

FMHS – Main Campus

Advanced Placement Social Studies Program

AP World History

AP World History is an overview of the history of the world from the Neolithic Era to the present. This is a college course taught to sophomores. Extensive reading is required for this course and students will learn how to write for history. Since students are expected to perform college-level work, they need to be committed to advanced work requirements and advanced curriculum. Students will be prepared to take the AP World History exam for college credit in May. Success in this course requires a significant time commitment as well as a strong academic background.

AP U.S. History

AP U.S. History is a college-level course that covers U.S. History from discovery (1492) through the present. The ultimate goal of the course is preparation for the national Advanced Placement exam given in May. Students are expected to be able to spend a considerable amount of time outside of class preparing for the course by completing reading and note-taking assignments at a college level, studying for quizzes and tests, and completing numerous writing assignments that demonstrate both knowledge of history and the ability to critically analyze historical issues. Success in this course requires a significant time commitment as well as a strong academic background.

AP U.S. Government

AP U.S. Government & Politics is designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific contemporary examples. It also requires students to familiarize themselves with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute our political system. The course is designed to prepare students for the AP Exam in May, as prepared by the College Board. This course reinforces study skills and encourages students to undertake outside readings in addition to the requirements of this course. Students should have a high degree of self-motivation along with good organizational and time management skills to be successful.

AP Macroeconomics

Advanced Placement Macroeconomics is intended for academically motivated students. This course is designed and approved as a college level course and expectations are high. Economic theories and models are complex in nature, students will learn these theories and understand relationships between economic variables; how these variables change over time, and the fiscal and monetary policy instruments used to control the economy. Assignments include active reading from the textbook, on-line quizzes, and internet research requiring students to have internet access outside of school or be prepared to remain after school to use Library resources. Mastery of the material is fundamental to application and students are expected to be proactive in their education.

Social Studies

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ELECTIVE COURSES

AP European History

Advanced Placement European History examines the history of the European subcontinent from 1450 to the present. The study of European history introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live.

In addition to providing the basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of the AP program in European History are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence, and (c) an ability to analyze and to express historical understanding in writing.

AP Psychology

Advanced Placement Psychology is a course on the study of human behavior, designed for juniors and seniors. It provides a broad overview of the areas within psychology: covering the history of psychology, how the brain functions, what happens during sleep, why you get anxious in certain situations, what abnormal behaviors are, the perception of others and many more things that affect human behavior and life.

This course will be taught on a college level. An Advanced Placement course demands extra work and additional time outside the usual high school demands. Students will be expected to do a great deal of INDEPENDENT reading, research, and completion of assignments. Students will also experience each unit by confronting new material in a combination of presentation methods: lecture, large and small group discussions, readings from textbook and other professional sources, and viewing of selected videos.

AP Comparative Government & Politics

AP Comparative Government is a class that looks in depth into the world's different political systems. Students will understand how the development of particular types of governments affects the overall well being of the individuals who live under the particular political style. This is a college course taught to juniors and seniors. This course will be taught in a 9-week setting. Students must be committed to advanced work requirements. Students will be prepared to take the AP Comparative Government and Politics exam in May.

AP Human Geography

AP Human Geography is a class that looks in depth into the world as a "world of human activity." Students will understand the development patterns of humans and come to more fully comprehend why people live the way they do in the different parts of the world. This is a college course taught to juniors and seniors. Extensive reading is required for this course as it will be taught in a 9-week setting. Students must be committed to advanced work requirements. Students will be prepared to take the AP Human Geography exam in May.