

## Social Studies Electives



### AP Comparative Government

This one-semester college-level government course requires study of the fundamental comparative concepts, political systems, and processes and outcomes of politics in Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia and China. Students are expected to be interested in and up-to-date on current global issues related to political changes, social movements, and economic situations. Students will read and analyze various country constitutions, as well as use multiple perspectives in current issues, theories, models, methods of thinking and research, hands-on application, and analysis of current nation-states. Our studies focus on six major topics:

- Comparative Government and Politics
- Sovereignty, Authority, and Power
- Political Institutions of the World (select nation-states)
- Citizens, Society and the role of the State
- Political and Economic Change
- Public Policy

Ultimately, students will focus on a comparative approach to the major themes:

- The process of democratization and political changes
- Development and industrialization
- Supranationalism, Nationalism, and Isolationism
- Globalization of the world economy and comparative political systems



### AP Human Geography

#### **.5 credit - weighted**

This one-semester class is designed to prepare students to be successful on the AP Human Geography test, enabling them to earn college credit hours. APHG gives students the opportunity to further investigate the concepts introduced in the freshman World Geography course in more detail, with an emphasis on analyzing case studies from recent events. Units include:

- Population and Demographics
- Urbanization
- Agriculture and Industry

- Culture, language, and religion
- Economic and political systems



### AP Psychology

#### **- weighted**

Do you ever wonder what makes us think, feel, and act like we do? Psychology is the study of the human mind and behavior. It embraces all aspects of the human experience — from the functions of the brain to the actions of nations, from child development to care for the aged. In every conceivable setting from scientific research centers to mental healthcare services, "the understanding of behavior" is the undertaking of psychologists. In AP, we will cover topics related to Approaches, Research, Neuroscience, Sensation and Perception, States of Consciousness, Stress and Health, Development, Learning, Cognition, Motivation, Emotion, Personality, Intelligence, Psychological Disorders, Treatment, and Social Psychology.

There is no pre-requisite for this course. Psychology and AP Psychology are both semester courses that count as separate credits. You can take one or both!

## Social Studies Electives

### **Street Law** know your rights.

#### Street Law

**.5 credit**

This one-semester course for upcoming juniors and seniors covers aspects of criminal and civil law. This exciting and fun course also includes current events here and around the world.



#### Psychology

**.5 credit**

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#### AP Microeconomics

**.5 credit -- weighted**

In this introductory college-level microeconomics course, students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to the functions of individual economic decision-makers. Students use principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like scarcity and markets; costs, benefits, and marginal analysis; production choices and behavior; and market inefficiency and public policy. The course also develops students' familiarity with the operation of product and factor markets, distributions of income, market failure, and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.



#### Ethnic Studies

**1 credit (year-long) - weighted**

This year-long, college-prep course provides students the opportunity to consider US history from multiple perspectives, including the experiences of African-Americans, Latinos, Asian-Americans, Native Americans, and other marginalized groups whose stories are often overlooked. Students will utilize primary resources, literature, music, film, and analysis of US historical events to gain a deeper appreciation of the contributions and complex experiences of diverse groups. Students will also study the local, state and national history from pre-colonization to the present, with a critical focus on the movements and changes promoting equity and justice.

In addition, students will consider issues in their own lives and communities, using research skills, creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and empathy to become powerful advocates for change.