

## SOCIAL STUDIES

**526 GLOBAL STUDIES** All year 1 Credit 10

This course is a survey of the geography, history, and cultures of various regions of the world. Students will be exposed to the diverse peoples in our ever shrinking world in order to learn more about them. Major events, influential people, and the world trends and controversies of the past and present will be emphasized. Map study will also be included.

**528 GLOBAL STUDIES HONORS** All year 1 Credit 10

**Prerequisite:** Department chairperson approval.

The world of past, present and future will be analyzed in depth. Approaches of study will cover historical, political, cultural and geographic aspects. Global predictions, based on accumulated data, will be formulated. Map study will also be included.

**536 U.S. HISTORY** All year 1 Credit 11

**Note:** Students will take the U.S. and Illinois Constitution tests.

This course follows the development of the United States from its colonial foundations to the present, studying how and why our nation developed as it has. Important events, persons and trends in our history will be emphasized. The structure of our government and its influence on our history will also be studied.

**538 A.P. U.S. HISTORY (HONORS)** All year 1 Credit 11

**Prerequisite:** Minimum Junior standing, a grade of B+ or better in Global Studies Honors, AND department chairperson approval.

**Note:** Taking the AP History exam at the completion of the AP U.S. History course is required. There is an AP Test fee. Students will also take the U.S. and Illinois Constitution tests. This course may be used to fulfill a Maria H.S. graduation requirement, some colleges may not accept it for college credit. Please consult your counselor for further information.

This course is an in-depth study of the United States with special emphasis on historical evaluation and interpretation. The main focus will be placed on writing skills and on the research topics covered in the course. Outside reading will be required.

## SENIOR YEAR SOCIAL STUDIES

Students should select either BOTH of the SEMESTER courses OR ONE of the following YEAR LONG courses to fill their Senior Social Studies Requirement:

### SEMESTER COURSES

545 Sociology  
542 US History Post 1945

### YEAR LONG COURSES

557 Political Science PACC H  
554 U.S. Government & Politics H

**545 SOCIOLOGY** Semester ½ Credit 12

This course presents Sociology as a field of scientific knowledge which studies group behavior and its effect on the individual. Characteristics of group life, the effect of the group on human conduct, and the inter-relationships among society, culture and the individual will be studied.

**542 UNITED STATES HISTORY POST 1945** All Year 1 Credit 12

This course will involve an in depth examination of American History since 1945. Among the topics to be examined will be the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, Feminism, Watergate, 9-11, and Hurricane Katrina. The class will also examine the presidential administrations from Truman to present. This course will also offer an examination of the Holocaust, which involved the systematic murder of 11 million Jews and other people by the Nazis during WWII.

**540 PSYCHOLOGY****All year****1 Credit****12**

This senior elective course presents Psychology as a field of scientific knowledge which studies human behavior and mental processes. It acquaints the students with the fundamental technical vocabulary and develops familiarity with various schools of thought. Topics covered include: theories of personality, human development (physical, social, and cognitive), learning and cognition, perception, sensation, and intelligence. Also, the roles of heredity versus the environment (the nature/nurture controversy), the biological roots of behavior, states of consciousness, and psychological disorders and their treatment are covered. **Note: This elective course does not fulfill the Social Studies requirement.**

*554 U.S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS - AP**All year**1 Credit**12***Prerequisite: Senior standing, B average and approval of Department Chair.**

The purpose of this course is to examine how the United States is governed today by looking at present behavior as well as the Framers' intentions and how they have been implemented and adapted over the years. It is hoped that by understanding their government as it exists today students will become better citizens, make better choices and come to see politics as positive. This honors AP class emphasizes critical thinking and writing skills and deals with social justice. **Taking the AP U.S. Government and Politics exam at the completion of the course is required. There is an AP Test fee.**

**557 POLITICAL SCIENCE: American National Government, PACC****All year****12****1 Honors credit and 3 semester hours of college credit****Prerequisite: Senior standing, with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better and a score in (at least) the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile on the Plan.**

**Note: Student earns 3 credits through the St. Mary's University, Winona, MN, PACC program. Registration with St. Mary's will be completed in August and a tuition payment of \$60 per credit (total \$180 for this course) is to be made in full at this time. Checks covering your tuition must be made payable to St. Mary's University, and returned with the registration material to your teacher. While this course may be used to fulfill a Maria H.S. graduation requirement, some colleges may not accept it for college credit. Please consult your counselor for further information.**

This is a basic course on the nature and purpose of our U.S. political system which includes the Constitution, institutions, processes and persons that combine to form our federal government. The student is exposed to a variety of approaches to political study.