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# Social Studies Courses

2025-2026

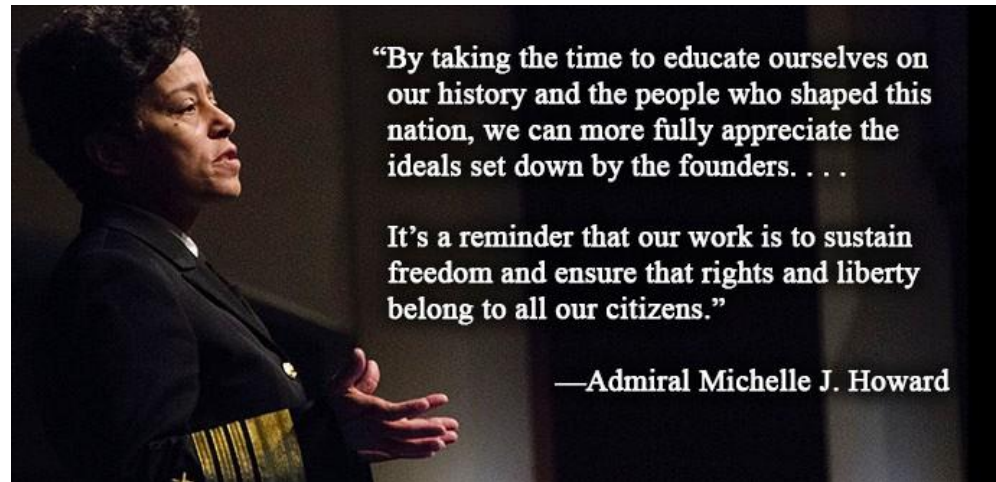
*All offerings and instructors listed  
within are tentative and based upon  
enrollment and scheduling*

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# Social Studies

- ❖ Graduation requirements
  - 3 credits (six semesters)
  - 1 of which must be US History (World/US II fulfills this requirement)
  - ½ of which must be American Government
- ❖ College expectations
  - 4 credits (eight semesters)
  - Advanced Placement options



# Core Courses

½ or 1 credit  
1 or 2 semesters



# World/US History II

- ❖ Explore the history of the world and the early American republic from the American Civil War to the present day of globalization
  - Participate in simulations
  - Analyze primary and secondary sources
  - Research paper once per semester
- 2 semesters; 1 credit
- Counts as required 1 credit of US History
- Offered for sophomores

# Summer Academy 2025

- ❖ Social Studies Credit Recovery course
  - subject not yet determined
  - if you need 9th or 10th grade credit for either semester
  - 4 weeks - 90 minutes per day
  - offered for all grade levels
  
- ❖ American Government
  - 4-week fast-paced course designed for self-starter students
  - 2 options:
    - online: 4 weeks, daily work  
(will be dropped on 1st Friday if incomplete)
    - in person: every other day, 3 hours
  - Fulfills graduation requirement
  - Offered to rising 11th and 12th graders



# American Government

Guided exploration of the structure of American government and its impact on people



- ❖ Investigate different issues and problems in American society
- ❖ Evaluate how the government addresses those concerns
- ❖ Participate in civic action
- ❖ Field Trip!
- ❖ Offered to 11th and 12th graders
  - 1 semester; ½ credit
  - Meets all graduation



requirements

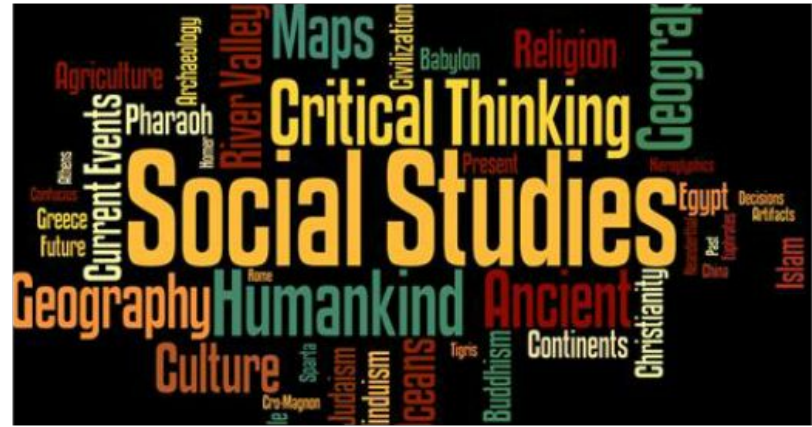
# What About Support Classes?

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# Learning Center

- ❖ Designed for students who need extra support
  - As a class OR drop-in
  - Helps to reinforce concepts and skills
  - Helps to complete tough homework assignments
  - Helps with organization, how to study, etc.





# Non- AP Electives

½ credit  
1 semester

Offered to 11th and  
12th  
grade students

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# How do I know which electives are right for me?

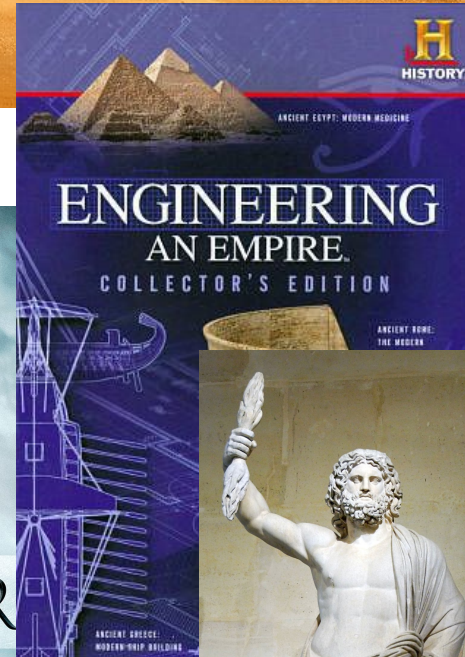


1. The right elective for you is the one you are most interested in!
2. Also consider:
  - a. Year-long or Semester?
  - b. History or Social Science?
  - c. Non-AP vs AP?

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# Classical Civilizations

- ❖ Study the ancient world with an emphasis on Egypt, China, Greece, and Rome
  - Explore the culture and mindset of citizens of ancient civilizations
  - Analyze ancient art, warfare, leisure, and politics. Play games set during this period. Watch AMAZING documentaries in the aud.
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
    - 1 semester; ½ credit



# Current Issues

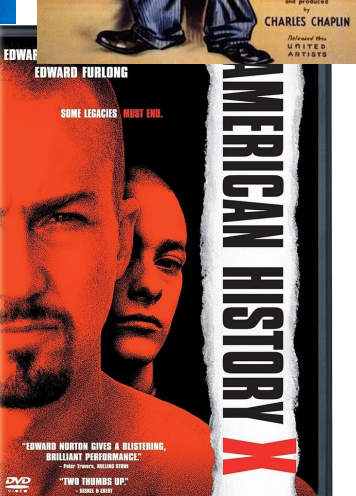
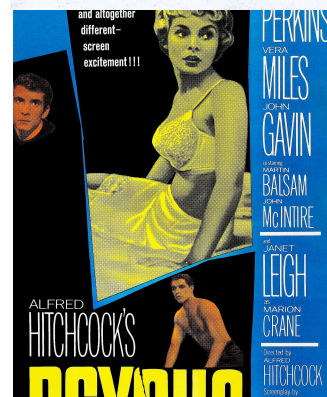
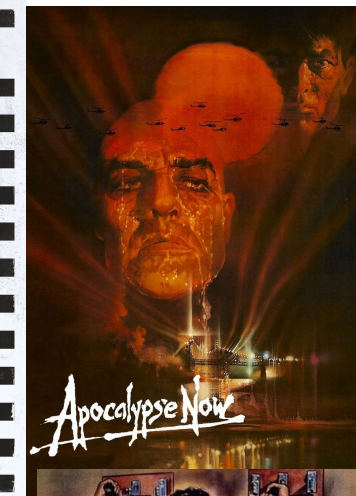
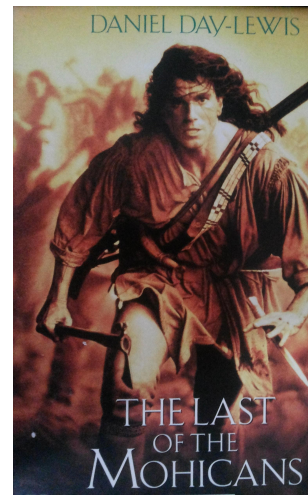
- ❖ Learn about topics that concern us (e.g. Immigration, climate change, gun control, health care, media literacy)
  - Class topics are often student initiated
  - Focus on issues that influence students
  - Research different perspectives
  - Engage in Civil Discourse
  - Inquiry Based Learning
- ❖ Offered to 11th-12th Graders
  - 1 semester; ½ credit





# Film in American Society

- ❖ Learn how film both shapes and reflects American history and society
  - Watch films in class and for homework, learn about film techniques and study the work of master directors
  - **Several writing assignments**, movie analysis and class discussions for every film
  - If you love movies, this is the class for you!
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
- 1 semester; ½ credit



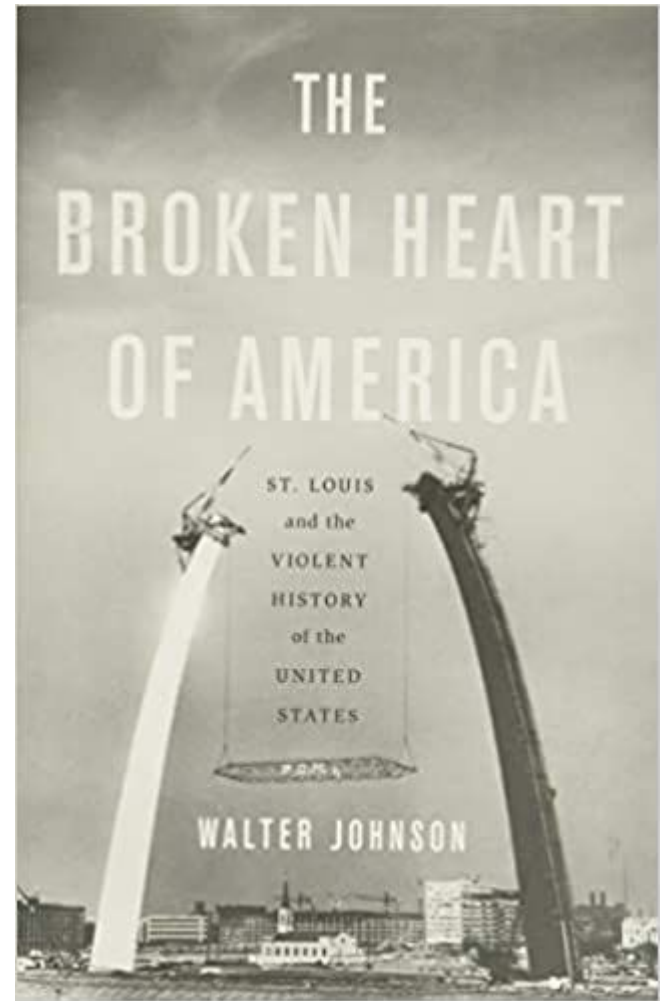
# Gender Studies

- An **introductory** course that will explore:
  - women's history
  - LGBTQIA+ history
  - how gender, sexuality, race, social class interact within society.
- Connect historical events to current events around the topic.
- Offered to 11th and 12th graders
  - 1 semester; ½ credit



# History of St. Louis

- Learn about the history of St. Louis through examining the theme of racial capitalism
- Discussions, lectures, analysis of documents, reflections
- Topics include genocide and Manifest Destiny, imperialism and the World's Fair, schools and segregation...
- Offered to 11th and 12th graders
  - 1 semester; ½ credit





# Independent Study in History

- ❖ Learn what **YOU** want to learn
  - Each student writes their own topic question.
  - Each student designs their own research plan.
  - Each student creates their own final assessment.
- ❖ Develop research, argumentation and communication skills
- ❖ Experience academic freedom



At least once a day, allow  
yourself the freedom to  
think and dream for yourself.

Albert Einstein



# AP Electives

Offered to 11th and  
12th  
grade students

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# A Note on Advanced Placement Electives

1 credit

2 semesters

Listed with (AP) in the title

Offered to 11th and 12th  
grade students

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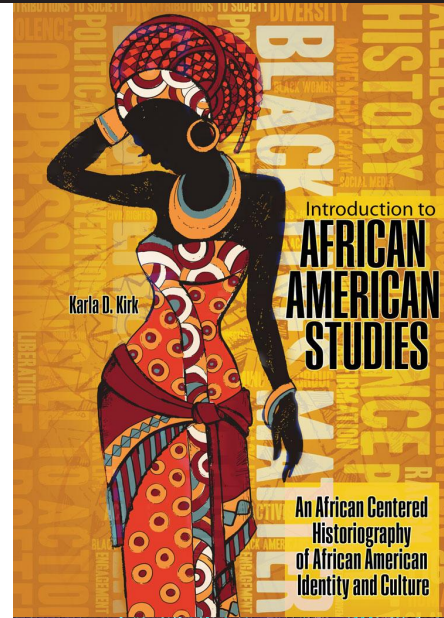
# Guidelines for choosing the right AP course for you

1. Any student who wants to take an AP Social Studies class may do so. The right class for you is the one you are most interested in.
  2. AP Courses are modeled on college classes, where you are expected to take ownership of your learning.
  3. AP Courses are fast-paced and often require nightly reading or other homework.
  4. AP Courses prepare you to take the AP exams. If you do well, you can earn college credit.
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# AP African-American Studies

## AP African American Studies

- ★ You'll explore key topics that extend from early African kingdoms to contemporary challenges and achievements.
- ★ Drawing from disciplines including history, literature, the arts, geography, science, and law, you'll study the vital contributions and experiences of African Americans and members of Black communities within the broader context of the African diaspora.
- ★ Throughout the course, you'll examine different themes from a variety of perspectives, ultimately choosing a topic of focus for your individual student project, where you'll define a research topic of your choice.
- ★ Offered to 11th and 12th graders
- ★ Year long; 1 credit



# AP Economics

- ❖ Explore how people deal with unlimited wants but limited resources and theories of how a market economy works
- ❖ Two AP courses in one → fast-paced!
  - AP Macro and AP Microeconomics
- ❖ Drawing graphs, algebra math skills, and interpreting data are essential (see right)
- ❖ Can optionally fulfill personal finance requirement w/additional work
  - **NOTE: NEXT YEAR (2025-2026) is the FINAL YEAR that fulfilling the Personal Finance requirements will be offered in AP Economics!**
- ❖ Year long class; 1 credit for social studies

## Economics Math

**Can you solve these problems without a calculator?**

**What is  $18/5$  as a simplified mixed number?**

**Solve for X:  
 $X/20 = 4/5$**

**What is the percent increase from 50 to 55?**

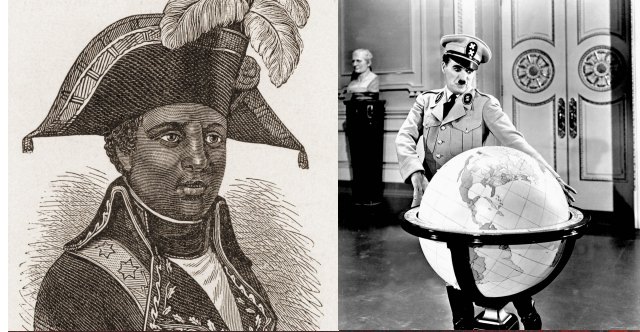
**What is  $4/5$  in decimal form?**

**What is 0.5 as a percentage?**



# AP European History

- ❖ Examine the history of Europe and its interactions with the rest of the world from **1450-present**.
- ❖ Students will:
  - Learn about the social, cultural, political, and economic history of Europe
  - Engage in open ended, civil discussions about various topics
  - Apply historical thinking skills in order to more fully understand the world around us
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
    - Year long; 1 credit





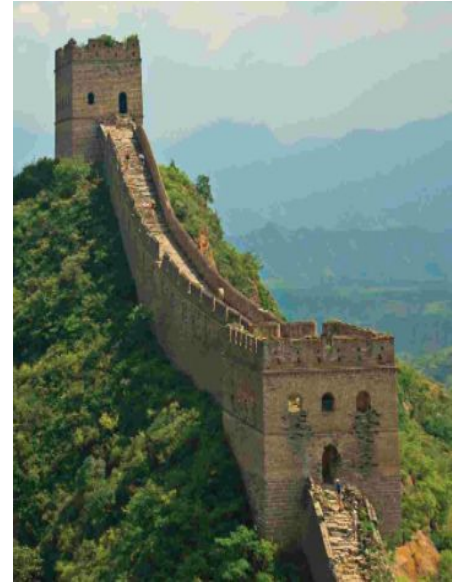
# AP Human Geography

- ❖ What is our global identity?
- ❖ Explore the “why of where” through an examination of various processes and patterns of population, culture, politics, and more!
  - The ultimate social studies class! Use prior knowledge from world and US history, government, sociology, to learn new perspectives about why the world is the way it is through global case studies and current events.
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
    - Year long; 1 credit



# AP Modern World History

- ❖ Gain a greater understanding of the world outside of the U.S.
  - Students analyze documents, participate in class discussions and practice thinking skills
  - Emphasis on social history topics like gender + religion and non-Western locations like China, Africa and the Middle East
  - Explore exciting new places
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
    - Year long; 1 credit



# AP Psychology

- ❖ Explore why humans behave the way they do
  - College-level text and daily assignments, usually about 30 minutes
  - Lots of discussion, demonstrations, experiments, videos
  - Major units of Study:
    - History and Methods of Psychology
    - The Brain and Consciousness
    - Sensation and Perception
    - Conditioning, Cognition & Intelligence
    - Lifespan Development
    - Social Behavior and Personality
    - Disorders, Treatment and Mental Wellness
  - Expectation that students will take the AP Exam in May.
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
    - Year long; 1 credit



# AP Government

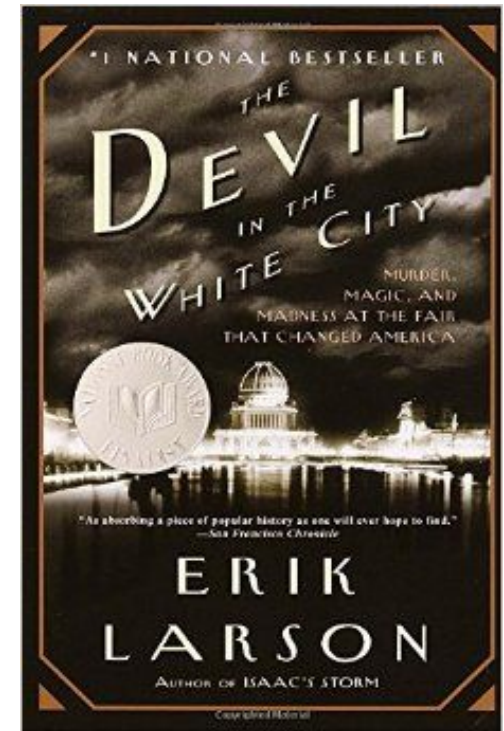
- ❖ Detailed look as to who has power in the government and how they use that power to make policy
- ❖ Examines the distribution of power in American government and in 6 other countries across the globe
  - Field trip!
  - Meets graduation requirements for US Government upon completion of both semesters
  - TWO college-level courses (**ACCELERATED pace**)
    - AP U. S. Government & Politics
    - AP Comparative Government & Politics
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
  - Year long; 1 credit





# AP United States History

- ❖ Gain a greater understanding of US History from multiple perspectives
  - Students participate in vigorous class discussions, work with primary source documents, and learn to write effectively as an amateur historian
  - Emphasis on topics NOT covered in WHII, and deep-dives into role of gender, race, and ethnicity in the American story, as well as your place in it
  - Instead of using a traditional textbook, students will read portions of both scholarly and popular nonfiction books.
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
    - Year long; 1 credit



# Electives Not Offered Next Year but in 2026-2027

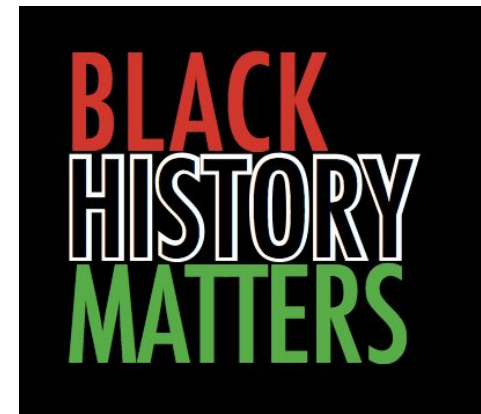
½ credit  
1 semester

Offered to 11th and 12th  
grade students

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# African-American Studies

- ★ Introduction to the experiences of Black people and their contributions throughout the 19th to 21st centuries.
- ★ Connects **historical issues with current events.**
  - **Themes** include education, criminal justice, identity, arts and entertainment, sports, systemic issues in contemporary society, power and politics
  - You will participating in discussions, research, debates, projects, activities, & watch movies.
  - **Final project** includes individual research on a course theme.
  - Homework is required: readings, projects, and journal writing.
- ★ Offered to 11th and 12th graders
  - Semester long; ½ credit





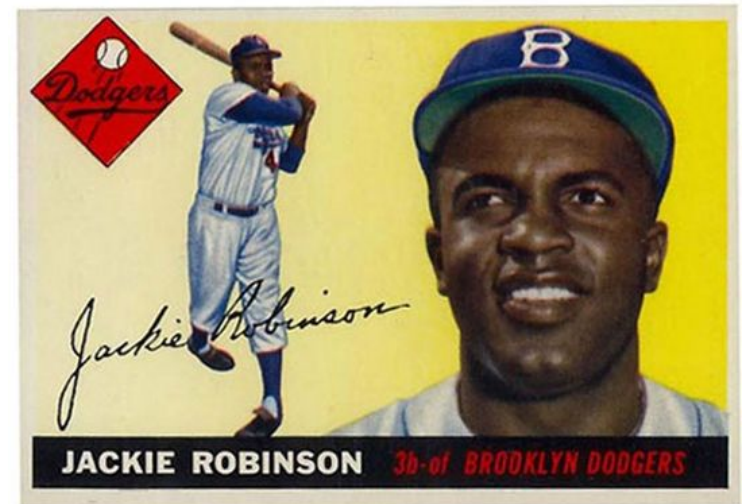
# Sociology

- ❖ The study of American society
- ❖ Understanding American cultures
- ❖ How do people behave in groups?
- ❖ Topics include the following
  - race, gender, age
  - social class, social hierarchy
- Offered to 11th and 12th graders
  - 1 semester; ½ credit



# Sports and American Society

- ❖ How do sports represents values in American and European history and society
  - Origin and development of modern sports
  - From Ancient Greece to the present day
  - Offered to 11th and 12th graders
    - 1 semester; ½ credit



# World at War

- ❖ Learn about World War I and World War II
- ❖ Students will:
  - engage in class discussions
  - read works of fiction and nonfiction
  - watch informative films & full length feature movies to enhance understanding of World War I and World War II.
- ❖ Offered to 11th-12th Graders
- ❖ 1 semester; ½ credit





# Music in American Society

- ❖ Learn about American society from the Civil War to the present using music as historical text
  - Folk, Pop, R&B, Rock, Jazz, Country, and Electronic
- ❖ In-class work includes lectures on history and music, listening to music, watching films, discussions
- ❖ Homework is required: listening to assigned music
- ❖ Offered to 11th and 12th graders
  - 1 semester; ½ credit

