

SOCIAL STUDIES

<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>UNITS</u>	<u>GRADES OFFERED</u>	
World Studies	1	9	
United States History	1	10	
AP United States History (UConn ECE)	1	10	
Civics	.5	11	
American Experience - <i>Honors*</i>	2	11	
AP US Government and Politics**	1	11	12
Economics	.5	11	12
Foreign Policy/International Relations	.5	11	12
Psychology	.5	11	12
Sociology	.5	11	12
AP Psychology***	1	11	12
<u>Electives</u>			
Economics	.5	11	12
Foreign Policy/International Relations	.5	11	12
Psychology	.5	11	12
Sociology	.5	11	12
AP Psychology***	1	11	12
AP US Government and Politics**	1	11	12

*Both English and Social Studies credits are available for this course. Students must still take Civics for half a year.

**This course fulfills the Civics requirement as well as the requirement for an additional half year course.

***Students must still take Civics for half a year.

World Studies College Prep (CP) (Required of all ninth grade students) 1 Unit, 5 Periods (1 year)

Civilization's growth to modern times is surveyed. Students will use expository and argumentative writing skills, emphasized in both English and social studies classes, in writing about topics relevant to the content of World Studies. 21st Century and Common Core Standards are also reinforced. **Prerequisite: Students must successfully pass 8th grade social studies.**

World Studies Honors is a course available for those students who have passed 8th grade Social Studies and have a teacher recommendation. In addition to the curriculum listed under World Studies College Prep, this course stresses extensive reading and writing and includes additional topics.

Grade 10 Choices and Requirements

Students in grade 10 must enroll in at least one United States History course. This requirement can be fulfilled by enrollment in the United States History course or AP US History.

United States History College Prep (CP) 1 Unit, 5 Periods (1 year)

This survey course typically addresses westward expansion, the growth of Industrial America, the United States on the world stage (World Wars I and II), the United States as a post-World War II leader, and the United States into modern times. 21st Century and Common Core Standards are also reinforced. **Prerequisite: Students must successfully pass 9th grade social studies.**

United States History Honors is a course available for those students who have passed 9th grade Social Studies and have a teacher recommendation. In addition to the curriculum listed under United States History College Prep, this course stresses extensive reading and writing and includes additional topics.

Students who have taken Advanced Placement United States History are not eligible for this course.

Advanced Placement United States History 1 Unit, 5 Periods (1 year)

AP U.S. History is a challenging course that is designed to be equivalent of a freshman college course and to provide students with the necessary content knowledge and skills to successfully pass the AP U.S. History Exam. Solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to

homework and study are necessary to succeed. **Note: Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test in United States History.** Where UConn ECE is offered, students must successfully complete the course with a grade of C or above in order to receive University credit. UConn credits are transferable to many colleges and universities. There is a nominal processing fee per credit charged to students wishing to obtain UConn credit. **Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of 9th grade social studies in addition to Department Head and teacher recommendation.**

Grade 11 Choices and Requirements

In grade 11, students will choose one of the following options (Economics, Sociology, Psychology, or Foreign Policy/International Relations) in addition to the required half-year Civics Course. Students enrolled in American Experience or Advanced Placement Psychology will also take a half year of Civics, but will not be required to take an additional half year course. Students can also choose AP U.S. Government and Politics to fulfill their Civics requirement as well as their requirement for an additional half credit in social studies.

Civics (Required of all students-11th grade) Fall or Spring **.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)**
This course involves the study of the rights and responsibilities of citizens to participate in and shape public policy, how the various levels of government are structured and function, the impact of liberty and equality on the individual, and how major world events impact U.S. security and the individual lives of all citizens. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of 10th grade social studies.** *To motivate and recognize students who want to deepen their knowledge, understanding and application of key concepts, all students have the option to earn Honors distinction and Honors weight on their high school transcript by signing up for the "Honors component." Descriptions and explanations of additional assignments and higher expectations for the Honors component will be provided to students at the beginning of the course.*

Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics **1 Unit, 5 Periods (1 year)**
AP U.S. Government and Politics is a challenging course which places the U.S. Constitution at the core of all work and provides students with the necessary content knowledge and skills to successfully pass the AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam. Heavy emphasis is placed on the reading and analysis of foundational documents and Supreme Court cases. Solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to homework and study are necessary to succeed. **Note: Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test in U.S. Government and Politics.** **Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of 10th grade social studies in addition to Department Head and teacher recommendation.** *Students may not take this course concurrently with Civics.*

Economics (Honors Option) **.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)**
How do incentives influence choice? What type of competition exists between buyers and sellers? How does competition influence a market? How effective have economic policies been in terms of benefits and costs to a nation? How do economic policies impact the individual? How are globalization trends affecting citizens in terms of daily living such as labor, rights, the environment, and resource distribution? This course fosters economic thinking letting students use numbers, data, and patterns to explore economic decision-making including the role of scarcity, exchange and markets, national economies, and global economies. This course taken in additional to Civics fulfills the graduation requirement in social studies. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of 10th grade social studies.** *To motivate and recognize students who want to deepen their knowledge, understanding and application of key concepts, all students have the option to earn Honors distinction and Honors weight on their high school transcript by signing up for the "Honors component." Descriptions and explanations of additional assignments and higher expectations for the Honors component will be provided to students at the beginning of the course.*

Foreign Policy/International Relations (Honors Option) **.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)**
This course will analyze current international policies addressing the concerns of nation states while analyzing the reasons behind international policy decision-making. This course may include participation in an Internet foreign policy simulation with a variety of different high schools as well as participation in the Yale Model United Nations. This course taken in additional to Civics fulfills the graduation requirement in social studies. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of 10th grade social studies.** *To motivate and recognize students who want to deepen their knowledge, understanding and application of key concepts, all students have the option to earn Honors distinction and Honors weight on their high school transcript by*

signing up for the “Honors component.” Descriptions and explanations of additional assignments and higher expectations for the Honors component will be provided to students at the beginning of the course.

Psychology (Honors Option)

.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)

This course is devoted to the study of human behavior and is designed to enlarge the students' awareness of themselves and others. This course taken in addition to Civics fulfills the graduation requirement in social studies. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of 10th grade social studies.** *To motivate and recognize students who want to deepen their knowledge, understanding and application of key concepts, all students have the option to earn Honors distinction and Honors weight on their high school transcript by signing up for the “Honors component.” Descriptions and explanations of additional assignments and higher expectations for the Honors component will be provided to students at the beginning of the course.*

Sociology (Honors Option)

.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)

This course involves a study of people in society using case studies and employing the inquiry method. Investigation is made into sociological methods and into developing understanding of the relationship between physical environment and social problems. This course taken in addition to Civics fulfills the graduation requirement in social studies. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of 10th grade social studies.** *To motivate and recognize students who want to deepen their knowledge, understanding and application of key concepts, all students have the option to earn Honors distinction and Honors weight on their high school transcript by signing up for the “Honors component.” Descriptions and explanations of additional assignments and higher expectations for the Honors component will be provided to students at the beginning of the course.*

The American Experience –Honors

2 Units, 10 Periods (1 year)

The American Experience combines new perspectives on the study of 20th century United States history, government, law, literature, art, music, film, and popular culture. Meeting two consecutive class periods each day, it consists of two full year Honors Level courses. Note: Students in this course will still be required to take Civics. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of completion of English 2 and two years of social studies and teacher recommendation.**

Advanced Placement Psychology

1 Unit, 5 Periods (1 year)

AP Psychology is intended to be equivalent to a freshman college course and is designed to provide students with the necessary content knowledge and skills to successfully pass the AP Psychology exam. Students will examine human behavior, including the history its study, various theories, case studies, and simulations. Note: Students in this course will still be required to take Civics. **Note: Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test in Psychology. Prerequisite: Successful completion of the previous year in social studies in addition to Department Head and teacher recommendation.** *Students may not take this course concurrently with Psychology.*

Electives

Seniors may enroll in the following courses provided there is room after juniors are enrolled.

Economics (Honors Option)

.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)

Foreign Policy/International Relations (Honors Option)

.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)

Advanced Placement Psychology

1 Unit, 5 Periods (1 year)

Psychology (Honors Option)

.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)

Sociology (Honors Option)

.5 Unit, 5 Periods (1/2 year)

Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics

1 Unit, 5 Periods (1 year)