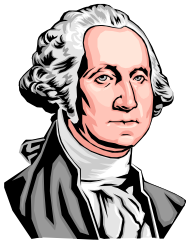


# SOCIAL STUDIES



The social studies curriculum at Cathedral Preparatory School requires students to study World Geography, World History, and U.S. History in their freshman, sophomore, and junior years respectively. The requirement in the senior year includes the choice of one other one-semester course in U.S. Gov't.

Electives in the senior year may include courses in history (European, Pennsylvania, and Modern U.S.), political science, economics, criminal justice, sociology, psychology, Vietnam and the 60's, Civil War, and World War II. Courses are labeled as regulars, honors and advanced placement. Seniors are encouraged to take more than the required two elective schedule permitting.

The rationale for this curriculum is to help students realize how man and the societies of the past have helped to create the present, and that this study will help the student to envision the possibilities of the future. The study of other social disciplines in the senior year provides the student with a different view point of the same reality.

The overall goal of the social sciences at Cathedral Prep is to help the students to develop into active learners and independent thinkers. Through the evaluation of their learning outcomes, in terms of desirable behavior, will help them cope within today's society.

With this in mind, the following broad categories of objectives are used throughout the department as attention is given to a specific unit.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

<b>345 Human Geography – AP</b>	Two Semesters
Grade: 9	Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None	
<p>AP Human Geography is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of the various patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the earth’s surface. The physical, political, economic, demographic, and social characteristics of human population and their impact on the earth’s environment will be explored and closely examined. Employing the Five Geographic Themes and Human Geography’s seven core topics, students will be equipped with the critical thinking and analytic skills necessary to synthesize geographic data and to recognize causal relationships. From classroom lectures, presentations, research projects, and outside reading, students will be empowered with the tools and information required to be well prepared for the Advanced Placement exam given at the end of the school year.</p>	
<b>343 &amp; 344 World Geography H &amp; R</b>	Two Semesters
Grade: 9	Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None	
<p>World Geography is designed to empower the students with a basic understanding of all the aspects of mankind’s use of and impact on the earth’s surface. This course will give students an overview of the world, its people, and its cultures. Students will be introduced to important geographic, economic, and political concepts that will both enhance the student’s store of information and lay the ground work for their future success in upper level social studies courses. This conceptual foundation will enable students to critically analyze and evaluate the major global issues confronting today’s world. These include, but are not limited to boundary disputes, urbanization, global warming, deforestation, waste disposal, and conservation of natural resources.</p>	
<b>332 &amp; 333 World History H &amp; R</b>	Two Semesters
Grade: 10	Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None	
<p>World History is a survey course that uses a thematic and comparative approach to world history that focuses on the political, cultural, socio-economic, philosophic, and religious developments of the western world. This course is divided into five major sections: Ancient History, Medieval History, the Renaissance and Enlightenment, the Age of Discovery and European Dominance, and Modern History. Since the same text is used for both the honors and regulars levels, the goals for each section are essentially the same. However, at the honors level there is a greater emphasis placed on developing the following skills: forming hypothesis, making comparisons, identifying point of view, and understanding causal relationships.</p>	
<b>331 World History – AP</b>	One Semester
Grade: 10	Credits: 2.0
<p>The purpose of the AP World History course is to develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts. The course highlights different human societies and their changes, causes and consequences. Themes and periodization provide organization to the course with emphasis on relevant factual knowledge.</p>	
<b>321 American History AP</b>	Two Semesters
Grade: 11	Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None	
<p>This course empowers students to understand the study of history as a society and the relationships between the past and present. It teaches the methods of historical study and how to effectively manage large amounts of material through reading, note taking, and research.</p>	

<b>322 &amp; 323 U.S. History H &amp; R</b>	Two Semesters
Grade: 11	Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: None	
This course gives the student knowledge of U.S. History, democratic values, and the ability to appreciate the past and its affect on the present and future. It helps the student develop skills of verbal expression, reading, and writing. Knowledge of U.S. History is essential if we are to think critically set goals, solve problems and make decisions that benefit our nation, the world and ourselves.	
<b>352 Economics</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
Economics focuses on the basic concepts of allocation of scarce resources, supply and demand, and equilibrium forms of business organizations, the free market system, the price system, and price elastic ties. It continues on into microeconomics covering inputs, outputs, methods of production, capital markets, and investments, consumer behavior and choice, government regulations, and public finance. This provided a solid basis for further study in macroeconomics. Student evaluation is based on objective questions and expository examinations relating economic concepts to real world situations.	
<b>311 Introduction to Sociology R</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
The intent of this course is to give the student a basic understanding of sociology. Students will be able to describe the basic principles of Sociology, research methods, social structures and institutions, and the dynamics of social change within a society. Students will assess the moral values of the relationships of various segments of society. Students will be aware of how social structures integrate with our political and economic institutions.	
<b>312 Introduction to Sociology H</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
Introduction to Sociology is a one-semester course designed to give students a broader understanding of what it means to be human and how individuals relate to others in a group setting. In the course of the semester, students are encouraged to examine the underlying forces, which shape American culture. Classes are devoted to the study of sociological perspectives, important sociologists, social organization, culture, social structure, inequalities and social change.	
<b>315 Comparative Government</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
Political Science introduces the student to the various forms of government in the world by using the government of the United States as the basic comparison. This will entail examining existing government structures and philosophies along with their evolution.	
<b>316 AP American Government</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
AP American Government will teach students an in depth understanding of the structures of government in the United States. Institutions will be examined to understand their components, but a significant emphasis shall also be put on the philosophy of the Founding Fathers. Students will be taught the different theories for state construction, rights, and economics so that they not only understand how our government works the way it does, but why it was set up in that fashion to begin with. Exams will test the students' knowledge of facts and history, but will also contain critical thinking essays in order to apply the concepts in class and show comprehension of the philosophies of government AP students will be expected to write frequently and will complete a term paper at the end of the semester.	

<b>317 Honors American Government</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
<p>Honors American Government will examine the structures of the United States model of government and the foundation for them. Students will learn about the overall conception of American government and be taught the workings of our federal, state, and local authorities. The philosophy behind the creation of American institutions will be introduced and analyzed. Students will come to an understanding not only of how the government works, but also why it has been set up in this fashion. It is also imperative that the students understand how they can access their government and become conscientious citizens. Exams will test the knowledge of facts and the application of classroom concepts to real world events. Honors students will be required to complete a few writing assignments, including a term paper at the end of the semester.</p>	
<b>318 Regulars American Government</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
<p>Regulars American government will introduce the students to the basics of American democracy. We will focus on the institutions in government and civil society, how they work and how they can be influenced. The philosophical foundations for the American system will also be discussed including theories on power distribution as well as human rights. Students will be taught how they can influence their government with a particular emphasize on current events and democratic participation. Exams will test factual knowledge of the material and students will have to complete some written assignments, including essays of exams.</p>	
<b>371 Psychology R</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
<p>The intent of this course is to give the student a basic understanding in psychology. Students will be able to describe the basic principles of psychology, both biological and behavioral, and relate these concepts to how our thought processes affect our actions and interactions with other people. Basic theoretical frameworks, that are the basis for the study of psychology will also be emphasized.</p>	
<b>372 Psychology H</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
<p>This course is an introduction to psychology and how science is applied to human behavior. Everyday concerns and the applicability of psychology to these concerns are covered. The relationship between psychology and other behavioral sciences along with an understanding of adolescent development is taught. Students are provided with an understanding of abnormal behavior and the general motivation of adolescents and their common problems.</p>	
<b>386 &amp; 387 PA History H &amp; R</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	
<p>Pennsylvania History is a one semester elective for Seniors. The intentions of the course are to include comprehensive geography of the state, several select events of history pertaining to the impacts in and of the state, and a general chronology of history pertaining to Pennsylvania.</p>	
<b>356/357 Vietnam and the Sixties – R &amp; H</b>	One Semester
Grade: 12	Credit: .50
Prerequisite: None	

<p>Vietnam and the Sixties is an in-depth study of this turbulent decade. Among the many significant events which are examined are the war in Vietnam and its effect on an entire generation, the Kennedy Assassination, the Bay of Pigs and the Cuban Missile Crisis, Civil Rights, the Administrations of Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon, the Peace Movement, and Watergate. This course not only examines these events, but also explains the effect this decade had on today's society. Teaching methodology includes lectures, guest speakers, and use of a wide variety of tracs and books which are accurate on these subjects. Students are required to do a research project of their choice.</p>	
<b>358 Civil War</b>	One Quarter
Grade: 12	Credit: .25
Prerequisite: None	
<p>The civil war is a one quarter elective which provides an in-depth examination of the causes of the war, a look at the major personalities involved, and the effects the war had on American History.</p>	
<b>359 World War II</b>	One Quarter
Grade: 12	Credit: .25
Prerequisite: None	
<p>This one quarter elective examines the causes of World War II. It provides a look at the major personalities involved in the conflict and takes an in depth look at the strategies employed by the major powers in all areas of combat. The course concludes with an examination of the results of the war on the world situation.</p>	