



St. Bernard's High School

History/Social Science Department

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4 Year History/Social Science Progression by Level

Level	Level 1 <i>Accelerated</i>	Honors
Freshmen		Honors World Civilizations
Sophomore	World Civilizations	Honors US History (Columbus-Reconstruction)
Junior	US History (Jamestown-World War II)	AP US History (Reconstruction-Present Day)
Senior	Modern Political/Social History	AP American Government & Politics

History/Social Sciences

The objectives of the faculty of the Department of History/Social Sciences are to encourage its students to develop historical awareness, perspective, and understanding as well as be trained in sound historical research skills. The students will learn through lectures, readings, and historical simulations that are designed to help them develop basic skills in a group work setting and to analyze the decisions that have catapulted America to the global status that it currently embraces. Students in all history/social science courses will learn the study, writing, and analytical skills necessary for them to continue to perform at high standards expected by St. Bernard's as well as post-secondary institutions.

Requirements for Graduation: 3 Years of History

Freshmen Year

Honors World Civilizations, *Honors Level*

This course will cover world history from pre-historic times to the High-Renaissance. Students will study the historical development both on a local and world-wide level, moving from isolated civilizations to interdependent nations. This class will cover a vast amount of time, understanding history in both a general and specific manner. This course will not just cover facts, but will also teach and refine student skills of researching, analyzing, and applying knowledge to historical facts and a variety of sources. Students will be able to apply multiple perspectives and seek long term patterns in studying the history of the world. Geography and current world events will also be covered. As this is an honors course, students will also learn the study, writing, and analytical skills necessary for them to continue to perform at high standards expected of an honors student.

Prerequisite:

Placement test score 94 or above in English and Mathematics.

Full year / 1 Credit

Sophomore Year

Honors United States History, *Honors Level*

This section of Honors United States History will discuss the triumphs and tribulations of exploring America and will come full circle with the Reconstructing of our nation after the American Civil War. This course is designed to provide a survey of the political, social, economic, and cultural development of the United States from pre-European contact through The Civil War. Specific attention will be directed to the colonial era, establishment of the new nation, sectional problems, national growth and identity, the notion of "manifest destiny", and of course, repair the country that destroyed itself between 1861-1865. Students will learn the historical significance of great American figures and important events. Students will also be able to research and produce papers requiring citation, grammar, and content. This class also teaches students to take documents, regardless of their genre, and read, understand, and analyze them.

Prerequisite:

At least an 83 average in Honors World Civilizations

Full year / 1 Credit

World Civilizations

This course surveys the birth and diffusion of world civilizations from prehistory to the French Revolution. Attention is given the major cultural, social, economic, and political trends within each civilization. This course will not just cover facts, but will also teach and refine student skills of researching, analyzing, and applying knowledge to historical facts and a variety of sources. Students will be able to apply multiple perspectives and seek long term patterns in studying the history of the world.

Full year / 1 Credit

Junior Year

Advanced Placement United States History, AP Level

**Students must take the AP United States History examination*

This section of Advanced Placement United States History will discuss the achievements and difficulties of Reconstructing America, and will follow American involvement in numerous wars and domestic battles that helped in creating the nation that we live in today. This course is designed to provide a survey of the political, social, economic, and cultural development of the United States from Reconstruction through the current presidential administration. Specific attention will be directed to the Reconstruction period, the establishment of the “American Empire”, national growth and identity in the “Progressive Era”, and the American involvement in global affairs. Students will learn the historical significance of great American figures and important events. Students will also be able to research and produce papers requiring citation, grammar, and content. This class also teaches students to take documents, regardless of their genre, and read, understand, and analyze them. Lastly, this class will prepare students for the Advanced Placement United States History examination.

Prerequisite:

At least an 83 average in Honors United States History and teacher recommendation.

Full year / 1 Credit

United States History

This course introduces main themes in the history of the United States from the founding of Jamestown to World War II. Students will not only be studying the actions of presidents and important people, but we will also look at how common people lived and acted. Students will compare the different experiences of various ethnic, religious, and racial groups, social classes, and women. The intent of this course is to introduce the concepts, materials, and tools employed in the discipline of history, and to help develop writing and other skills used in the study of history.

Prerequisite:

Must pass World Civilizations

Full year / 1 Credit

Senior Year

AP American Government & Politics, Honors Level

Through this class, students will gain an understanding of the different types of governments and how they are applied both in theory and in the real world. The class will examine the political systems of the United States and their impact on the country, as well as how the many factors in American politics merge into the country's system. A large part of this class will be based on primary source readings, interpreting, research, writing and discussion. Students will investigate and persuasively argue issues brought forth, specifically balance of power and the responsibilities of a moral and effective government. This class will cover both the historical and current landscape of American politics. There will also be an American law and international component. Students will take the AP exam.

Prerequisite:

Must pass Advanced Placement United States History
Full year / 1 Credit

Modern United States History

This class covers American history from the conclusion of World War II until present day. A large part of this class will be based on reading, analysis, writing and discussion. Students will gain an understanding of modern history and current issues. The class will look at American history through both domestic and international perspective. The class will not only examine key events and demographics, but will also analyze why such things occurred. This is a college preparatory course, and therefore will aim to prepare students for a college level history seminar. The first half of the year will cover the political side of American history, including, but not limited to: Presidential elections, foreign policy issues, major, minor and covert wars, and the politics of both leaders and citizens of the country. The second half of the course will focus on domestic issues, such as civil rights, changes in culture, and American domestic achievements and events.

Prerequisite:

Must pass United States History
Full year / 1 Credit

Electives

Economics, Level 1

Economics is a social science that studies people's dilemma of choice among a limited amount of resources in their pursuit to attain the maximum practical satisfaction of their unlimited wants and desires. This course is an introductory class that will establish an understanding of both micro and macroeconomics. Throughout the year we will be studying the world's economy as well as household economic situations to prepare students as they venture out into the financial world.

Full year/ 1 Credit

Psychology, *Level 1*

This introductory course will expose students to many of the fields of interest within Psychology.

Topics covered will be the more familiar Personality Development, altered states of consciousness (sleep, dreams, and hypnosis), learning, memory, and abnormal behavior.

Students will also study the biological basis of behavior, motivation, sensation, perception, health psychology and social psychology. Students will also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. In addition, students are expected to develop their critical thinking skills throughout the course, while building their reading, writing, and discussion skills.

Full year/ 1 Credit