

Social Studies Elective Courses

9 weeks = 1/2 credit

Street Law – 9th-12th Grade

Street law deals with issues and topics relating to the law and the legal system, criminal law, juvenile justice, consumer and housing law, family law, torts (civil lawsuits), and your rights within the community. Activities for the class include mock trials, class presentations based on issues researched by students, discussion of current events in light of the law, analysis of real-life situations regarding the law, informational videos dealing with various law topics and discussions with guest speakers who deal with the law as a part of their jobs. Students are given an opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills from the social science areas to legal, societal, and social issues. Students will learn how our representative democracy and its legal systems operate and how these systems have not only affected the historical development of our nation but also reflect the current social and legal structures in our United States.

Civil War – 10th-12th Grade

Students will explore the causes, course, and consequences of the American Civil War and Reconstruction, from the 1840s to 1877. Students will understand the many ways that these events transformed the United States. Those transformations may be examined in many ways: national, sectional, racial, constitutional, individual, social, intellectual, or moral.

WWII – 10th-12th Grade

This course is a nine-week study of World War II. Students will investigate the conditions that led to the rise of powerful totalitarian leaders and a new global war during the interwar period. Course content includes and introduction to basic military history understandings of strategy, tactics, and doctrine

Comparative Religions – 10th-12th Grade

Students will learn about the teachings and traditions of the world's major religions, as well as many of its minor religions. The students will see the connection between religion and development of civilizations, the place and function of religion in human experience, and the influence of religion on contemporary society.

The World After WWII – 10th-12th Grade

The World after World War II is a class that will take an extensive look into the events that have occurred since the conclusion of World War II. This class examines how the war changed the world that we knew forever. Taking a look at the time period of 1945 – present, students will gain knowledge of why the world they know today exists, and what events, sacrifices, or movements made it possible.

Psychology – 10th-12th Grade

Psychology is a course on the study of human behavior. It provides a broad overview of the areas within psychology: including 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.

The course also covers many techniques that psychologists have developed to deal with relatively common problems: how to improve study habits, reduce stress, overcome insomnia, relieve mild depression, improve memory, etc. Students will have a better understanding of their own behaviors as well as those of others. In summary, psychology is the systematic, scientific study of behaviors and mental processes.

Sociology – 10th-12th Grade

The scientific study of the individual and his/her group relationships as a member of society forms the basic concept of sociology. Research, discussions, and activities will be used to help the student understand the theories of the founders and development of the science of sociology. Emphasis will be placed on the topics of culture, social structure-groups and social classes, social stratification, deviance and social control, race and ethnic relations, socialization of the individual, and the importance of social institutions.