

HISTORY & SOCIAL SCIENCE EDUCATION

The principal objectives of the History and Social Sciences program are to prepare students to meet, understand, and solve problems of living in a 21st century democratic society and to have each individual understand his/her relationship with self and society. Helping students to think critically, to read strategically, to communicate efficiently, to profit from the experiences of the past, to respect the contributions of all peoples, to work collaboratively, to use the tools of learning efficiently, to understand the community and the world in which they live, and to become aware of their privileges and responsibilities as citizens are some of the ways by which these objectives may be achieved.

11100 MODERN WORLD HISTORY

Honors

(1 credit)

This is an intensive course designed for the highly motivated student who wishes to develop an in depth global understanding of the people, places and events that took place between 1750 and the present. This course examines major global patterns called power standards: attainment of rights, democracy, industrialization, nationalism, capitalism, impact of war and conflict, revolutions, imperialism/colonization, socialism/communism, totalitarianism, and fascism. Students will become proficient in historical thinking skills. These skills related to the Weymouth High School 21st century skills, but with a focus on history. Students will use these skills to successfully answer the WHS Social Studies Department Essential Questions, and complete department common assessments. These skills are: Evaluation of Evidence (sourcing, context, corroboration), Historical Knowledge (information, significance, periodization, narrative), and Historical Argument (making claims, using evidence).

Prerequisite: Grade of 90 or better in World History Grade 8. (Full year course, required for grade 9)

11101/26102 MODERN WORLD HISTORY

College Prep

(1 credit)

Modern world history addresses people, places and events that took place between 1750 and the present. This course examines major global patterns called power standards: attainment of rights, democracy, industrialization, nationalism, capitalism, impact of war and conflict, revolutions, imperialism/colonization, socialism/communism, totalitarianism, and fascism. Students will become proficient in historical thinking skills. These skills related to the Weymouth High School 21st century skills, but with a focus on history. Students will use these skills to successfully answer the WHS Social Studies Department Essential Questions, and complete department common assessments. These skills are: Evaluation of Evidence (sourcing, context, corroboration), Historical Knowledge (information, significance, periodization, narrative), and Historical Argument (making claims, using evidence).

(Full year course, required for grade 9)

11110 ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Honors

(.50 credit)

What does it take to be a successful high school student? What are the skills I will need to be successful? What opportunities are open to me at Weymouth High School? How can I participate as an active citizen of this community? This introductory course engages students in an honors-level exploration of these essential questions. Through hands-on assignments and meaningful classroom discussions, students explore what it means to be a citizen of Weymouth High School, the town of Weymouth, the United States, and our global society. Students are introduced to the WHS academic, civic and social skills and gain experience with these skills as they explore their school, town, state and national governments. (Semester course, open to grade 9 only)

11111 ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

College-Prep

(.50 credit)

What does it take to be a successful high school student? What are the skills I will need to be successful? What opportunities are open to me at Weymouth High School? How can I participate as an active citizen of this community? This introductory course engages college preparatory freshmen in an active exploration of these essential questions. Through hands-on assignments and meaningful classroom discussions, students explore what it means to be a citizen of Weymouth High School, the town of Weymouth, the United States, and our global society. Students are introduced to the school's academic, civic and social expectations as they develop their abilities to read strategically, research purposefully, and organize their writing in order to find success at Weymouth High School. Students will gain experience with these skills as they explore the civic workings of their school, town, state and national governments. (Semester course, open to grade 9 only)

11200 UNITED STATES HISTORY I

Honors

(1 credit)

This is an intensive course designed for the highly motivated student who wishes to develop an in-depth understanding of American society and culture from the American Revolution (1763) to the Reconstruction of the South after the Civil War (1877). Emphasis is placed on research, open-ended questions, and critical and independent thinking.

Prerequisite: Maintain a 75% average or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course or upon recommendation of teacher. (Full year course, required for grade 10)

11201/26202 UNITED STATES HISTORY I College Prep (1 credit)

This course is a survey of United States history from the American Revolution (1763) to Reconstruction of the South after the Civil War (1877). The course fulfills all requirements for those students interested in attending a four year college. Emphasis is placed on developing reading, writing, discussion, and thinking skills. (Full year course, required for grade 10)

11319 AP UNITED STATES HISTORY Advanced Placement (1 credit)

AP U.S. History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university U.S. history course. In AP U.S. History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society.

Prerequisite: Recommendation based on grades, portfolio, and possible interview. Summer work may be required for AP classes. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test. In order to earn AP credit in this course, a student must take the AP exam.(Full year course)

11300 UNITED STATES HISTORY II Honors (1 credit)

This is an intensive course designed for the highly motivated student who wishes to develop an in depth understanding of American society and culture in the late nineteenth and twentieth century. The course traces the development of the United States of America from 1877 to the present. Emphasis is placed on research, critical thinking, open ended questions, and independent learning.

Prerequisite: Maintain a 75% average or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course or upon recommendation of teacher. (Full year course, required course for grade 11)

11301 UNITED STATES HISTORY II College Prep (1 credit)

This course is a survey of the United States history from 1877 to the present. The course fulfills all requirements for those students interested in attending a four year college. Emphasis is placed on developing reading, writing, discussion, and thinking skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of United State History I. (Full year course, required course for grade 11)

FULL YEAR ELECTIVES

11339 AP MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY Advanced Placement (1 credit)

This course is designed to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Examination in European History in May. It emphasizes historically significant events in European history from 1450 to the present. To allow for a multifaceted understanding of these events students will explore the past from intellectual, cultural, political, diplomatic, social and economic viewpoints. In an effort to instill historical habits of mind, the course will stress: the analysis and interpretation of primary sources, the analysis and assessment of historiography, and the development of cogent analytical and interpretive writing.

Prerequisite: Recommendation based on grades, portfolio, and possible interview. Summer work may be required for AP classes. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test.(Full year course, open to grade 11, 12 only) In order to earn AP credit in this course, a student must take the AP exam

11349 AP PSYCHOLOGY Advanced Placement (1 credit)

This course is designed to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Psychology by introducing them to the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. To accomplish this, the course provides instruction in each of the following content areas: History and Approaches, Research Methods, Biological Bases of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, States of Consciousness, Learning, Cognition, Motivation and Emotion, Developmental Psychology, Personality, Testing and Individual Differences, Abnormal Psychology, Treatment of Psychological Disorders, and Social Psychology. Students will learn to think like psychologists as they seek to “restrain intuition with critical thinking, judgmentalism with compassion, and illusion with understanding” (Sternberg, 1997).

Prerequisite: Recommendation based on grades, portfolio, and possible interview. Summer work may be required for AP classes. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test. In order to earn AP credit in this course, a student must take the AP exam. (Full year course, open to grade 11, 12 only)

11359 AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT & POLITICS Advanced Placement (1 credit)

This full year course is designed as an introduction into the field of Political Science and is available to juniors and seniors who wish to challenge themselves. The class is an intensive look at the role of Politics and Government in the United States of America with an emphasis on the rights and responsibilities of the individual in the political process. Through the textbook, additional readings, primary source documents, internet resources, research projects and class debates, the course will examine the role that politics plays in both the history and the contemporary life of the United States. Students will use the skills attained in class to interpret the various trends throughout politics and to examine the importance of participation in local, state, and national government.

Prerequisite: Recommendation based on grades, portfolio, and possible interviews. Summer work will be required for AP classes. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test. In order to earn AP credit in this course, a student must take the AP exam. (Full year course, open to grade 11, 12 only)

11400 PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY Honors (1 credit)

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and human societies. Topics will include scientific and research methods, biological basis of behavior, dreams, mental disorders, social psychology, social class, race and ethnicity, marriage and family, crime and social conflict. The course will introduce students to a social-behavioral approach to human behavior and culture. Emphasis is placed on research, open ended questions and critical and independent thinking.

Prerequisite: Maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Full year course, open to grade 12)

11401 PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY College Prep (1 credit)

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human behavior and human societies. Topics will include scientific and research methods, biological basis of behavior, dreams, mental disorders, social psychology, social class, race and ethnicity, marriage and family, crime and social conflict. The course will introduce students to a social-behavioral approach and culture. (Full Year course, open to grade 12 only)

HALF-YEAR ELECTIVES

11410 CIVIC AND CULTURAL LITERACY I Honors (.5 credit)

This course is designed for highly motivated students who wish to explore current affairs in depth at the international, national, state, and local levels. It will focus on building the necessary skills to promote an understanding of the local and global implications of civic decisions. It will encourage students to think analytically about the nature of citizenship, government, and social relations in the United States as well as developing critical skills needed in order to understand the cultures 11410 Cultural & Civic Literacy I – continued we inhabit. Topics will range from terrorism, the media, gender, and race, front page headlines, to other issues of significance to high school students. Class format will include a multi-media approach focusing on debate, critical thinking, and independent research.

Prerequisite: Maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course open to grades 10, 11, 12)

11411 CIVIC AND CULTURAL LITERACY I College Prep (.5 credit)

This course will explore current affairs in depth at the international, national, state, and local levels. It will focus on building the necessary skills to promote an understanding of the local and global implications of civic decisions. It will encourage students to think analytically about the nature of citizenship, government, and social relations in the United States as well as developing critical skills needed in order to understand the cultures we inhabit. Topics will range from terrorism, the media, gender, and race, front page headlines, to other issues of significance to high school students. Class format will include a multi-media approach focusing on debate, critical thinking, and independent research. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)

11420 CIVIC AND CULTURAL LITERACY II Honors (.5 credit)

This course is designed for highly motivated students who wish to continue their studies in civic and cultural literacy. It will continue to explore current affairs in depth at the international, national, state, and local levels. Students will utilize

the skills learned during the preceding course and apply them while analyzing contemporary issues. Students will not be allowed to enroll in parts I and II of this course simultaneously. Topics will range from terrorism, the media, gender, and race, front page headlines, to other issues of significance to high school students. Class format will include a multi-media approach focusing on debate, critical thinking, and independent research.

Prerequisite: For honors credit, a grade of 75% or better in Honors Civic and Cultural Literacy I, or a grade of 85% or better in College Prep Civic and Cultural Literacy I. (Second Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)

11430 LEGAL STUDIES I

Honors

(.5 credit)

This course is designed as an introduction to constitutional, criminal and civil law, which will include an examination of the judicial system, as well as, criminal and civil laws. The course allows students to understand and examine their rights and responsibilities under the law. Students will use case studies, independent research, and current legal issues in the media today.

Prerequisite: Maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, and 12)

11431 LEGAL STUDIES I

College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course is designed as an introduction to constitutional, criminal and civil law, which will include an examination of the judicial system, as well as criminal and civil laws. The course allows students to understand and examine their rights and responsibilities under the law. Students will use case studies, independent research, and current legal issues in the media today. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, and 12)

11440(H) / 11441(CP) LEGAL STUDIES II

Honors/College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course is designed for the student who would like to further their study of concepts covered in Legal Studies I, as well as, other legal topics. A more in depth look at criminal and civil law will be included. The course will also study contracts, consumer, rental, credit and housing law. Accelerated assignments are given to students requesting honors credit.

Prerequisite: For Honors credit, a grade of 75% or better in Legal Studies I. For College Prep credit, successful completion of Legal Studies I. (Semester course, open to grades 11 and 12)

11460(H) / 11461 (CP) WORLD WAR II

Honors/College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course examines the most devastating, destructive war in history and the concurrent emergence of the United States of America as the world's dominant power. Topics for discussion include the escalation of international tensions in the aftermath of World War I, the advent of atomic weaponry, the Holocaust, and military targeting of civilian cities. Written primary and secondary sources, video footage, and student research will be used to study the conflagration from a global perspective that incorporates the points of view of all major combatant nations. Accelerated assignments and differentiated grading are given to those students requesting honors credit.

Prerequisite: For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)

11480(H) / 11481(CP) AMERICAN CIVIL WAR

Honors/College Prep

(.5 credit)

This course examines that most pivotal and tragic period in the history of the United States; the Civil War. Topics include the causes of the war, slavery, military and political leaders, important battles and campaigns, and the short and long term effects on the nation and its warring states. Accelerated assignments and differentiated grading are given to those students requesting honors or college prep credit.

Prerequisite: For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)

11510(H) / 11511(CP) POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Honors/College Prep

(.5 credit)

This semester course will examine the structure of government in the United States. Political affairs at the local, state, and federal level will be examined with emphasis placed on the process of how government functions. On site experiences, guest speakers, and critical thinking techniques will reinforce the democratic principles learned in the classroom. The course will be a hands-on experience, using media, field trips, simulations, and guest speakers. Accelerated assignments and differentiated grading are given to these students requesting honors credit.

Prerequisite: For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course open to grades 10, 11 and 12)

11520(H) / 11521(CP) PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

This course provides students with a comprehensive examination of economic principles and processes. Particular emphasis will be placed on the role of the American economy in the global economy. This course is strongly recommended for those considering a college major in business or economics. Accelerated assignments and differentiated grading are given to those students requesting honors credit.

Prerequisite: For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course open to grades 10, 11 and 12)

11530(H) / 11531(CP) HUMAN GEOGRAPHY Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

This course introduces students to the basic concepts of human geography including physical geography, cultural geography, and demography. Students will learn to view the modern world through the lens of human geography. The class will study cultural and physical geography. Cultural geography will be broken down into race, class, religion and gender and studied by investigating various case studies from around the world. Physical Geography will include topography, climate, and maps. The class will also focus on how geography affects agriculture, economics and populations. The class relies heavily on discussion.

Prerequisite: For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course open to grades 10, 11, and 12)

11540(H) / 11541(CP) WORLD RELIGIONS Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

Students will receive in-depth knowledge of the world's major religious beliefs from both historical and socio-cultural perspectives. Students will study belief structures of the following major religions, in order of their inception: Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Taoism, Zoroastrianism, Christianity (Catholicism, Protestantism, and Orthodoxy), and Islam (Sunni and Shiite). The course is designed to give students a better understanding of the multiple religious groups that inhabit the world today, not only in the United States of America, but throughout the world. Accelerated assignments and differentiated grading are given to those students requesting honors credit.

Prerequisite: For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, and 12)

11570 PSYCHOLOGY AS A SCIENCE I Honors (.5 credit)

This course is designed for students pursuing the medical or psychology or counseling career pathway. The course offers a general introduction to the scientific study of human behavior. Scientific research methods will be utilized to examine the nervous system, sensation, perception, learning and consciousness. Emphasis is placed on research, open ended questions and critical and independent thinking. This course will provide the necessary foundation for the sequential course – Psychology as a Science II.

Prerequisite: Maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course, open to grade 11 only)

11571 PSYCHOLOGY AS A SCIENCE I College Prep (.5 credit)

This course is designed for students pursuing the medical or psychology or counseling career pathway. The course offers a general introduction to the scientific study of human behavior. Scientific research methods will be utilized to examine the nervous system, sensation, perception, learning and consciousness. This course will provide the necessary foundation for the sequential course – Psychology as a Science II. (Semester course, open to grade 11 only)

11580(H) / 11581(CP) PSYCHOLOGY AS A SCIENCE II Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

This course is designed for students pursuing the psychology or counseling career pathway. The course offers a detailed exploration of the study of human behavior. Scientific research methods will be utilized to examine cognition, emotions, human development, personality, abnormal psychology and social psychology. Emphasis is placed on research, open ended questions, critical thinking and independent learning.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Psychology as a Science I and enrollment in the Psychology and Counseling Career Pathway. For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Science Education course / or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course, open to grade 12 only)

11450(H) / 11451(CP) INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

This semester course is designed to familiarize students with the development of Western and Eastern philosophy, ethics, morality, and logic. The writings of Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Hobbes, Rousseau and Nietzsche among others will provide the foundation for discussion and debate. The course will examine the “big” questions, such as – What is the nature of

man? What is truth? What is reality? Students will examine the foundation of their own thinking. (Semester course, open to grades 10, 11, 12)

11550(H)/11551(CP) INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY I Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

The course will encourage students to determine what causes crime by examining different sociological, psychological and biological theories behind criminal behavior. As students understand why criminal behavior occurs, they can enhance their understanding of society's response to crime, victims and social policy for alleviating criminal behavior. (Semester course, open to grades 11 and 12)

11560(H)/11561(CP) INTRODUCTION TO CRIMINOLOGY II Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

The course will encourage students to determine what causes crime by examining different typologies to include crimes of violence, property crimes, white collar and organized crime, public order crime, and political crime and terrorism.

Students will also examine society's response to crime, and public policy concerning victim rights and correctional goals.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Criminology I. For Honors credit, maintain a 75% or better in prior Honors level History and Social Studies education course/ or upon recommendation of teacher. (Semester course, open to grades 11 and 12)

11610(H)/11611(CP) HISTORY OF WEYMOUTH Honors/College Prep (.5 credit)

This course examines the history of Weymouth from its short-lived settlement of Wessagusset in 1622 to its incorporation of Weymouth in 1635. In order for the students to make the connection to Weymouth's past, the class will examine the initial conflicts with Native Americans and its relationship with surrounding settlements, such as Plymouth. It will also cover the economic, political, geographical, and demographic changes over the last 319 years as well as its contribution to the military actions of the state and federal governments. Furthermore, the course will examine the personalities who helped form Weymouth's past, such as Thomas Weston, Abigail Adams, Cotton Tufts, and James Bates. Hands on, discovery learning will be utilized to the fullest making good use of local field trips and guest speakers to enhance the connection between the student and the town. Accelerated assignments and differentiated grading are given to those students requesting honors credit. (Semester Course, open to grades 9, 10, 11 and 12)