

Social Studies Program

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

Students must successfully complete the following courses in Social Studies in order to fulfill graduation requirements:

1. Global History 9 or AP World 9
2. Global History 10 or AP World 10
3. U.S. History or AP U.S. History
4. 1/2 credit Economics and 1/2 credit Government course or full year AP Government or AP Economics courses

*Elective courses will be offered based on sufficient student enrollment.

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.

SOCIAL STUDIES			
GRADE 9	GRADE 10	GRADE 11	GRADE 12
World History H	ENL Global History and Geography Regents	United States History and Government Regents	Global History and Geography Regents Workshop
Global History and Geography I	Advanced Placement World History: Modern	Advanced Placement United States History	U.S. History and Government Regents Workshop
ENL Global History and Geography Regents	Global History and Geography II	United States History and Government Skills	National History Day Research Seminar
Global History and Geography Skills	Global History and Geography Skills	Global History and Geography Regents Workshop	History of Long Island
Freshman Seminar	Embracing Diversity	National History Day Research Seminar	Principles of Economics
	Advanced Placement Human Geography	History of Long Island	Principles of Economics Honors
		Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics	Advanced Placement Economics
		Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics	Economics/Criminal Justice Skills
		Participation in Government with a Focus on Criminal Justice	Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics
		Participation in Government with a Focus on Social Issues	Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics
		War, Conflict, and Human Rights in the 20th Century	Participation in Government with a Focus on Criminal Justice
		Student Leadership Seminar	Participation in Government with a Focus on Social Issues
		Embracing Diversity	Criminal Justice II
		Peer Education	War, Conflict, and Human Rights in the 20th Century
		Advanced Placement Psychology	Introduction to Sociology
		Social Psychology	Student Leadership Seminar
		Advanced Placement Human Geography	Peer Education
			Advanced Placement Psychology
			Social Psychology
			Advanced Placement Human Geography

World History H (9)

Full Yr., 1

Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This is the first year of a two year course that follows the AP World History curriculum. 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.

Global History and Geography I (9)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: 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. The curriculum also places an emphasis on developing social studies skills, where students learn to become self-directed learners as well as collaborative workers. Students will be working with a variety of stimulus based materials (i.e. timelines, charts, graphs, illustrations, and primary and secondary source readings). Students will work on extensive writing activities and the development of high level conceptual thinking skills.

ENL Global History and Geography Regents (9, 10)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: None**Level of English language proficiency will determine placement.**

Course Description: 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.

Prerequisite: None**Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education.**

Course Description: This course is designed for classified students. By means of a very structured program, students will be trained to master critical concepts. 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.

AP World History: Modern (10)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: AP World History 9

Course Description: The second year of a two year course that follows the AP 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 will 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 societies. 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.

Global History and Geography II (10)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: Global History and Geography (9)

Course Description: This course begins with a snapshot of the world in 1750 and continues up to the present. Students in this course will study significant historical events from a global perspective, and

while the course is organized along chronological lines, there will be an emphasis on concepts woven throughout the course and extending from the foundation established in Global History and Geography I in 9th grade. These concepts and enduring issues will include, but are not limited to, geographic and environmental effects and impacts, industrialization, nationalism, imperialism, conflict, technology, human rights issues, social and political structures, and economic interdependence. This course will culminate in June with the New York State Global History and Geography II Regents Exam covering the period from 1750 to the present.

Global History and Geography Skills (10)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education.

Course Description: This course 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. This course begins with a snapshot of the world in 1750 and continues up to the present. Students

in this course will study significant historical events from a global perspective, and while the course is organized along chronological lines, there will be an emphasis on concepts woven throughout the course and extending from the foundation established in Global History and Geography. This course will culminate in June with the New York State Global History and Geography II Regents Exam covering the period from 1750 to the present.

United States History and Government Regents (11)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: Global History and Geography 9 and 10.

Course Description: The 11th grade United States History and Government course is based on the New York State Social Studies Curriculum (Framework). It is designed to provide students with a survey of the major forces of their national history. Throughout the year, students will be required to participate effectively in a range of collaborative activities, make historical claims supported by textual evidence, and conduct research to analyze historical questions. The course culminates with the United States History and Government Regents exam in June (Framework).

Advanced Placement United States History (11)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Course Description: This course is designed to provide a college-level experience and preparation for the AP exam in May. Advanced Placement United States History is an intensive study of the history of the United States from Pre-Columbian societies through the US in the Post-Cold War World. Students are expected to take notes from classroom lectures, understand and analyze primary sources including documents, cartoons, charts and graphs, think historically, (determine validity, point of view, and bias) weigh evidence, evaluate conflicting positions, and make inferences. Students also must write coherent, persuasive, analytical essay answers about historical problems. Students will also take the New York State Regents exam in United States History and Government in June.

United States History and Government Skills (11)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: Global History & Geography 9 & 10

Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education.

Course Description: 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 (Framework).

Global History and Geography Regents Workshop (11, 12)

Full Yr., Alternate

Days 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None**Placement is determined by failure on the Regents Exam in Global Studies.****Course Description:** The N.Y.S. The 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.**U.S. History and Government Regents Workshop (12)**

Full Yr., Alternate

Days, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: Failure of the Regents Exam in U.S. History and Government.**Course Description:** The N.Y.S. The 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.**National History Day Research Seminar (11, 12)**

Full Yr., Alternate Days,

1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: This course will be open to high school Juniors who have successfully completed AP World History and high school Seniors who have successfully completed AP US History.**Course Description:** This course will be focused on student driven historical research and project based learning with the goal of preparing for National History Day which is a nationwide competition designed to cultivate historical research skills, develop an appreciation for the past, and set the intellectual foundation for future academic and professional endeavors for secondary students. Each year, a theme is announced for National History Day projects. Students choose their research topics based on this theme. Students may choose to complete their projects individually or as part of a small group of students. The research and analytical efforts will be brought to life in the form of a historical research project. Students will design and create a museum exhibit, short documentary film, historical performance, research paper, or website. In addition to their finished project, students will be required to write a process paper that describes how they went about their research and its creation and the connection of their project to the theme.**History of Long Island(11/12)**

Semester, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None**Course Description:** The History of Long Island focuses on the importance of Long Island to the development of the United States. It spans from the time of the formation of Long Island, early settlers, Revolutionary War spies, maritime adventures, great advances in science, aviation and the birth of modern-day suburbia. Long Island History helps us understand change and how the society we live in came to be.**Freshman Seminar(9)**

Full Yr., Alternate

Days, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None**Course Description:** This course is designed to help ALL 9th grade students with the social and emotional challenges that accompany the transition from middle school to high school. Students will work with counselors, psychologists, social workers, teachers, administrators, and their peers to discuss the challenges they face and how to navigate them successfully so that all students feel comfortable in the high school setting. This course will also prepare students for success in high school and college by giving them a strong foundation in study skills.

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 any of the AP courses indicated below to satisfy this requirement):

1. Group A - Economics

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

2. Group B - Government

- AP Gov't & Politics U.S. (12) 1 Cr.
- Part. in Gov't-Criminal Justice (11, 12) 1/2 Cr.
- Part. in Gov't-Social Issues (11, 12) 1/2 Cr.
- AP Comparative Gov't. & Politics (11,12) 1 Cr.

Principles of Economics (12)

Semester, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course encompasses an overview of general economics including: various world economic systems; microeconomics, with a focus on the U.S. economy; macroeconomics; and decision making, personal finance, trade, types of business organizations, taxing, spending, as well as current national and international issues will be discussed. Topics covered will provide the understanding that students will need to function effectively as participants in the economy of the United States and the World. Financial literacy will be a recurring theme throughout the coursework.

Principles of Economics - Honors (12)

Semester, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course is designed to prepare students for a complex global economy. Students in this course will learn the essentials of economics combining micro and macroeconomic principles. Students will also gain an understanding of the conflict between unlimited wants and limited resources and how this forces both individuals and societies to make economic decisions. The Honors course will also help students master the principles essential for understanding economic problems, specific economic issues, and policy alternatives.

Advanced Placement Economics (12)

Full Yr., 1

Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Students may take Advanced Placement Economics to fulfill their 12th Grade Social Studies requirement.

Course Description: Advanced Placement Economics is essentially two college-level courses designed to prepare students to take two AP exams in May. The first of these two courses, Microeconomics, examines the behavior of firms and individuals within an economic system and how they interact. The second course, Macroeconomics, examines economy wide phenomena, including inflation, unemployment, and economic growth. By taking this course and mastering the material students will find themselves more prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century and have success in the global marketplace.

Economics/Criminal Justice Skills (12)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Placement must be determined by the Committee on Special Education.

Course Description: 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 United States Government and Politics (11,12)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: U. S. History & Gov 't. or AP U.S. History

Course Description: AP U.S. Government and Politics is the equivalent of a college level history course. Students investigate core concepts of political science and economics: consuming and producing polls, analyzing charts and graphs, predicting voting behavior, analyzing demographic data, and understanding the essential ideas about our political institutions, political parties, campaigns and elections, fiscal and monetary policy. Furthermore, by the end of the course, students will understand influences on the policy agenda and the process of policy making and enactment. **This course also fulfills the fourth year economic requirement for seniors.**

Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics (11,12)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: U. S. History & Gov 't. or AP U. S. History

Course Description: AP Comparative Government and Politics is the equivalent of a college-level history course. Students are provided with an introduction in the wide, diverse world of governments and political practices that currently exist in modern times. Six countries form the core of the course: Great Britain, Russia, China, Mexico, Iran, and Nigeria. The countries are chosen to reflect regional variations, but more importantly to illustrate how important concepts operate both similarly and differently in different types of political systems. **This course also fulfills the fourth year economic requirement for seniors.**

Participation in Government with a Focus on Criminal Justice(11,12) Full Yr. Alt.Days

1/2Cr.,Semester 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Criminal Justice is an introductory survey of federal, state and local criminal justice systems including police, courts, prosecutor, Grand Jury, trial jury, probation, parole, and correctional system. Guest speakers from the Suffolk County Bar Association, the Suffolk County Police Department and the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office provide students with a broad overview of the role of criminal justice in a free society.

Participation in Government with a Focus on Social Issues (11,12) Full Yr. Alt. Days

1/2Cr.,Semester.1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: 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 (12)

Semester, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: Participation in Government with a Focus on Criminal Justice.

Course Description: This course provides students with a more in-depth study of the criminal justice system. The focus of this class is to allow students to gain practical law experience through the study of trial preparation, courtroom procedures, and through the participation in mock trials utilizing the Sachem Courtroom. Extensive examination of constitutional law issues concerning 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th amendment rights, and related Supreme Court decisions will further enhance the students' understanding of the law and its daily application. Students are to note that due to the amount of research that is required class work tends to be reading and writing intensive.

War, Conflict, and Human Rights in the 20th Century (11,12)

Semester 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course is designed to engage students in an examination of racism, prejudice and conflicts that have developed in and permeated throughout the 20th century. Through anecdotal evidence as well as primary and secondary source material, videos, the internet, and a variety of other multimedia activities, students will study war, conflict, and genocide of the past one hundred years. In addition, students will analyze group and country interactions in order to understand both the needs of individuals to obey authority figures and the psychology of mass murder.

Introduction to Sociology (12)

Full Yr., Alternate Days, 1/2 Cr.,

Semester, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: United States History and Government Regents or Advanced Placement U.S. History.

Course Description: 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.

Embracing Diversity(10,11)

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This elective is designed to prepare students to become activists for positive social change. Students will work together to help the school and community to recognize the importance of celebrating diversity and many cultures. The students focus on character building, reducing racism and increasing tolerance and understanding. These young leaders help others recognize the consequences of bullying and its impact on our students today. As our society becomes more and more diverse it is especially important for students to have knowledge about various cultures in order to ensure that we can work together. Additionally, participants will learn about their own identity and in the end realize that despite our differences, we are more alike than different.

Student Leadership Seminar (11,12)

Full Yr., Alternate

Days, 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: 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.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: Peer Education is a course that will no doubt change the way you see yourself and your peers. Its goal is to help students and the school community to recognize that despite the differences we may see on the outside, we are truly more alike than we are different. As our class becomes one, we will visit and educate our peers in the elementary and middle schools about the importance of acceptance and kindness. Major projects Peer Educators organize for our peers include: Start With Hello, Operation Kindness, PS. I Love You Day, Beyond the Label, You are Not Alone, and Random Acts of Kindness Week. Upon completion of this course, you will realize more about yourself and your peers, and together learn to work through toxic relationships, anxiety, loss, stress, peer pressure, and social isolation.

Homework: Students are expected to volunteer at the high school or other schools in our community..

Advanced Placement Psychology (11,12)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: This course 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. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with the major subfields of psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. This course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination in Psychology.

Social Psychology (11,12)

Full Yr., Alternate Days, 1/2 Cr.,

Semester 1/2 Cr.

Prerequisite: None. This course may be taken before, after, or concurrently with AP Psychology.

Course Description: In this course students will critically examine various psychological experiments and case studies and reflect upon the application this research has to solve real world problems and help students understand situations they encounter in everyday life. We will explore various ways people think about, influence, and relate to one another. The course will cover such topics as the social self-concept, social judgment, attitudes, persuasion, conformity, aggression, helping behavior, prejudice and interpersonal relationships. The goals of this course are to improve understanding of social psychological explanations for social influence and interaction, including the way in which it impacts everyday lives.

Advanced Placement Human Geography (10,11,12)

Full

Yr., 1 Cr.

Prerequisite: None

Course Description: AP Human Geography is a full year college level course designed for students who are interested in history, geography, and cultural anthropology. It will teach students about the patterns and processes that explain how and why we live where we do. We delve into how humans have changed the Earth, been changed by the Earth, and how they have interacted with each other on the Earth. Topics will include: population and demographics, culture, political organization of space, agriculture and rural land use, industrialization and economic development, as well as cities and urban land use. Critical analysis of primary and secondary resources, research, and thesis writing are emphasized. The course will culminate with the College Board AP Exam in May.