

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Section: SOCo05		World History
Grade: 9-10	All Year	Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: None		
<p>The World History course is designed to build a foundation for understanding the beginnings of human history across different cultures and civilizations in both Western and non-Western societies. Emphasis will be placed on the interaction among world cultures, the linking of the past and present, and the importance of the relationship between geography and history. Students will learn ideas and concepts which bridge the time and space between the ancient and the modern world, including the development of art, philosophy, and religion. They will learn that change, conflict, and cooperation are key concepts to understand as civilizations.</p>		

Section: SOCo10		AP World History
Grade: 9-10	All Year	Course offered at: CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation		
<p>The purpose of this course is to develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies. The chronological time frame covered is from approximately 8000 BCE to the present. Course content covers ten geographic regions including Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe. This course is designed to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement World History Exam for potential college credit. See college credit requirements in this catalog. This course carries a weighted grade.</p>		

Section: SOCo01		US/AZ History
Grade: 11-12	All Year	Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: None		
<p>This course is designed to cover the development of the United States from the pre-Columbian time period to present day. Arizona history will be integrated into both semesters to satisfy the Arizona State Standards.</p>		

Section: MSCo24		Model United Nations (MUN)
Grade: 10-12	All Year	Course offered at: IRHS
Prerequisites: None		
<p>In this elective class, students will learn about the purpose, functions, and procedures of the United Nations. MUN is a simulation of the diplomacy, problem-solving, and responsibilities of the United Nations. This class requires intensive research, writing, and public speaking skills. It is an academically challenging course which underscores diplomatic relations as the means to solve the world's most pressing problems. Students attend a regional MUN conference as simulated diplomats, responsible for discovering the most desirable solution to an international problem for their state. The course seeks to prepare students to take on the role of delegate, while creating a better understanding of the United Nations, international politics, and the problems facing the global community. This course carries a weighted grade.</p>		

Section: SOCo18		Psychology I
Grade: 10-12	All Year	Course offered at: CDO IRHS (Semester)
Prerequisites: None		
<p>Psychology is the study of behavior and the development of personality. How does nature vs. nurture contribute to a person's development? What aspects of human development determine who we become? The topics covered in this introductory course include the history of psychology, research methods, and states of consciousness (daydreams, sleep, dreams, hypnosis, and extra-sensory perception). Additionally, the topics covered in this introductory course include: learning, memory cognition, and a particular emphasis on human development (the human lifespan from birth to death). Through this course, students will gain insight into the motivations determining behavior through various techniques such as observations, surveys, case studies, individual analysis, and numerous group/class interactions. This class can be taken independently from Psychology II.</p>		

Section: SOCo19		Psychology II
Grade: 11-12	Semester	Course offered at: IRHS (Semester)
Prerequisites: None		
<p>The topics covered in this introductory course include learning, memory and cognition, developmental psychology (the human lifespan-from birth to death and every stage in between), personality theories, traits and testing, abnormal psychology commonly called psychological disorders and, finally, treatment of disorders. This class can be taken independently from Psychology I.</p>		

Section: SOCo11		Economics
Grade: 12	Semester	Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: None		
<p>Economics is a one-semester course that examines how society counters unlimited wants with limited resources and government's role in the economy. Students will gain an understanding of basic economic principles, including an introduction to economic theory, supply and demand, money systems, banking and investing, globalization, and personal finance.</p>		

Section: SOCo07		AP Psychology
Grade: 11-12	All Year	Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: None		
<p>This college-level Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of humans. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub-fields within psychology. Topics include social psychology, research methods, sensation & perception, motivation & emotion, states of consciousness, learning, memory and cognition, developmental psychology, personality theories, traits and testing, psychological disorders and treatment, in addition to the structure and function of the brain ("Biological Bases of Behavior"). One quarter (25%) of the MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) will come directly from the AP Psychology curriculum. Students interested in pursuing any career in the field of medicine should consider taking this class. This course carries a weighted grade.</p>		

Section: SOCo40		AP Human Geography
Grade: 9-12	All Year	Course offered at: IRHS
Prerequisites: <i>Prepared for AP workload</i>		
<p>In this elective AP class, students will be introduced to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, us and altered the Earth’s surface. Students learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and application. This course carries a weighted grade.</p>		

Section: SOCo08		AP US History
Grade: 11-12	All Year	Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: <i>World History/AP World History</i>		
<p>This AP US History course expands on the history of the Americas from 1491 to 1607 and from 1980 to the present. The course focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and an understanding of content learning objectives organized around seven themes, such as identity, peopling, and America in the world. AP US History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university US History course. This course carries a weighted grade.</p>		

Section: SOCo03		American Government
Grade: 12	Semester	Course offered at: AHS CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: <i>None</i>		
<p>In this course, students will examine the structure and function of the American government as outlined by the Constitution. The specific powers and formal processes of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches will be presented as well as the mechanisms of the federal system. Political parties, voter behavior, and current issues will be discussed in the context of contemporary political climate.</p>		

Section: SOCo02		AP American Government and Politics
Grade: 12	All Year	Course offered at: AHS CDO (Semester) IRHS (Semester)
Prerequisites: <i>AP US History or teacher recommendation</i>		
<p>This course will provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory U.S. Government and Politics courses. Students will examine the Constitutional underpinnings of American democracy, the structure and function of the branches of government, the federal system, checks and balances, political ideologies and parties, interest groups and mass media, voting behavior, public policy, civil rights and civil liberties. This course carries a weighted grade.</p>		

Section: SOCo06		AP Economics
Grade: 11-12	Semester	Course offered at: CDO IRHS
Prerequisites: <i>Algebra I</i>		
<p>This course prepares students for the AP College Board Microeconomics and Macroeconomics exams in May. The purpose of the AP course in microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economics system. For the macroeconomics portion of the AP course, the purpose is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole.</p> <p>This course carries a weighted grade.</p>		