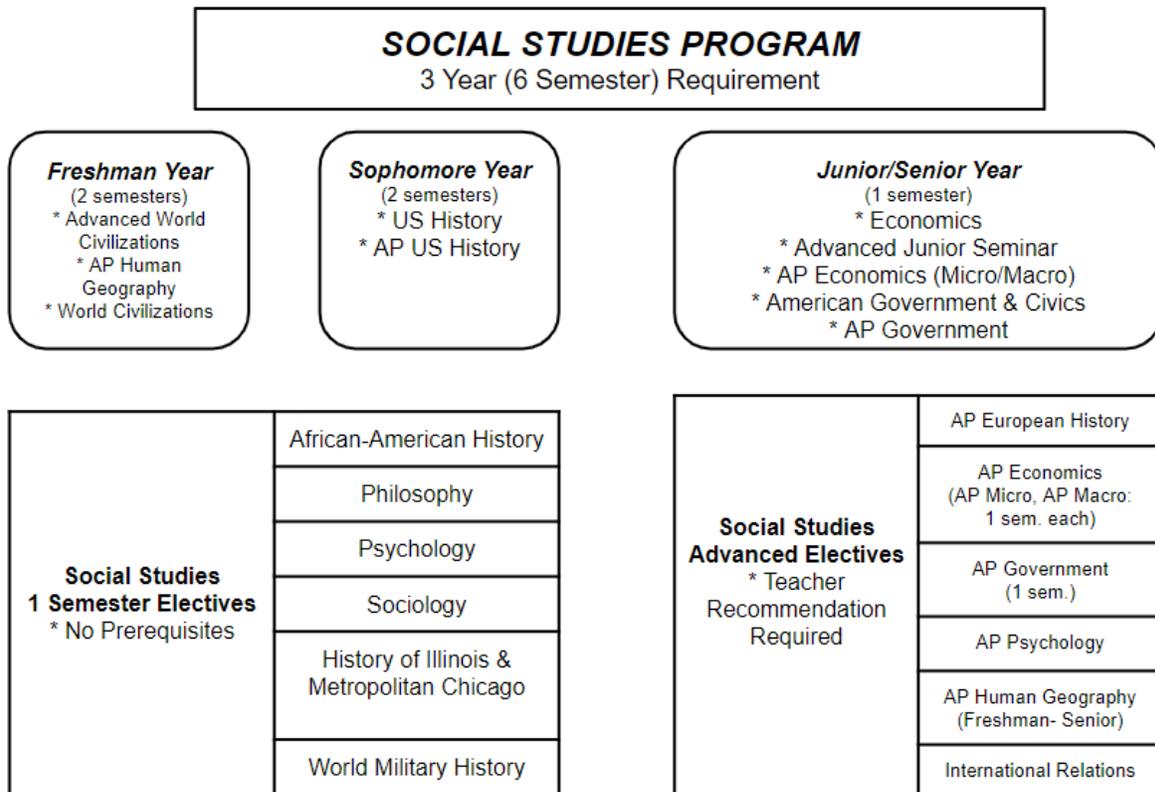


# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

The District 200 Social Studies Program provides the foundation knowledge necessary to achieve full participation as a citizen in the American republic. In addition, the program provides broad educational experience for students to understand the political, social, and economic dynamics of global trends, developments, and issues. The World Civilizations and United States History courses provide the foundation for all the electives offered within the program. Six semesters of social studies credits are required for graduation.



## ADVANCED JUNIOR SEMINAR (A)

**Length:** One Semester

**Grade:** 11

**Prerequisite:** AP United States History, and A Level English

**Qualifies for:** General Elective Credit Only

Advanced Junior Seminar is a discussion-based course that offers an opportunity for students to actively pursue an examination of life. Students will examine the ideas and theories of the great thinkers of the world and apply these ideas to shape their own definition of how they perceive the world and how they should live their life. To accomplish this, students will explore: the nature of truth, the contrast between knowledge and wisdom, the structure of reality, man's responsibility on the earth, the relationship between faith and reason, the validity of

individual and societal progress, the perceptions of time in relation to how we live, and how aesthetic concepts impact how we understand the world.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT EUROPEAN HISTORY (A)

**Length:** Two Semesters

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** U.S. History, Teacher Recommendation

Advanced Placement European History covers the events and movements that occurred in Europe during the time period 1450 to the present. The events and movements of the past are explored through the themes of cultural and intellectual development, political and diplomatic

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

---

events, and social and economic movements. Students will gain experience analyzing historical documents and expressing their historical understanding in writing. Students will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement test in European History.

---

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (A)**

*Length: Two Semesters*

*Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation*

AP Human Geography will introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. Students will be provided the opportunity to take the advanced placement exam

---

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT MACROECONOMICS (A)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: AP Microeconomics*

*Qualifies for: Applied Technology Credit*

Advanced Placement Macroeconomics is designed to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. Such a course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price determination, and also develops familiarity with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics. Students will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement test in Macroeconomics.

---

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT MICROECONOMICS (A)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: None*

*Qualifies for: Applied Technology Credit and Consumer Education Requirement*

Advanced Placement Microeconomics provides a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement test in Microeconomics.

---

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY (A)**

*Length: Two Semesters*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: None*

Advanced Placement Psychology is designed for students who wish to study human behavior and mental processes at a level that approximates an introductory college course. This course exposes students to a wide range of concepts, research findings, and psychological theories while emphasizing application (demonstration, discussion, and projects) so the students can see how these relate to their own lives. Topics include the historical development of the schools of psychology, research methods; the biological determinants of behavior, states of consciousness, sensation and perception, conditioning and learning, cognition and memory, testing individual differences, normal and abnormal personality development, different types of therapy, and social psychology. Students who take Psychology (I) may not enroll in Advanced Placement Psychology. Students who complete this course will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement Psychology exam.

---

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (A)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: U. S. History*

Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics is an introduction to the nature of government and the dynamics of American

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

---

politics. Included are the origins of American democracy, the federal system, its political party base, local politics, and objectives of political action. The student will actively participate in the political process. Students successfully completing this course will meet the graduation requirement for American Government and will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement Government and Politics (U.S.) exam.

---

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY (A)**

**Length:** Two Semesters

**Grades:** 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** World Civilizations (I, A) or AP Human Geography

Advanced Placement U. S. History is designed to develop analytical and critical thinking skills as students deal with the problems and events in U. S. History. Students will learn to assess historical materials or information and make valid interpretations. The course is designed to develop skills necessary to arrive at conclusions based on informed judgments. Students will be taught that, in forming conclusions, all evidence will have to be presented in a clear and persuasive manner. The information may be presented in either oral or written exercises. The course may involve research, extensive reading, and in-depth written assignments. It will cover U. S. History beginning with the period of exploration and discovery and concludes with recent history. Students will be prepared for and provided with the opportunity to take the advanced placement exam.

---

## **AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY (I)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** None

African American History provides a comprehensive overview of the experience of Americans of African descent beginning with ancient African civilizations and concluding with recent history. While emphasis is placed on African Americans overcoming slavery and fighting against racism and discrimination in the U.S., there is also an equal focus on the

development of African American culture and black achievement throughout U.S. history. Connections of historical events to present issues regarding African Americans is also stressed.

---

## **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND CIVICS (I)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** U.S. History

*This course meets the civics education requirement as outlined by the State of Illinois.*

The American Government course is dedicated to an extensive overview of the American Democracy. Students will learn of the extraordinary circumstances pertaining to the perpetuation of our republic, and its ongoing evolution. Areas of study include: Foundation of American Government, Three Branches of Government, Political Parties, and the election process. This class is a forum for the presentation of facts. All students will be encouraged to make his/her own political decisions. There will also be frequent discussions and student generated presentations of current political issues and events. Students successfully completing this course will meet graduation requirements in American government, including Illinois statutes pertaining to patriotism and principles of representative government.

---

## **ECONOMICS (I)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** None

*This course meets the Consumer Education requirement as outlined by the State of Illinois.*

Economics is an introduction to the essential features of economic performances, allocation of resources, scarcity, and the role of government in the management of economic systems. The students will participate in an investment project which will help them apply fundamental economic principles. The curriculum blends macro- and micro-economic topics to help students gain an understanding of the roles of consumers interacting with agriculture, business, trade unions, and government.

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

---

## **HISTORY OF ILLINOIS AND METROPOLITAN CHICAGO (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: World Civilizations, U.S. History*

This course will examine the rich history of the state of Illinois along with Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. This course will compare and contrast the experience of local citizens against the history of the nation as a whole. Students will analyze the contributions of local citizens of DuPage County, the Chicago area, and the state of Illinois on major historical events. The impact of economic growth, the importance of political actions, and the culture of the local population will also be examined.

---

## **HISTORY OF ROCK & ROLL IN AMERICA (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: None*

History of Rock & Roll in America will provide students with the opportunity to explore the history, creation, and development of the music of our time: Rock & Roll. As music has played an integral role in societies across the globe, Rock & Roll has helped to define American culture over the past century. This course will allow students to discover the history of Rock as they analyze social trends, movements, and events that led to the development of American popular music in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

---

## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (A)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: None*

International Relations highlight the ever changing current events of every corner of the globe. Through case studies (such as the Middle East and Ireland) International Relations applies theories of diplomacy, international law, and finance with historical timelines. With the use of emerging computer and role playing simulations, dynamic primary sources and current periodicals, students will actively examine and define the United States' role in an ever changing global community.

## **PHILOSOPHY (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: None*

Philosophy is a tool by which humans have attempted to understand their world. In this class, we will consider the major world philosophies, their influence on each other, and their influence on the present. We will utilize these ideas in discussion, analyze them in film and apply them to real life issues such as the meaning of happiness, the cycle of addiction, and tendencies of human nature. Throughout this course, students will consider: 1) questions concerning knowledge and truth; 2) metaphysical questions concerning the nature of reality; 3) the philosophical explanations for and against the existence of God; and 4) ethical questions concerning morality and the good life. Students learn how philosophy can help us better understand others and better know ourselves.

---

## **PSYCHOLOGY (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: None*

Psychology is a study of the principles of human behavior - both normal and abnormal. Topics include learning and cognitive processes, workings of the mind and body, human psychological development, personality theory, mental breakdown, and psychotherapy. The course stresses student interaction, discussion, and experimentation, and includes guest speakers on a variety of topics related to human behavior.

---

## **SOCIOLOGY (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

*Prerequisite: None*

Are you curious as to why people behave the way they do? Sociology is the class for you! Sociology is the study of human social relations and institutions. We study popular culture, crime, class, race and ethnicity, gender, and age over the course of the semester. We explore these topics through a variety of engaging experiences that allow us to apply the sociological perspective to

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

---

understanding human behavior. Prepare yourself for a fun and interactive class of simulations, guest speakers, videos, and discussions. You will learn how to become more reflective about yourself, your community, and your society. Walk away having a better understanding of human interaction.

---

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY (I)**

**Length:** *Two Semesters*

**Grades:** *10, 11, 12*

**Prerequisite:** *None*

United States History provides an expansive overview of the settlement, development, and continuing political, economic, and cultural evolution of the United States. Emphasis is placed on significant political events, leaders, foreign relations, economics, and social change in each period under study. Connections of historical events to present U.S. and international situations are also stressed.

---

## **WORLD CIVILIZATIONS (I, A)**

**Length:** *Two Semesters*

**Grades:** *9, 10*

**Prerequisite:** *None*

World Civilizations introduces students to the study of the history of the world as it relates to the present. Through a comparative study of major world civilizations and their evolution, students construct a narrative of the human experience. Case studies throughout the course will focus on how the decisions of the past account for the present circumstances in the world. Emphasis is placed on skills that enable students to accumulate evidence, develop comparative and causal analyses, interpret historical records, and construct sound historical interpretations on which informed decisions in contemporary scenarios can be applied.

## **WORLD MILITARY HISTORY (I)**

**Length:** *One Semester*

**Grades:** *11, 12*

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Military history is a significant and important area of study. Throughout history, wars have served as major historical events and marking posts. The course of US and world history has been tremendously affected by war. Technological advances have been made at an accelerated pace due to war. Topics will include the nature of war, tactics and strategy, technology and methods of warfare, great military leaders, crucial battles and their effect on history and present/future trends in warfare.