

SOCIAL STUDIES

The goal of the social studies department is to prepare students to become humane, rational, participating citizens in a world that is becoming increasingly interdependent. Students of today live in a world of complex, pressing global and domestic problems. Americans need competence in making decisions based upon an understanding of our heritage, a commitment to democratic values, and a responsibility to self, society, and the world. Social studies has, as its primary responsibility, the goal for developing decision-making competence and for promoting understanding of how individuals, groups, governments, and economic systems relate to each other.

2104300 **INTRODUCTION TO THE SOCIAL SCIENCES (ISS)** **Grade 9**
1 credit

This course is designed to provide incoming ninth graders with an introduction to essential reading, critical thinking, study, and citizenship skills, which will be taught through the study of a variety of social science disciplines. Disciplines explored include the behavioral sciences (psychology, sociology, and anthropology), geography, history, economics, ecology, political science, and future studies. Heavy emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills and the development of a career plan.

2100370 **EASTERN AND WESTERN HERITAGE HONORS (HONORS ISS)** **Grade 9**
1 credit

Prerequisite: See Honors Criteria

The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand the development of the world community within the context of history by examining connections to the past to prepare for the future as participating members of a global society. Students will use knowledge pertaining to history, geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures, and humanities to solve problems in academic, civic, social, and employment settings.

2103400 **AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY** **Grade 9**
1 credit

Prerequisite: See Honors Criteria

Advanced Placement Human Geography serves as an introduction to the study of geography as a social science by emphasizing the relevance of geographic concepts to human problems. This course approaches geography as the science of location, with emphasis on spatial patterns of human activities. The concepts of population, cultural patterns and processes, political organization of space, agriculture and rural land use, industrialization and economic development, cities and urban land use form the core of this course. Students are expected to sit for the AP exam in May. More information about the AP program can be found at www.collegeboard.com/ap.

2109310 **WORLD HISTORY** **Grade 10**
1 credit

Specific content to be covered will include: an understanding of geographic-historic and time-space relationships; the use of the arbitrary periodization in history; a review of prehistory, the rise of civilization and cultural universal; the development of religion and the impact of religious thought; the evolution of political systems and philosophies; the

2105310

WORLD RELIGIONS

Grades 11 - 12

1/2 credit

and

2106440

GLOBAL STUDIES

1/2 credit

Prerequisite: A grade of "B" or higher in previous social studies class

The purpose of World Religions is to provide the student with an opportunity to explore the historical role of religion in the world. Content will include the development of such religions as Taoism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism, and Buddhism. Students will analyze the similarities and differences of belief systems, and their accompanying cross-cultural complexities as they relate to the modern world and to the future of humankind.

In Global Studies, students will examine how geography, history, religion, political, and economic systems affect today's world and the issues people face every day. For example, the Vietnam War will be used as a case study to understand how recent American foreign policy works. Students will also focus on: the Decline of World Communism, World Poverty and United States Foreign Aid, Human Rights, the Middle East and Oil Policy. Students will also apply a model for revolution in the developing world to Latin American. Students will act as decision makers and problem solvers in government and United Nations settings. This course is designed for the serious social studies student who enjoys reading about recent history and defending his/her own informed opinions.

2106350

LAW STUDIES

Grades 11 - 12

1/2 credit

and

2106390

COURT PROCEDURES

1/2 credit

Prerequisite: A grade of "B" or higher in English.

The purpose of Law Studies is to provide students the opportunity to acquire an understanding of the American Legal process. Emphasis will be placed on reading and writing about important legal issues in large and small group discussions and mock trials. Guest speakers and field trips are an integral part of the course. Major topics include: the function of law in a democratic society; the sources of law in the United States; laws in our federal system, a delicate balance; judicial structure and procedures in the United States and Florida court system; conflicts between the individual rights and the public welfare under the Bill of Rights; criminal law in the United States, crime and its causes and issues related to it; juvenile law, its purpose, the court system, and important related issues; torts and important areas in civil law.

In Court Procedures, students will explore the judiciary system of the United States and Florida specifically. The content will include: the structure, processes, and procedures of county, circuit, appeals, and civil courts; specific crimes and legal issues; juvenile law; the rights of the arrested; courtroom procedure and efficiency; comparative legal systems; and career choices in the American judicial system. During this semester, students will be involved in mock trials. *Students exploring the possibility of a career in law, law enforcement, politics, social services, or business should consider taking these two law courses.*

2107300 **PSYCHOLOGY** **Grades 11 - 12**
1/2 credit

2108300 **and**
SOCIOLOGY
1/2 credit

Prerequisite: *A grade of "C" or higher in English.*

In Psychology, students will explore the theories and methods of study employed by psychologists; human growth and development; self-concept development; adjustment, motivation, and desire; intelligence, conditioning and learning memory; personality and behavior; emotion and frustration; abnormal behavior, conformity, autonomy, alienation, stress, mental health, and therapy.

In Sociology, content will include: understanding the methods of study employed by sociologists; social institutions and norms; social classes; relationships between the sexes, racial, and ethnic groups, as well as the handicapped; group behavior; the socialization process (including the transmission of group behavior); social deviation; social conflict; social roles; social stratification; social participation; and the role of social organizations and institutions, including their interrelationships and interdependence. A major emphasis will be placed on examining current social issues facing students and adult citizens.

AMH 2010 **UNITED STATES HISTORY TO 1865** **Grade 11**
1/2 credit **and**

AMH 2020 **UNITED STATES HISTORY 1865 TO PRESENT**
1/2 credit

Dual Credit: *3 credits at Edison Community College for each semester completed at PCHS.*

Prerequisite: *See Honors Criteria. Required GPA of 3.0 and entrance exam scores of ACT/SAT/CPT*

This course is designed for students interested in the opportunity to obtain college credit while in high school by completing an academically challenging course. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the opportunity to develop the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the content and materials relevant to America's historical development. Concepts and skills developed will allow the student to understand current issues.

2102370 **ADVANCED PLACEMENT MACRO-ECONOMICS** **Grade 12**
1/2 credit

Prerequisites: *See Honors Criteria.*

The purpose of the AP course in macroeconomics is 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-level determination, and also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students are expected to sit for the AP exam in May. More information about the AP program can be found at www.collegeboard.com/ap.

2106420 **ADVANCED PLACEMENT AMERICAN GOVERNMENT** **Grade 12**
1/2 credit

Prerequisite: *See Honors Criteria*

This academically challenging course is designed to help students gain and display an understanding of American politics and the processes of government that help shape our public policies. Students learn about the methods of studying political behavior and political institutions. The course is designed to teach the Constitutional underpinnings of the government, political beliefs and behaviors, political

parties, interest groups, the congress, the presidency, the bureaucracy, the federal courts, public policy, civil rights, and civil liberties. Students are expected to sit for the AP exam in May. More information about the AP program can be found at www.collegeboard.com/ap.

2106440	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS	Grades 10-12
1 credit		
2106355	INTERNATIONAL LAW	Grades 10-12
1 credit		
2106330	CIVICS	Grades 10-12
1 credit		

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

In International Relations, students learn to function effectively in a global community, understanding the nature of the modern national state, national goals, and how nations communicate and negotiate to facilitate these goals.

In International Law, students analyze and compare the different legal and political concepts, systems, and operations across countries and ideologies; how these structures affect international relations, and how legal disputes between countries are settled. The intent of this course is to give students a more global perspective of democratic citizenship within the framework of civics education.

In Civics, students learn to perform effectively as informed citizens of their community, the state of Florida, and the United States by acquiring knowledge and skills necessary for active participation in a dynamic, pluralistic and democratic society. The content will include, but not be limited to American constitutional government—free enterprise system, structure and functions of local, state and national governments within constitutional and economic frameworks—selected content from law-focused topics, consumer and career education, and political and economic decision-making issues, rights and responsibilities of citizenship, importance of political participation, and the role of women and diverse cultural groups.

HUM 2211 Studies in Humanities: The Ancient World through the Medieval Period
Grade 11-12 (1st semester) 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: See Honors Criteria. Required GPA of 3.0 and entrance exam scores of ACT/SAT/CPT

This course is an interdisciplinary humanities course with a multicultural and global perspective.

Drawing from the field of arts and letters, the course is a study of European culture from the prehistoric age through the end of the medieval period, as well as the cultures of Asia, Africa and the contemporary Americas. This course is termed a writing intensive course. If completed with a grade of "C" or better, this course serves to demonstrate competence in written communications.

HUM 2510 Humanities Through the Arts Grade 11-12 (2nd semester) 1/2 credit

Prerequisite: See Honors Criteria. Required GPA of 3.0 and entrance exam scores of ACT/SAT/CPT

This is a course which explores human values and our sense of selves as individuals in community through the This course is termed a writing intensive course and requires a minimum of 4,000 words of instructor-evaluated writing per student, including a minimum of three graded assignments over the duration of the course. If completed with a grade of "C" or better, this course serves to complete part of the writing intensive course requirements.