

Social Studies Program

Sachem's Social Studies Core Requirements: Four Credits Required for Graduation

New York State mandates require students to pass Regents examinations in both Global History and Geography (10th grade) and United States History and Government (11th grade), in order to graduate from high school.

Grade Nine

All ninth grade students are required to take either Global History and Geography 9 or Advanced Placement World History 9.

World History AP/H (9) Full Yr., 1 Cr.

This is the first year of a two year course that follows the AP World History curriculum. In this course students will immerse themselves in the processes that over time have resulted in the knitting of the world into a tightly integrated whole and will develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts. In this first year of the course, students study World History from 8,000 B.C.E. to the beginnings of the 18th century. This course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional, and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the human stage. The course offers balanced global coverage with Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe all represented. Students will be required to complete college level reading and writing assignments as the material contained in the course reflects the content of an introductory college course in world history. **This course requires the completion of a summer assignment which will be handed out in June and will be collected during the first week of school in September.**

Global History and Geography Regents (9)

Full Yr., 1 Cr.

This course is the first of a two year global studies program that will culminate in a New York State Regents Examination in Global History and Geography at the end of the tenth grade. The students will study history in a chronological sequence starting with the early civilizations of the Nile River and the Fertile Crescent up to the Age of the Enlightenment. While the course is organized by historical eras, the curriculum places a major emphasis on developing social studies skills. Students will be working with many databases (i.e.; timelines, charts, graphs, illustrations, primary and secondary source readings).

ESL Global History and Geography Regents (9, 10)

Full Yr., 1 Cr.

These courses are open to those pupils whose second language is English and who are recent arrivals in the United States. Students will be introduced to the major geographic areas of the World. Emphasis will be placed on vocabulary development to ensure that pupils gain an understanding of the key concepts necessary toward achieving an historical perspective.

Global History and Geography Skills (9)

Full Yr., 1 Cr.

Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education. This course is designed for classified students. By means of a very structured program, students will be trained to master critical concepts commonly tested on the Global History and Geography Regents examination given at the end of 10th grade. There will be a major emphasis on developing writing, reading comprehension, study skills, note-taking skills and test-taking skills. The students will study Global History from the advent of the early civilizations up to and including the major events and movements of the eighteenth century.

Grade Ten

All tenth grade students are required to take Global History and Geography 10 or Advanced Placement World History 10. Upon the completion of this course, every student will be required to take the New York State Regents Examination in Global History and Geography.

Advanced Placement World History (10)

Full Yr., 1 Cr.

Pre-requisite: AP World History 9. The second year of a two year course that follows the A.P. World History curriculum will allow students to continue to develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. In this course, students study World History from the early 18th century to the present. This course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. Students will be required to complete college level reading and writing assignments with an increased emphasis on primary source analysis and writing assignments which focus on comparative analysis and document based questions. At the conclusion of the course, students will take the Advanced Placement Exam which is offered in May, and the New York State Global History and Geography Regents Exam to be given in June. **This course requires the completion of a summer assignment which will be handed out in June and will be collected during the first week of school in September.**

Global History and Geography Regents (10)

Full Yr., 1 Cr.

This course is the second of a two year Global History program that will culminate in June with a New York State Regents Examination in Global History and Geography. The students will study significant historical events starting with the Revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries, and ending with the post Cold War era. While the course is organized around a chronology of events, there will be an emphasis on thematic concepts.

Global History and Geography Skills (10)**Full Yr., 1 Cr.**

Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education. This course continues to be an extension of the 9th grade Skills course of study. It is designed to assist classified students by utilizing a structured environment. Students will have more opportunity to focus on content and concepts commonly studied in Global History and Geography Skills 9. The students will explore units on "The Industrial Revolution, Imperialism, Nationalism, Socialism, the World Wars, the Cold War, and post Cold War era." Students enrolled in this course will be expected to take the New York State Regents Examination in Global History and Geography in June.

Eleventh Grade**Program in United States History and Government**

All eleventh grade students who have taken and passed tenth grade Social Studies are required to take and pass United States History and Government or Advanced Placement United States History. Upon the completion of this course, every student will be required to take the New York State Regents Exam in United States History and Government.

Advanced Placement United States History (11)**Full Yr., 1 Cr.**

This course is open to juniors who may substitute this subject for United States History and Government. The offering, which examines key interpretations of American history, prepares the student for the AP exam in May; students will also take the New York State Regents exam in United States History and Government in June. The course will be taught chronologically from the Age of Discovery to the present. The students will complete college-level reading and writing assignments. **This course requires the completion of a summer assignment which will be handed out in June and will be collected during the first week of school in September.**

United States History and Government Regents (11)**Full Yr., 1 Cr.**

Pre-requisite: Global History and Geography 9 and 10. Students will explore six major units: the Constitutional Root of American History, Industrialization of the United States, the Progressive Movement, Prosperity and Depression - 1917 to 1940, the United States in an Age of Global Crisis, and a World in Uncertain Times. This course will culminate in June with a New York State Regents exam in United States History and Government.

United States History and Government Skills (11)**Full Yr., 1 Cr.**

Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education. Classified students will explore six major units: The Constitutional Root of American History, Industrialization of the United States, the Progressive Movement, Prosperity and Depression - 1917 to 1940, the United States in an Age of Global Crisis, and a World in Uncertain Times. This course will culminate in June with a New York State Regents exam in United States History and Government.

Global History and Geography Regents Workshop (11, 12)**Full Yr., Alternate Days 1/2 Cr.****Pre-requisite: Failure of the Regents in Global Studies.**

The N.Y.S. Department of Education has mandated that any junior or senior who has not fulfilled the competency requirement in Global History must be provided with remedial instruction.

*Washington***U. S. History and Government Regents Workshop (12)****Full Yr., Alternate Days, 1/2 Cr.**

Pre-requisite: Failure of the Regents in U.S. History and Government. The N. Y. S. Department of Education has mandated that any student who has not completed the competency requirement in United States History and Government be provided with remedial instruction.

Advanced Placement European History (11, 12)**Full Yr., 1 Cr.**

This Advanced Placement course will permit the students to study European History from the beginning of the Renaissance to modern contemporary Europe. This class will include the following topics: intellectual and cultural history, the Political Diplomatic History, and the Social and Economic history in the development of Europe. The course will cover three goals: Students will complete college level reading assignments, prepare college level writing assignments and prepare for the AP Examination in May. **This course requires the completion of a summer assignment which will be handed out in June and will be collected during the first week of school in September.**

Fourth Year Program in Economics and Government

To satisfy the four unit requirement in social studies, pupils must take and pass one course from Group A - Economics and one course from Group B - Government (A student may take either AP course to satisfy this requirement):

1. Group A - Economics

- Principles of Economics (12) 1/2 Cr.
- Honors Economics (12) 1/2 Cr.
- Advanced Placement Economics (12) 1 Cr.

2. Group B - Government

- Advanced Placement Gov't & Politics (12) 1 Cr.
- Participation in Gov't-Criminal Justice (11, 12) 1/2 Cr.
- Participation in Gov't-Social Issues (11, 12) 1/2 Cr.

Principles of Economics (12 only)

One Semester, 1/2 Cr.

This course is divided into four major units: economic systems, microeconomics, macroeconomics, and the world economy. Students will examine a variety of topics including personal finance, international trade, resource scarcity, goods and services, national policy goals, and taxation.

Economics - Honors (12 Only)

One Semester, 1/2 Cr.

In this enriched course, the students will complete more demanding reading and writing assignments. Greater depth of thought, documentation of facts, and clarity of expression will be expected from the seniors as they analyze major macroeconomics issues and problems including unemployment, inflation, and taxation. Microeconomic issues will include profit maximization and cost minimization.

Advanced Placement Economics (12 only)

Full Yr., 1 Cr.

In this Advanced Placement course, students will explore both microeconomics and macroeconomics. Microeconomics: students will focus primarily on the nature and function of product markets. Included in the content outline, the students will examine opportunity costs, comparative advantage, diminishing returns, monopolistic competition, factory demand, and income distribution. Macroeconomics: students will concentrate on national income and price determination. The students will be introduced to topics such as Keynesian analysis, circular flow, fiscal policy, deficits, supply shocks, and exchange rates. This course prepares the students for the A.P. examination in May. **This course requires the completion of a summer assignment which will be handed out in June and will be collected during the first week of school in September.**

Economics/Criminal Justice Skills (12 Only)

Full Yr., 1 Cr.

Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education. Classified students will explore supply and demand, prices, business, labor, agriculture and the consumer in the economy, unemployment, inflation, taxation, money and the relationship of the United States to the world economy. Special attention will be devoted to skill development in evaluating and interpreting graphic materials. This course is also designed to provide classified students with an understanding of the criminal justice system in New York State. Pupils will examine the impact of social conflicts and political decisions on the administration of justice with particular emphasis on the role of law enforcement.

Advanced Placement Government and Politics (12 Only)

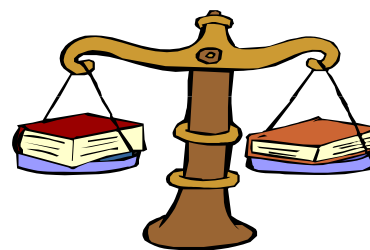
Full Yr., 1 Cr.

The Advanced Placement Program is intended for qualified students who wish to complete studies in secondary school equivalent to a one-semester college introductory course in United States government and politics. United States Government and Politics will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute United States politics. This course prepares students for the AP Exam in May. **This course requires the completion of a summer assignment which will be handed out in June and will be collected during the first week of school in September.**

Participation in Government with a Focus on Criminal Justice (11, 12)

**Full Yr., Alternate Days, 1/2 Cr.
One Semester, 1/2 Cr.**

This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the criminal justice system in New York State. Students will examine the impact of social conflicts and political decisions on the administration of justice, with particular emphasis on the role of law enforcement. Frequent guest speakers from the Suffolk County Bar Association, the Suffolk County Police Department and the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office will supplement classroom discussion.

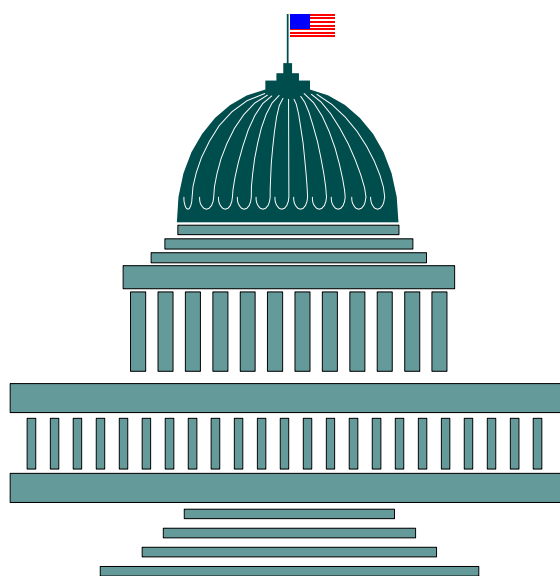


Participation in Government with a Focus on Social Issues (11, 12)**Full Yr., Alternate Days, 1/2 Cr.
One Semester, 1/2 Cr.**

One of the major objectives of this course is to encourage students to examine our society and ask what is, in addition to what ought to be. The subject focuses on real issues that touch individual lives. Encounters with family, friends, peers, authority figures, and strangers will take on new meaning when viewed in connection with contemporary social issues and public policy. Video case studies and guest speakers will be utilized to enable students to develop a better understanding of today's problems.

Criminal Justice II (College level) (12)**One Semester, 1/2 Cr.**

Pre-requisite: Participation in Government with a Focus on Criminal Justice. This elective course is designed as a follow-up course to Participation in Government with a Focus on Criminal Justice. Gaining practical law experience through the study of trial preparation and courtroom procedures, the student will examine units in DNA fingerprinting and forensics, and participate in mock trials utilizing the Sachem Courtroom. Examination of constitutional law issues concerning 1st, 5th, and 6th amendment rights, search and seizure procedures and related Supreme Court decisions, will further enhance the students' understanding of the law and its daily application. Field trips to court and guest lectures from the legal professions will supplement class work.

**Introduction to Sociology - College Level (12 Only)
One Semester, 1/2 Cr.**

Pre-requisite: United States History and Government Regents or Advanced Placement. This course provides an introduction to basic principles in the study of man in society. Topics will include the main problem of culture and social structure, analysis of social interaction, basic processes of group life, socialization and personality development as related to social structures, business organization, industrialization, urbanization, social class differences, and crowd and mob behavior in mass societies.

Student Leadership Seminar (11, 12)**Full Yr., Alternate Days, 1/2 Cr.**

Recommendation of Student Government Advisor is required. This elective affords students an opportunity to participate in some aspects of community or school service through a practicum component. In conceiving, planning, coordinating, and implementing a variety of projects, students will develop cooperative skills and problem-solving abilities. Students will be expected to complete regular reading and writing assignments as part of the course requirements. Participants are expected to volunteer during and after school hours to guarantee success of various projects. Students may only take this course once.

Peer Education (11, 12)**Full Yr., Alternate Days, 1/2 Cr.**

Recommendation of Peer Mediation Advisor or recommendation of Project SPECTRUM Coordinator is required. Interested in conflict resolution, erasing racism and sexism, making the Sachem community a place where diversity is appreciated? The Peer Education course will prepare you to become an activist for positive social change. Students enrolled in this course will learn how to organize workshops, run small group discussions, and teach their peers, adults, and younger students. In addition to learning these basic skills, students will have an opportunity to examine and understand themselves as people. This course is graded as Pass/Fail.

Advanced Placement Psychology (11, 12)**Full Yr., 1 Cr.**

It is recommended that students also enroll in AP Statistics. This course in psychology is similar to those offered in most colleges. It is designed for the more advanced student who is interested in obtaining a background in psychology. The AP Psychology curriculum includes the following topics: the methodology of psychological research, the biology of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and memory, motivation and emotions, the formation of personality, the assessment of and treatments for abnormal behavior, developmental psychology, cognition and language, and social psychology. This course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination in Psychology. **This course requires the completion of a summer assignment which will be handed out in June and will be collected during the first week of school in September.**