

# Social Studies Curriculum

## Core Course Offerings:

|                                 |                                     |                                  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| CP World History<br>(Gr. 9)     | Honors World History<br>(Gr. 9)     | AP World History<br>(Gr. 9 - 12) |
| CP US History*<br>(Gr. 10)      | Honors US History*<br>(Gr. 10)      | AP US History*<br>(Gr. 10-12)    |
| CP Economics<br>(Gr. 11-12)     | Honors Economics<br>(Gr. 11 - 12)   | AP Economics<br>(Gr. 11 - 12)    |
| CP Government*<br>(Gr. 11 - 12) | Honors Government*<br>(Gr. 11 - 12) | AP Government*<br>(Gr. 11 - 12)  |

Nordonia High School offers four core courses that are required for graduation. Each course may be taken at any level (College Preparatory, Honors, or Advanced Placement). Students may move between levels from year-to-year. AP courses do not have prerequisites. Electives can be taken in any order during the grades indicated. Courses noted with an asterisk require an end-of-course examination upon completion.

## Elective Offerings:

|                               |                                 |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sports History<br>(Gr. 10-12) | WAR<br>(Gr. 10-12)              |                           |
| Psychology<br>(Gr. 11 - 12)   | Sociology<br>(Gr. 11 - 12)      |                           |
| Your Life<br>(Gr. 12)         | Contemporary Issues<br>(Gr. 12) | AP Psychology<br>(Gr. 12) |

- **Honors Diploma**

*Three credits in World and US History, Government and Economics are required for graduation, however students who wish to earn an honors diploma need to earn an additional credit (four total) by passing a combination of at least two electives or by passing AP Economics and AP Government or AP Psychology*

## World History

**Course Number: 4100**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grade: 9**

This course is the continuation of the Middle School World History program. The course will focus on the modern world beginning with the emergence of modern nations. The course will trace the blending of social, political, economic and cultural developments. The continuity of history is shown through an emphasis on place, time, and significance. Critical thinking and geography/map skills are developed using cooperative groups and project based learning with an emphasis on work done in class.

## Honors World History

**Course Number: 4110**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 9**

This course is the continuation of the Middle School World History program. The course will focus on the modern world beginning with the emergence of modern nations. The course will trace the blending of social, political, economic and cultural developments. The continuity of history is shown through an emphasis on place, time, and significance. Critical thinking and geography/map skills are developed using primary source reading and independent research. Document Based Questions and other forms of writing and independent work done outside of class will be required.

## AP World History

**Course Number: 4140**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 9 – 12**

Advanced Placement World History is an intensive study focusing on students' ability to think conceptually about world history from 8000 BCE to the present. The course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to take the Advanced Placement World History exam for possible college credit. The course covers five themes: environment, culture, state-building, economic systems, and social structure. The course encompasses five geographic regions: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania. This is equivalent to an introductory college course and is for students with a particular interest in history. **Any student taking an AP World History is REQUIRED to take the AP World History exam in May.**

## US History

**Course Number: 4200**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 10**

This course is the continuation of the U.S. History program in the Middle School. Following a brief study of how historians reconstruct the past and a review of the period before 1865, the emphasis of the course centers on a chronological survey of U.S. History during the 20th century. In this course the review is comprehensive and the survey is in great depth. Critical thinking and geography/map skills are developed using cooperative groups and project based learning with an emphasis on work done in class.

## Honors US History

**Course Number: 4210**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 10**

This course is the continuation of the U.S. History program in the Middle School. Following a brief study of how historians reconstruct the past and a review of the period before 1865, the emphasis of the course centers on a chronological survey of U.S. History during the 20th century. In this course the review is more intensive and the survey is in greater depth. Critical thinking and geography/map skills are developed using primary source reading and independent research. Document Based Questions and other forms of writing and independent work done outside of class will be required.

## AP US History

**Course Number: 4220**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 10 – 12**

This course is an intensive survey of United States History. It is designed to provide the student with a rigorous knowledge of United States History as well as the skills necessary to take the Advanced Placement U.S. History exam, Writing skills, analysis, primary-source work and appreciation for other perspectives will be emphasized. This is equivalent to an introductory college survey course and should only be attempted with the recommendation of previous Social Studies teachers and the Guidance Department. **Any student taking AP U.S. History is REQUIRED to take the AP U.S. History exam in May.**

## Government

**Course Number: 4300**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grade: 11**

The features and functions of government and the political system are studied under the following topics: Foundations, rights, federal legislative branch, federal executive branch, federal judicial branch, state and local governments, and comparison and contrast with the governmental systems or other nations. Preparation of the student to be an active and effective participant in the political and economic process will use cooperative groups and project based learning with an emphasis on work done in class. \*

## Honors Government

**Course Number: 4310**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 11**

The features and functions of government and the political system are studied under the following topics: Foundations, rights, federal legislative branch, federal executive branch, federal judicial branch, state and local governments, and comparison and contrast with the governmental systems or other nations. An emphasis on written and independent work will prepare the student to be an informed participant in the political and economic process.\*

## AP Government

**Course Number: 4140**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

Advanced Placement Government and Politics is a year-long, intensive experiential survey of governmental issues at the national level. This class is designed to provide an in-depth focus on the knowledge and skills necessary to take the Advanced Placement Government exam. Work is at the college-level, and the motivation and ability of the students must be at a level equal to that of the material covered. **Any student taking AP Government & Politics is REQUIRED to take the AP Government & Politics exam and the AP Comparative Government and Politics Exam in May.**

## Economics

**Course Number: 4400**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 11**

Basic principles and practices are studied under the following topics: Introduction to economics, business behavior, role of financial institutions, overall economy, and comparative thinking skills. Personal financial literacy is an important component of this course using cooperative groups and project based learning with an emphasis on work done in class.\*

## Honors Economics

**Course Number: 4410**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 11**

Economic principles and practices are studied under the following topics: Introduction to economics, business behavior, role of financial institutions, overall economy, and comparative thinking skills. An emphasis on written and independent work and personal financial literacy are important components of this course.\*

## AP Economics

**Course Number: 4240**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 11 – 12**

Advanced Placement Economics is an intensive study of college-level Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. The course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to take Advanced Placement exams for Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. **The course requires students to sit for both the Microeconomics and Macroeconomics AP exams in May.** The course covers the topics of personal finance, consumer choice, supply and demand, competition, regulation, labor, income, economic indicators, financial markets, economic growth, and international trade.

## Your Life

**Course Number: 4550**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grade: 12**

Each week of this semester course will be spent studying one year of the students' lives. The teacher will lead the students through an in-depth examination of the popular culture, politics, and events that have occurred over the past eighteen years. Students will use movies, music, television, and documents to develop an understanding of the time in which they have lived.

## Psychology

**Course Number: 4600**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

This course emphasizes the practical application of psychological principles to the student's daily life and gives a comprehensive coverage of psychological topics and theories in the following areas: learning and cognitive processes, workings of the mind and body, the life span, personality and individuality, adjustment and breakdown, and human relations.

## AP Psychology

**Course Number: 4620**

**Credit: 1**

**Length: year**

**Grades: 12**

The Advanced Placement Psychology class is a year long intensive survey of College Psychology. The course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within Psychology. **Students taking this class will be prepared for, and are required to take the College Board AP Psychology Exam in May.**

## Contemporary Issues

**Course Number: 4700**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 12**

This course is designed to be a participatory, discussion-driven introduction to current world issues as well as the techniques and strategies of debate and expression. Focal areas will include oppression, equality, morality and justice as seen through current topical issues. The new format of the class will feature new literacies like Twitter, podcasts, and vlogs. Students will be expected to actively participate in discussions and will be expected to be able to analyze contemporary society, determine cause-and-effect, form and justify opinions and interpret different perspectives. Students will learn to discriminate between various sources of information, and will practice being active participants in modern forms of social media.

## Sociology

**Course Number: 4800**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 11 - 12**

This course emphasizes the practical application of sociology and the study of the development, structure, and function of human society. The course will focus on institutions and policies that affect students' daily lives and on current events and news that shape human interactions today. The class will consider local issues such as romantic love, racial and gender identity, family conflict, deviant behavior, aging, and religious faith. At the societal level the course will consider matters like crime and law, poverty and wealth, prejudice and discrimination, schools and education, and social movements. At the global level the course will look at such phenomena as population growth, migration, war and peace.

## Sports History

**Course Number: 4810**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 10 – 12**

Sports History is a semester elective for all students in the eleventh or twelfth grade who want to learn about the way sports have both reflected and shaped our culture. The course will include research on changes to American culture and sport and the effects of sports on the culture. The course will review some of the most memorable moments in sports and many behind-the-scenes decisions that have changed the way we relate to one another and to the stars we admire. Significant discussion of the economics of sports will be included in the course.

## War

**Course Number: 4820**

**Credit: .5**

**Length: semester**

**Grades: 10 - 12**

War is a semester elective for all students in the eleventh or twelfth grade who want to learn about the way war has affected the lives of people. The course will include research on changes to culture, government, economics, geography, technology, and medicine. The course will review some of the most memorable battles in war, the people who lead, and behind-the-scenes decisions that have changed the way we relate to one another and fight wars.