

Greece and Rome
11th & 12th Grades

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Write a five part persuasive essay with a clear thesis statement and well organized paragraphs with clear topic sentences.

Read text materials from college level reading materials with teacher support and assistance and achieve at least a score of 60% on tests featuring objective and open-ended questions on these materials.

Read and interpret primary sources from Greece and Rome.

Demonstrate an understanding of the development of government in Greece and Rome and how these have impacted the US government.

Demonstrate an understanding of how the geographies of Greece and Rome affected their development and histories.

Understand the factors that enabled the Romans to build and manage a long lasting and stable empire.

Modern European History 1: 18th and 19th Century
11th & 12th Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read assigned text materials and selected college-level essays and analyze, evaluate and discuss their material with teacher support and assistance.

Complete independent reading books and will write detailed reviews.

Conduct research to find books, periodicals, and internet sources to examine assigned periods in European history.

Write persuasive essays and give persuasive speeches on assigned topics in which they defend their thesis with clear arguments and evidence.

Explain the multiple and complex causes of the French Revolution.

Examine the significance of the French Revolution to European and World history with a particular focus on the 19th century.

Discuss why and how European imperialism grew in the 19th century.

Analyze and evaluate the changes in Europe from 1750-1900 and the process of modernization

Modern European History II: 20th Century **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read assigned text materials and selected college-level essays and analyze, evaluate and discuss their material with teacher support and assistance.

Complete independent reading books and will write detailed reviews.

Conduct research to find books, periodicals, and internet sources to examine assigned periods in European history.

Write persuasive essays and give persuasive speeches on assigned topics in which they defend their thesis with clear arguments and evidence.

Follow current events in an assigned European country and will be able to analyze and evaluate these events in relation to historical and current events in Europe and the world.

Explain the multiple and complex causes of World War I.

Examine the significance of World War I to European and World history.

Analyze the period between World War I and II and provide an explanation for the rise of dictators and the outbreak of war.

Explain Europe's role in the world in 1900 and will understand how and why it changed over the course of the century.

Analyze and evaluate the events, both positive and negative, in Europe in the 20th century.

Africa and African Americans **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Identify selected ancient states and the modern nations of the continent

Describe how state formation in Africa was similar and dissimilar to other nations of the world.

Identify the economic motives and ideological conflicts caused by the transatlantic slave trade.

Describe the role and status of Africans in the Americas, particularly the United States.

Identify and describe the "American Dream" and the methods used to pursue the Dream by the African American minority in the United States.

International Issues **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read text materials, selected college-level essays, classic works, and primary sources with teacher support and assistance, and achieve at least a score of 60% on tests featuring objective and open-ended questions on these materials.

Compare facts, compare ideas, analyze information, apply concepts, synthesize information and concepts to generate arguments, and evaluate conflicting policy options in open-ended assignments.

Government

11th & 12th Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Be able to read text materials, selected college-level essays, classic works, and primary sources with teacher support and assistance, and achieve at least a score of 60% on tests featuring objective and open-ended questions on these materials.

Be able to compare facts, compare ideas, analyze information, apply concepts, synthesize information and concepts to generate arguments, and evaluate conflicting policy options in open-ended assignments.

Economics

11th & 12 Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read text materials, selected college-level essays, selected Advanced Placements materials, and the business/finance section of a daily newspaper with teacher support and assistance, and achieve at least a score of 60% on tests featuring objective and open-ended questions on these materials.

Read and interpret statistical tables and graphs.

Present statistical data using tables and graphs.

Analyze information, apply concepts, synthesize information and concepts to generate arguments, and evaluate conflicting policy options in open-ended assignments.

Select stocks from listings in the business/finance section of a daily newspaper, monitor stock performance, and make judgments about the behavior of the stock market.

Psychology I
11th & 12th Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

1. Read text materials, current magazine/newspaper/journal articles, and excerpts from primary source documents in the field of Psychology.
2. Identify and define the basic concepts in the following areas of Psychology:
 - a. The History of Psychology and the Scientific Method
 - b. The Brain
 - c. Sensation and Perception
 - d. Consciousness
 - e. Learning
 - f. Memory
 - g. Thought and Language
 - h. Emotion
 - i. Intelligence
3. Score at least 60% on quizzes and tests featuring objective and open-ended questions on material from the areas listed above.
4. Apply concepts in psychology to a better understanding of self and others and articulate personal opinions on controversial issues in the field.
5. Understand, analyze, and interpret data and results from psychological experiments and evaluate experimental design.

6. Define the five major perspectives in psychology (Psycho dynamic, Behavioral, Cognitive, Humanistic, Neuroscientific) and compare and contrast their view of human nature and approach to psychological research.
 7. Write persuasive essays, application papers, and article summary/response reports on psychological topics.
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Psychology II
11th & 12th Grade Elective
Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

1. Read text materials, current magazine/newspaper/journal articles, and excerpts from primary source documents in the field of Psychology.
2. Identify and define the basic concepts in the following areas of Psychology:
 - a. Social Perception and Influence
 - b. Development
 - Infancy and Childhood
 - Adolescence and Adulthood
 - c. Personality
 - d. Psychological Disorders
 - e. Treatment of Psychological Disorders
 - f. Health and Well-Being
3. Score at least 60% on quizzes and tests featuring objective and open-ended questions on material from the areas listed above.
4. Apply concepts in psychology to a better understanding of self and others and articulate personal opinions on controversial issues in the field.
5. Understand, analyze, and interpret data and results from psychological experiments and evaluate experimental design.
6. Define the five major perspectives in psychology (Psycho dynamic, Behavioral, Cognitive, Humanistic, Neuroscientific) and compare and contrast their view of human nature and approach to a

psychological research.

7. Write persuasive essays, application papers, and article summary/response reports on psychological topics.

Senior Psychology (Psych 3)
12th Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Demonstrate a basic understanding of the concepts of developmental psychology.

Understand the theories of Freud, Erikson and Maslow.

Write reflective essays analyzing personal experiences from a developmental viewpoint.

Discuss developmental issues from personal perspectives.

Introduction to Sociology
11th & 12th Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts of sociology: society, culture, institutions, socialization, norms, values, etc.

Identify the three major schools of sociological thought and correctly identify the conceptual approach of

each.

Demonstrate their understanding of the three schools of sociology by applying each to the analysis of particular social situations.

Understand some of the factors that produce inequality in the United States on the basis of class, race, gender and sexual orientation.

Apply the scientific method to sociology by completing a large research project including quantitative analysis of original hypotheses.

Social Problems in the United States **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Identify a range of social problems in US society

Read relevant materials and use the data to generate a thesis about specified social problems

Identify the values of the society and describe how society's values apply to the identified problems

Identify various theses within an issue and generate responsible discussion of the contemporary issues in US society

Develop and present a plan to show how the society can resolve a specified problem

Advanced Topics in Sociology: Marxism **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Explain dialectical materialism and compare it to previous forms of bourgeois, idealist philosophy.

Analyze events from the perspective of historical materialism.

Explain the Marxist view of the role of government, concepts of freedom, truth, the role of individual in society and history, and the relationship of theory to practice.

With teacher support and assistance, students will be able to read classic, original works of Marxism.

Critically analyze the different attempts to implement socialism in the 20th century.

Criticize and/or defend Marxist thought.

Apply Marxist philosophy to particular issues in the United States and the world today.

ADVANCED TOPICS IN U.S. HISTORY: **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENCY

Students will

Read a sophisticated presidential biography and produce an analytical paper regarding how that president's character influenced his presidency.

Learn to read the newspaper critically and apply what we have learned in class to articles pertaining to the presidency. A major newspaper project will be the primary vehicle for learning these skills.

Advance in their secondary and primary research skills by utilizing the internet, newspapers and interviews.

Develop an enhanced interest in and understanding of politics, current events and civics.

Develop an ability to analyze and critique speeches and other primary sources both by reading them and viewing them.

Advance in their abilities to present and defend arguments through debates and papers in which they will be asked to defend a position on an issue.

Have an in-depth understanding of the institution of the presidency including the following topics and more:

- The Origin and Creation and Powers of the Presidency
- Evolution of the Presidency over time and how major presidents changed the office
- Presidential campaigns and the electoral process
- Campaign debates
- Presidential debates
- Presidents' First 100 Days
- The President and the Media and Public Approval Ratings
- The President and Congress: Getting bills through Congress
- The President and Foreign Affairs and War making
- Presidential Character and psychology and how it affects the presidency

WORLD RELIGIONS **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Describe theories which explain the origins of religious thought.

Identify themes common to all major religions of the world.

Trace the general history of and explain the basic theology of the major religions of the world.

Discuss contemporary issues in religion using periodicals and the internet as sources.

Read and analyze text materials as well as selections from major religious writings.

Compare facts, compare ideas, analyze information, apply concepts, synthesize information and concepts to generate arguments in open-ended assignments and class discussions.

Advanced Topics in U.S. History:
Foreign Policy Post 1945
11th & 12th Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read an advanced text and with teacher support pass an objective test achieving at least a 70% score.

Conduct library research to find books, periodicals, and internet sources to find data and evidence to support an assigned thesis.

Take an assigned thesis and create supporting arguments to defend that thesis.

Apply facts to support their arguments.

Organize the facts and arguments in a persuasive oral presentation lasting approximately thirty minutes.

Present an oral defense of their thesis.

Answer questions concerning the validity of their arguments.

Write a term paper that defends an assigned thesis that includes no less than four sources.

Have a working knowledge of the structure and hierarchy of government that produces foreign policy;

Have a working knowledge of the evolution of American foreign policy since 1945 through the 1990's.

Advanced Topics in US History:
Constitutional Law
11th & 12th Grade Elective

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read an advanced text and with teacher support pass an objective test achieving at least a 60% score.

Conduct library research to find books, periodicals, and internet sources to find data and evidence to support an historical legal position in a famous Supreme Court decision.

Apply facts to support their arguments.

Articulate verbally a legal argument supporting a side in a famous Supreme Court case and answer questions from their peers and teacher.

Write 5 part essays.

Have a detailed knowledge of the themes, people and ideas that led from the Supreme Court to the present day.

Advanced Topics in US History: 19th Century US **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read an advanced text and with teacher support pass an objective test achieving at least a 60% score.

Conduct library research to find books, periodicals, and internet sources to find data and evidence to support a thesis.

Apply facts to support their arguments.

Write book reports using a format given to the students in class.

Write 5 part essays.

Have a detailed knowledge of the themes, people and ideas that led from the inception of the nation in 1789 to its demise and reconstruction in the 1860's.

20th Century Russian History **11th & 12th Grade Elective**

Student Learning Outcomes

Students will

Read an advanced text and with teacher support pass an objective test achieving at least a 60% score.

Conduct library research to find books, periodicals, and internet sources to find data and evidence concerning Russian topics.

Apply facts to support their arguments.

Write 5 part essays.

Have a detailed knowledge of the themes, people and ideas that permeate Russian history in the 20th Century.

Social Studies

9th Grade

Student Learning Outcomes

In the Curriculum Guides written by the Social Studies Department we articulated a host of Overriding Questions and Themes that we will hold Department members and students taking our courses responsible for teaching and learning respectively. Given these questions we would like to articulate what we assume students will learn.

Overriding Outcomes

Students will

Understand how the Modern World with its economic, political, and cultural patterns arose.

Understand the connections among culture/civilization political, economic and cultural systems.

Know the turning points in history.

Describe the criteria that are used to evaluate a cultural/civilization, a historical character or an event.

Thematic Outcomes

Students will

GEOGRAPHY

Demonstrate knowledge of the influence of geography on the economic, political, social and cultural systems of major eras: the ancient worlds, the Middle Ages, Scientific Age, Renaissance, Reformation, Enlightenment in such places as China, Rome, Byzantium, Islamic World, Europe.

Semester I

Students will

POLITICAL SYSTEMS

Know the characteristics of a successful empire, government and political leader.

Recognize the motivations for political behavior and the decisions of leaders.

Know how different civilizations and cultures have dealt with the problem of establishing legitimacy, creating law and order and providing for population.

Students will

ECONOMIC SYSTEMS

Know how different cultures and civilizations have created and wealth.

Demonstrate a knowledge of what factors contributed to economic and technological changes.

Students will

SOCIAL SYSTEMS

Know how different cultures and civilizations have been organized by class and roles.

Students will

CULTURAL SYSTEMS

Understand how different cultures and civilizations have perceived the natural and supernatural world and the role and purpose of humans.

See how systems of thought, events, and individuals have formed artistic expression.

Given these overarching themes and questions, we have articulated a series of questions that the content portion of the curriculum will pursue. The following are those questions. The Social Studies Department commits itself to ensuring that students will answer these questions in an appropriately sophisticated manner for a student in the 9th grade.

Students will

Roman Empire

Know why historians judge the Roman Empire to have been successful.

Know the account of Aeneas is important for understanding the Romans' view of themselves.

Know why the Roman empire declined.

Know the legacy of the Roman Empire.

Students will

Byzantine Empire

Know that the capital of the Roman Empire shifted East.

Know that Constantine and Justinian built a successful empire.

Understand the role of Christianity in the Byzantine Empire.

Understand how the basic beliefs of Christianity influenced the political and social system of the Byzantine Empire.

Know why the Byzantine Empire declined.

Know the legacy of the Byzantine Empire.

Students will

Islamic Empires

Know how the Arabs, a culture traditionally on the political periphery in the Mediterranean, came to have political hegemony over the region.

Understand how Islam influenced the social and political systems of the Empires in this area.

Know why the Islamic Empires declined.

Know the legacy of the Islamic Empires.

Students will

Middle Ages in Western Europe

Know why the early years of the Middle Ages were referred to as the Dark Ages.

Know why Charlemagne's Empire was considered important despite its brevity.

Know how feudalism developed.

Know how the Church came to have a more powerful role in the Middle Ages.

Understand the role of the Monarch in the Middle Ages.

Understand the impact of the Crusades upon this period of time.

Know how the High/Late Middle Ages compared to the Early Middle Ages.

Students will

Renaissance

Know why the Renaissance started in Italy.

Understand why the period is called the Renaissance.

Know how the literature and art reflected the values of the Renaissance.

Know the lasting achievements of the age.

Students will

Reformation

Know the factors that contributed to the dissatisfaction with the Church.

Know Luther's specific differences with the Church.

Know other Protestant groups formed at this time.

Understand the Church's response in the Counter Reformation.

Understand the lasting legacy of the Reformation.

Students will

Scientific Revolution

Know the factors that contributed to the scientific revolution.

Understand the social, political, economic and cultural implications of the scientific revolution.

Semester II

Students will

Europeans and the Wider World: China

Know why the Europeans were interested in China.

Know the basic political, economic and social system of traditional China.

Know the basic beliefs of Chinese philosophy and religion.

Understand the Chinese response to Europeans.

Students will

Europeans and the Wider World: Africa and the Americas

Know the new ideas, events and technology that encouraged Europeans to sail South and West.

Know why Europeans were more interested in the Americas than Africa.

Understand the political, economic, social and cultural consequences of exploration in the Americas and Europe.

Students will

Development of Nation States

Know what the Divine Right of Kings meant.

Know the developing relationship between Monarch and Parliament in England.

Know the English Bill of Rights and the Glorious Revolution.

Understand how Louis XV established absolutism in France.

Students will

Enlightenment

Know the economic, social and political factors that contributed to the Enlightenment.

Understand the ideas expressed in Enlightenment thought.

Students will

French Revolution

Know the long and short term causes of the coming of the Revolution.

Know the phases of the French Revolution.

Understand why Napoleon was so successful.

Know why the Congress of Vienna was a victory for the Conservatives.

Students will

Industrial Revolution

Know the developments that led to the industrial revolution.

Know the economic and cultural implications of the Industrial Revolution.

Social Studies 10th Grade

Student Learning Outcomes

In the US History Curriculum Guide, we articulated a number of “essential questions” that we will hold department members and students taking our courses responsible for teaching and learning, respectively. Given these questions we would like to articulate what we assume students will learn.

Essential Outcomes

Students will

Know a number of theories about how the constitution influenced the development of our nation over the past two hundred years.

Know the arguments about the extent to which our nation has been able to aspire to the promise of a land in which there is "freedom and justice for all."

Understand how geography and the resources of our nation have affected our development.

Know the role the United States plays in foreign affairs. The student is familiar with the differing opinions among our people concerning our role today.

Grapple with the issue of how to build a pluralistic society.

The US History Program delineated questions within each unit of content we teach. One can assume that the teachers are responsible for making sure that the students are comfortable handling the questions and have formulated reasonable and appropriately articulate and sophisticated responses to the queries. They follow:

Content:

Students will

Constitution of the United States

Know the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation that led to the Constitutional Convention.

Understand the issues that threatened the framing and ratification of the Constitution.

Know the major ideas of the Constitution such as separation of powers, checks and balances.

Students will

Emergence of the United States as a World Power

Know the arguments of the Imperialists and Anti-Imperialists as the USA tried to delineate its role in 20th Century foreign affairs.

Know the reasoning for and the arguments for the USA behavior in the Spanish American War, the taking of the Philippines, the Panama Canal, the Roosevelt Corollary.

Students will

World War I

Know how WWI began in Europe.

Know the efforts of Woodrow Wilson to keep the USA out of the War and the criticisms of his policies.

Understand the importance of the USA's role in participating in the Versailles Conference and the arguments pro and con over the USA's entrance in the League of Nations.

Students will

The 1920's

Know the political, social, economic forces that gave this era in USA history the nickname of the Jazz Age or the Roaring 20's.

Students will

Great Depression and the *New Deal*

Know the factors that caused the Great Depression.

Understand the differences among the various proponents of solutions to the Depression.

Know the New Deal "alphabet soup" attempts by FDR.

Students will

World War II

Understand the international forces at work in Europe and Asia that brought the USA into the war.

Know the strategies and technologies used in Europe and Asia by the Allies to bring the war to a successful conclusion.

Students will

Cold War

Understand the challenges and the responses the US government felt warranted by the events of the decades following WWII such as the Marshall Plan, the Korean War, Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, etc.

Know the domestic crises created by our involvement in the Cold War such as the Rosenberg Trials, the McCarthy Era, Watergate, the anti-war movement.

Students will

Civil Rights Movement

Know the tactics of the "movement."

Know the impact of the "movement" on a whole host of other societal issues.

Know the key player in the "movement" and their goals.