a whole. For example, measurements of economic performance, such as Gross Domestic Product, unemployment, and inflation, are examined, as well as the concepts of comparative advantage regarding trade. Monetary policy is also explored, with the key role of the Federal Reserve to control the supply of money and credit and limiting inflation.

The AP Comparative Government semester introduces students to basic concepts for comparing government systems: organization of government institutions, representation and participation in government, the transfer of power, policy-making, etc. Politics hinge on the interactions between the state and society, so students also study the social forces that have political relevance. Despite vast differences between economies and governments, most countries face challenges presented by social and ethnic diversity, religion, economic performance, the natural environment and natural resources, and the delivery of services such as education and health care to the people.

Six countries form the core for comparisons: China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia. By using these countries the course moves from abstract principles to concrete examples. Certain themes are also used to compare how different governments respond to changes in the international environment. These themes are democratization, globalization, and political change. While power is typically organized into states, or countries, non-state actors often play important roles in international relations. Such non-state actors include the European Union, the United Nations, and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

This course is required for students in the International Relations Global Studies Program.

## AP Psychology

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Course #4249-4250

Course Fee: \$15  
\$94 for AP Exam

Grade: 11-12  
Full Year = 1 credit (Advanced Placement)

The AP Psychology class is a one-year course designed to give students a working knowledge of the theories and key concepts of each of the major subfields as well as expose students to many of the contributing psychologists and significant research studies, both historical and current, that have shaped our understanding of behavior and mental processes. The class will train students to apply psychological principles and understand connections between ideas and theories and leave students with an appreciation of the scientific methods and ethical procedures that produce such knowledge. This course covers a wide array of fascinating subjects: from the history of the discipline to how we develop over our lifetimes; from dreams and hypnosis to how we function within groups; from thinking and language to who we are as individuals. Our journey into the world of psychology will take us all the way from the basic chemistry of our nervous system to the workings of our mind, and to our relationships with others in complex social settings. Students are required to take the AP exam in May. All AP exams have a cost associated with them.