

# SOCIAL STUDIES

◆ 3 CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION.

◆ Course offerings not having sufficient enrollment after registration will be discontinued for the 2017-2018 school year.

◆ If a student transfers into the district with a full credit of freshman or sophomore social studies, it will fulfill the freshman social studies requirement. World Geography .5 credit is required.

## **World Geography (9-10-11-12)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

► *Required for graduation.*

Students will study the physical, political, and cultural geography of the Eastern Hemisphere. They will analyze the cultures, histories, governments, and religions of these regions. They will understand the interdependence of world economies and peoples through the use of the five (5) themes of geography: location, place, movement, human-environment interaction, and regions.

## **World History (9-10-11-12)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

► *Required for graduation.*

Students will explore and evaluate the interactions of world cultures, civilizations, philosophies, and religions. Students will also analyze the cause-effect relationships and legacy that distinguish significant historical periods from the Renaissance to the present.

## **U.S. History 1 (9-10-11-12) Credit**

**One Semester – 1/2**

► *Required for graduation.*

This course *evaluates* the history of the United States from the Founding *through Civil War Reconstruction*. Students will compare and contrast the social, political, and economic forces that impacted our nation. Students will analyze primary and secondary documents that have shaped America's founding.

## **U.S. History 2 (9-10-11-12)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

► *Required for graduation.*

This course explores the history of the United States from post-Civil War Western Expansion through the Great Depression. Students will compare and contrast the social, political, and economic forces that impacted our nation. Students will analyze primary and secondary documents that have shaped America's modern era.

## **U.S. History 3 (9-10-11-12)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

► *Required for graduation.*

This course will investigate the history of the United States from World War II to the present. Students will be able to identify significant people and events. Students will analyze primary and secondary documents that have shaped America's recent era.

### **Advanced Placement U.S. History (11-12)**

**One Year - 1 Credit**

▶ *Advanced alternative for U.S. History 1, 2, 3.*

▶ *This course is designed for the college or university-bound student and is taught at a college level.*

▶ *This class will be weighted on the 5.0 scale.*

The Advanced Placement program in U.S. History is a rigorous course designed to provide students with knowledge about America from the Pre-Columbus era to the present. Students will be expected to develop analytical and critical thinking skills. Students will learn to assess historical materials, weigh evidence, and interpret U.S. history. The course work is substantial. At the end of the year, students may choose to take the AP College Board National Exam at their own expense. If students score high enough on this test, they may qualify for credits from most colleges or universities.

### **U.S. Government (11-12)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

▶ *Required for graduation.*

Students will study the Constitution, fundamentals of democracy, and U.S. government. The course will examine interactions of government institutions and the ways in which government institutions affect individuals. This class emphasizes the rights, duties, and responsibilities of American citizenship.

### **Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics (11-12)**

**One Year - 1 Credit**

▶ *Advanced alternative for U.S. Government.*

▶ *This course is designed for the college or university-bound student and is taught at college level.*

▶ *This class will be weighted on the 5.0 scale.*

▶ *Recommended for grade 12.*

This course is designed as an in-depth study of the American political system. Students will be required to do substantial research and be actively involved in classroom discussion. This course is designed for the college or university bound student and is taught at a college level. At the end of the year, students may choose to take the AP College Board National Exam at their own expense. If students score high enough on this test, they may qualify for credits from most colleges or universities. Extensive reading and writing required.

### **Native American Heritage (9-10-11-12)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

Students will explore ancient American cultures. A special emphasis will be placed on Lakota history, culture, and contemporary issues in South Dakota.

### **Ancient Civilizations (9-10-11-12) (Central only)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

This course will study the development of the four river valley civilizations of Egypt, Mesopotamia, India, and China. Other areas of study will include the Five Major Religions, the Greeks and Romans, and the Byzantine Empire. The course will also include the study of indigenous civilizations such as the Aztec, and Incas. This course is designed for the university/college bound student.

### **Current World Affairs (9-10-11-12) (Central and RCHS only)**

**One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

This course will emphasize current news at local, state, national, and international levels. Newspapers, magazines, television, and the Internet will be used. The goal of the class is to inform students about events taking place in the world and the background of these events. Events will be analyzed and the impact of these events will be discussed.

**Sociology (11-12) (Central only)****One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

This course is designed to assist students in the understanding of human social interaction and how society and cultural elements impact us as individuals. Students will focus on early theorists, current perspectives, developing a sociological imagination, components of culture, diversity, conformity, and socialization of the individual. Special topics will include current social phenomena.

**Economics (11-12) (Stevens only)****One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

► *This course fulfills the graduation requirement for Personal Finance / Economics.*

Students will study the basic principles of the American free enterprise system, supply and demand, competition, money and banking, fiscal and monetary policy, international trade, and current economic problems.

**Psychology (11-12)****One Semester - 1/2 Credit**

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. The course will emphasize the mind and its development, principles of learning, memory, sensation and perception, personality theories, emotion and stress, states of consciousness, motivation, and abnormal behavior.

**Advanced Placement Psychology (11-12)****One Year - 1 Credit**

► *This course is designed for the college or university-bound student and is taught at a college level.*

► *This class will be weighted on the 5.0 scale.*

► *Psychology is not a prerequisite for taking this class.*

► *Students having credit in Psychology may also enroll in this course.*

Advanced Placement Psychology will demand students participate in an in-depth look at the relationship of biological and social factors on human development. Students will be required to conduct and/or review research, analyze data, and develop inferences. At the end of the year, students may choose to take the Advanced Placement College Board test. If students score high enough on this test, they may qualify for credits from most colleges or universities.

Admission to the AP Psychology course is based on student interest and willingness to prepare for the College Board Exam.