

GCVSP Social Studies Courses

This is ONLY a list of Course Descriptions. To see WHEN these courses are offered, click on Current Course Offerings on the Website. Each Term is listed with courses offered.

AP US Government

This one-unit yearlong college-level course covers the following major content areas: constitutional underpinnings of United States government; political beliefs and behaviors; political parties, interest groups and mass media; institutions of national government, the Congress, the presidency, the bureaucracy, and the federal courts; public policy; and civil rights and civil liberties. It is strongly recommended that students have Honors or AP English placement and US Government Honors as prerequisites. This course meets the Government requirement for graduation. Students are required to take the AP exam in May. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval

AP Macroeconomics

This one-unit yearlong college-level course covers basic economic concepts, measurement of economic performance, national income, and price determination, international economics, and growth. It is strongly recommended that students have Honors or AP English placement or Honors Algebra. This course meets the Economics requirement for graduation. Students are required to take the AP exam in May. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval

Economics CP

Economics CP is a one-unit semester course which meets the requirement for high school graduation. It provides a study of the overall economy, including both macroeconomics and microeconomics, with an emphasis on using, refining, applying and enhancing social studies skills and concepts to the content under study. These skills and concepts include the Social Studies Literacy Elements and the Knowledge and Cognitive Process Dimensions of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy. Students will focus on topics such as money and banking, competition, supply and demand, factors of production, consumer rights and responsibilities, and personal financial literacy. Economics is required for graduation. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval (This course offers ONE unit of credit.)

Economics Honors

Economics Honors is a one-unit semester course which meets the requirement for high school graduation. It provides a standards-based study of the overall economy including both macroeconomics and microeconomics. Students will focus on topics such as money and banking, competition, supply and demand, factors of production, consumer rights and responsibilities, and personal financial literacy. At the honors level students will read supplementary materials and analyze, synthesize, and evaluate new information as they develop critical thinking skills. It is strongly recommended that students have Honors English placement. Economics is required for graduation. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval (This course offers ONE unit of credit.)

US Government CP

US Government CP is a one-unit semester course which meets the requirement for high school graduation. It incorporates the structure organization and function of the American political system. Topics studied include: foundations of U.S. government the three major branches of government and the Constitution. Students will study the details of the political system at the national state and local levels. Comparisons will be made between American government and other political systems, and students will apply higher order thinking skills as they consider content throughout the course. US Government is required for graduation. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval (This course offers ONE unit of credit.)

US Government Honors

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US History & Constitution CP

United States History is a one-unit yearlong survey course tracing the history of our country which meets the requirement for high school graduation. Approximately one fourth of the course includes early history through the Civil War, with course emphasis on the years from Reconstruction to the present. Topics studied in depth include western migration and immigration from the end of Reconstruction through the first part of the 20th century, the Industrial Age and urbanization, America as a world power, progressivism, World War I, the Great Depression and New Deal, World War II, domestic issues and policies from World War II to the present, and international issues, policies, and involvement from the Cold War to the present. Students will apply higher order thinking skills as they consider content throughout the course. U.S. History is required for graduation. Students must take the state-required End-of-Course US History exam as the final exam and it will count 20% of the final grade. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval

US History & Constitution Honors

United States History Honors is a one-unit yearlong in-depth study of the impact and implications of decisions made throughout the history of our country. It meets the requirement for high school graduation. Approximately one fourth of the course includes early history through the Civil War with course emphasis on the years from Reconstruction to the present. Topics studied in depth include western migration and immigration from the end of Reconstruction through the first part of the 20th century the Industrial Age and urbanization America as a world power progressivism World War I the Great Depression and New Deal World War II domestic issues and policies from World War II to the present and international issues policies and involvement from the Cold War to the present. This course will entail a rigorous program of reading, research and writing. It is strongly recommended that students have Honors English placement. U.S. History is required for graduation. Students must take the state-required End-of-Course U.S. History exam as the final exam and it will count 20% of the final grade. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval

Psychology CP

Psychology is a one-unit semester elective course which meets the “third” social studies requirement for high school graduation. The course is dedicated to the holistic study of behavior. Topics include the biological bases of behavior, the learning process, sensation and perception, motivation and personality, defense mechanisms, testing, human growth and development, abnormal psychology, and leading theorists in the field. . PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval

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World Geography CP

World Geography is a one-unit semester course which meets the “third” social studies requirement for high school graduation. The course includes the physical and cultural characteristics of Earth. The course is organized systematically around the topics of region, physical earth dynamics, population, culture, economic systems, urban systems, political systems, and the environment. This course requires critical thinking and is conceptual in nature. It may be taught from either a systematic or a regional perspective. Map-reading skills, History/Social Studies Literacy skills, and the use of geographic models and geographic information systems is an integral part of this course. PREREQUISITE: Guidance approval

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