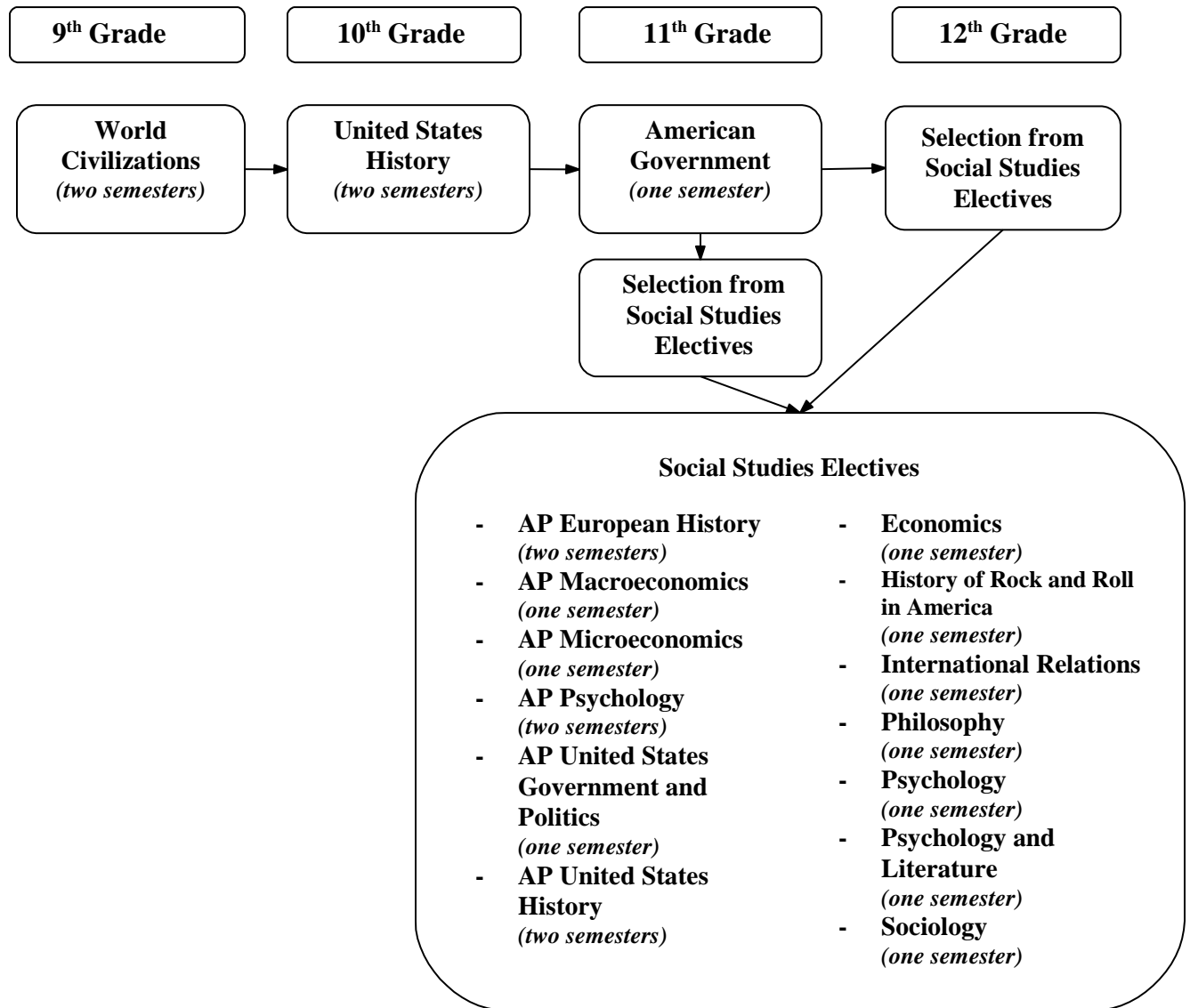


# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

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The District 200 social studies program provides the foundation knowledge necessary to achieve full participation as a citizen in the American republic. In addition, the program provides broad educational experience for students to understand the political, social, and economic dynamics of global trends, developments, and issues. The World Civilizations and United States History courses provide the foundation for all the electives offered within the program. Six semesters of Social Studies credit are required for graduation.



# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

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## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT EUROPEAN HISTORY (A)**

**Length:** *Two Semesters*

**Grades:** *11, 12*

Advanced Placement European History covers the events and movements that occurred in Europe during the time period 1450 to the present. The events and movements of the past are explored through the themes of cultural and intellectual development, political and diplomatic events, and social and economic movements. Students will gain experience analyzing historical documents and expressing their historical understanding in writing. Students will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement test in European History.

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## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT MACROECONOMICS (A)**

**Length:** *One Semester*

**Grades:** *11, 12*

**Prerequisite:** *AP Microeconomics*

**Qualifies for:** *Applied Technology Credit*

Advanced Placement Macroeconomics is designed 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 determination, and also develops familiarity with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics. Students will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement test in Macroeconomics.

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## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT MICROECONOMICS (A)**

**Length:** *One Semester*

**Grades:** *11, 12*

**Qualifies for:** *Applied Technology Credit and Consumer Education Requirement*

Advanced Placement Microeconomics provides a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and

functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement test in Microeconomics.

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## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY (A)**

**Length:** *Two Semesters*

**Grades:** *11, 12*

Advanced Placement Psychology is designed for students who wish to study human behavior and mental processes at a level that approximates an introductory college course. This course exposes students to a wide range of concepts, research findings, and psychological theories while emphasizing application (demonstration, discussion, and projects) so the students can see how these relate to their own lives. Topics include the historical development of the schools of psychology, research methods; the biological determinates of behavior, states of consciousness, sensation and perception, conditioning and learning, cognition and memory, testing individual differences, normal and abnormal personality development, different types of therapy, and social psychology. Students who take Psychology (I) may not enroll in Advanced Placement Psychology. Students who complete this course will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement Psychology exam.

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## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (A)**

**Length:** *One Semester*

**Grades:** *10, 11, 12*

**Prerequisite:** *U. S. History*

Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics is an introduction to the nature of government and the dynamics of American politics. Included are the origins of American democracy, the federal system, its political party base, local politics, and objectives of political action. The student will actively participate in the political process. Students successfully

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

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completing this course will meet the graduation requirement for American Government and will be prepared for and should take the Advanced Placement Government and Politics (U.S.) exam.

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY (A)**

**Length:** *Two Semesters*

**Grades:** *10, 11, 12*

Advanced Placement U. S. History is designed to develop analytical and critical thinking skills as students deal with the problems and events in U. S. History. Students will learn to assess historical materials or information and make valid interpretations. The course is designed to develop skills necessary to arrive at conclusions based on informed judgments. Students will be taught that, in forming conclusions, all evidence will have to be presented in a clear and persuasive manner. The information may be presented in either oral or written exercises. The course may involve research, extensive reading, and in-depth written assignments. It will cover U. S. History beginning with the period of exploration and discovery and concluding with recent history. Students will be prepared for and provided with the opportunity to take the advanced placement exam.

government, including Illinois statutes pertaining to patriotism and principles of representative government.

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## **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (R, I)**

**Length:** *One Semester*

**Grades:** *11, 12*

**Prerequisite:** *U.S. History*

The American Government course is dedicated to an extensive overview of the American Democracy. Students will learn of the extraordinary circumstances pertaining to the perpetuation of our republic, and its ongoing evolution. Areas of study include: Foundation of American Government, Three Branches of Government, Political Parties, and the election process. This class is a forum for the presentation of facts. All students will be encouraged to make his/her own political decisions. There will also be frequent discussions and student generated presentations of current political issues and events. Students successfully completing this course will meet graduation requirements in American

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

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## **ECONOMICS (I)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grades:** 11, 12

*This course meets the Consumer Education requirement as outlined by the State of Illinois.*

Economics is an introduction to the essential features of economic performances, allocation of resources, scarcity, and the role of government in the management of economic systems. The students will participate in an investment project which will help them apply fundamental economic principles. The curriculum blends macro- and micro-economic topics to help students gain an understanding of the roles of consumers interacting with agriculture, business, trade unions, and government.

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## **GIFTED GLOBAL SEMINAR (A)**

**Length:** Two Semesters

**Grade:** 9

**Prerequisite:** *Teacher Recommendation and/or Enrollment in Fast-Paced Language Arts*

Gifted Global Seminar is designed for identified gifted students, providing for them an opportunity to examine and discuss world history and contemporary global issues in an intellectually challenging environment. The course is designed to challenge students to think independently about how world history assists in understanding the complexities of today's global arena. In addition to learning the content, students are expected to perform writing, speaking, and analytical skills at a high performance level in a seminar-like classroom model.

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## **GIFTED JUNIOR SEMINAR (A)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grade:** 11

**Prerequisite:** *Gifted Global Seminar, AP United States History, and A Level English*

Gifted Junior Seminar is a discussion-based course that offers an opportunity for students to actively pursue an examination of life. Students will examine the ideas and theories of the great thinkers of the world and apply these ideas to

shape their own definition of how they perceive the world and how they should live their life. To accomplish this, students will explore: the nature of truth, the contrast between knowledge and wisdom, the structure of reality, man's responsibility on the earth, the relationship between faith and reason, the validity of individual and societal progress, the perceptions of time in relation to how we live, and how aesthetic concepts impact how we understand the world.

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## **HISTORY OF ROCK & ROLL IN AMERICA (I)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grades:** 11, 12

History of Rock & Roll in America will provide students with the opportunity to explore the history, creation, and development of the music of our time: Rock & Roll. As music has played an integral role in societies across the globe, Rock & Roll has helped to define American culture over the past century. This course will allow students to discover the history of Rock as they analyze social trends, movements, and events that led to the development of American popular music in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

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## **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (A)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grades:** 11, 12

International Relations highlight the ever changing current events of every corner of the globe. Through case studies (such as the Middle East and Ireland) International Relations applies theories of diplomacy, international law, and finance with historical timelines. With the use of emerging computer and role playing simulations, dynamic primary sources and current periodicals, students will actively examine and define the United States' role in an ever changing global community.

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## **PHILOSOPHY (I)**

**Length:** One Semester

**Grades:** 11, 12

Philosophy is a one-semester course designed to

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

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give students a broad introduction to the theories, principles, and contemporary issues confronted by philosophy. The objectives of this course are to improve thinking skills, engage in thoughtful articulation, and gain exposure to a variety of ways at looking at everyday, common occurrences. The course includes analysis of philosophical issues such as logic, metaphysics, aesthetics, and ethics.

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## **PSYCHOLOGY (R, I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

Psychology is a study of the principles of human behavior - both normal and abnormal. Topics include learning and cognitive processes, workings of the mind and body, human psychological development, personality theory, mental breakdown, and psychotherapy. The course stresses student interaction, discussion, and experimentation, and includes guest speakers on a variety of topics related to human behavior.

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## **PSYCHOLOGY AND LITERATURE (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grade: 12*

*Credit: ½ credit English and ½ credit Social Studies*

Psychology and Literature is a cross-curricular, two-period, team-taught class. This class is designed to connect the current Psychology curriculum with literature such as novels, short stories, poetry, and essays selected to reinforce concepts common to both subject matter areas. Basic psychological principles will be learned and applied as they reveal themselves through the literature read. This course stresses student interaction, discussion, and experimentation.

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## **SOCIOLOGY (I)**

*Length: One Semester*

*Grades: 11, 12*

Sociology is the science that deals with the investigation and analysis of human group relationships, their causes, and consequences. In short, the course deals with the study of society.

Within this study, one deals with groups as small as two people to groups as large as all of western or eastern culture. The organization of society, cultural comparisons, social problems, and the effect of various groups in society on the individual are all key elements in the study of sociology.

## **UNITED STATES HISTORY (R, I)**

*Length: Two Semesters*

*Grades: 10, 11, 12*

United States History provides an expansive overview of the settlement, development, and continuing political, economic, and cultural evolution of the United States. Emphasis is placed on significant political events, leaders, foreign relations, economics, and social change in each period under study. Connections of historical events to present U.S. and international situations are also stressed.

# SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

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## **WORLD CIVILIZATIONS (R, I, A)**

*Length: Two Semesters*

*Grades: 9, 10*

World Civilizations introduces students to the study of the history of the world as it relates to the present. Through a comparative study of major world civilizations and their evolution, students construct a narrative of the human experience. Case studies throughout the course will focus on how the decisions of the past account for the present circumstances in the world. Emphasis is placed on skills that enable students to accumulate evidence, develop comparative and causal analyses, interpret historical records, and construct sound historical interpretations on which informed decisions in contemporary scenarios can be applied.