

SOCIAL STUDIES

	Required Courses (credit)	Credit Type
9th Grade	World Geography (1.0) OR World Geography GATE (1.0)	SS1
10th Grade	no course requirement (see options below)	
11th Grade	U.S. History (1.0) OR AP U.S. History (1.0) [taught in a combo course with English III or English III Honors]	USHIST
12th Grade	U.S. Government (0.5) OR AP U.S. Government and Politics (0.5) AND Social Studies Elective [Social Studies Elective options are: Economics (0.5); Human Geography (0.5); Native American Studies (0.5); Philosophy (0.5); AP Microeconomics (0.5); AP Human Geography (1.0)]	USGOVT and SSEL
	<i>*Note: Native American Studies and AP Human Geography can be taken in 11th grade.</i>	

	General Elective Courses (credit)	Credit Type
10th Grade	World History (1.0) OR AP European History (1.0) [AP European History is taught in a combo course with English III Honors.]	General Elective
11th-12th Grade	Law and Justice (0.5); Psychology I (0.5); Psychology II (0.5); AP Psychology (1.0)	General Elective

11th-12th Grade	Law and Justice (0.5); Psychology I (0.5); Psychology II (0.5); AP Psychology (1.0)	General Elective
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WORLD GEOGRAPHY SS130

1.0 (YEAR) **AM Option Available**

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level(s): 9

How does where you live influence how you live? How are humans affected by changes they make to their physical environment? Is globalization a positive trend? Freshman World Geography is an introductory high school level social studies course that will emphasize building necessary social studies skills while exploring the cultural, political and economic characteristics of regions around the world. Students will explore Africa, Asia, Middle East, North and South America, Europe and Australia while gaining valuable information about current events and our increasingly globalized world.

Credit Type: SS1

WORLD GEOGRAPHY (GATE) SS135

1.0 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Restricted Entry: GATE identified students, or recommendation based on teacher referral and additional qualifications

Grade Level(s): 9

This course features more challenging reading, writing and critical thinking exercises for 9th grade students.

Credit Type: SS1

WORLD HISTORY SS20

1.0 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: None

Grade Level(s): 10, 11, 12

"One faces the future with one's past," writer Pearl S. Buck once wrote. In this World History class, we'll connect the past with the present, and look to the future. Join classmates in the exploration of ancient and modern civilizations, and discover their contributions to today's global community. Using primary and secondary sources, cooperative learning, student presentations, analytical writing and a wide range of hands-on activities, the course will produce a more knowledgeable and productive global citizen. Although it is not required for graduation from BHS, many colleges and universities require World History for admission.

Credit Type: GEN

AP* EUROPEAN HISTORY (COMBO) SS225

1.0 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: English I and Teacher Signature

Grade Level(s): 10

The student who takes this AP* course should have strong reading comprehension and writing skills and will be expected to demonstrate leadership in the classroom setting. This course combines the chronological study of European history and literature in an integrated program, beginning with the Middle Ages in Europe and working to the present day. Students will write college-level essays, creative works and a research paper. They also refine

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critical thinking, speaking, listening, reading and group interactive skills throughout the year. This course is designed to meet the objectives of English II and AP* European History in a course taught by one member of the English dept. and one member of the Social Studies dept. In addition to providing students with the opportunity to explore the connections between two academic disciplines, emphasis will be placed on preparing for the (optional) Advanced Placement European History exam, which allows for university/college credit in most post-secondary programs. This class will be taught in a two-hour block (1 credit English II Honors and 1 credit AP* European History).

Credit Type: GEN

U.S. HISTORY (COMBO) SS375

1.0 (YEAR) **AM Option Available**

Prerequisite: English II

Grade Level(s): 11

What is worth remembering? How do we make distinctions between "us" and "them"? How do texts contribute to the cultural and societal values of the time period in which they are written? Students examine questions such as these in American Studies, a class that approaches the study of American literature and American history both chronologically and thematically. This integration enriches the learning experience: just as it is impossible to undertake a meaningful study of American history without understanding the poetry and prose that both drive and chronicle it, one cannot truly comprehend the power behind the words of America's writers without understanding the context of the times in which they wrote. Students gain a greater appreciation of the men and women who, in unique times and through the force of their voices and determination, helped make America the country it is today. Communication skills will be enhanced in this team-taught, two-period class, which fulfills the History and English requirements for Junior year (1 credit English III, and 1 credit U.S. History). Required course for all Juniors/exception-see AP US History Combo.

Credit Type: USHIST

AP* U.S. HISTORY (COMBO) SS385

1.0 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: English II and Teacher Signature

Grade Level(s): 11

Our American culture is based on our tradition, our values, our way of thinking,

U.S. GOVERNMENT SS400

0.5 (SEM) **AM Option Available**

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 12

This course meets the U.S. Government requirement for graduation. Topics of interest that are covered in the course are: What does freedom mean to you? What are your civil rights and civil liberties? What are the responsibilities of citizenship? Can the police search your car in the school parking lot? Why should you vote? How does the Constitution affect your daily life? Who are your Congressmen? What do they do for you and Montana? These and many more questions are answered in U.S. Government.

Credit Type: USGOV

AP* U.S. GOVERNMENT & POLITICS SS522

0.5 (SEM - FALL)

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 12

Should the government bail out failing industries? What is pork barrel legislation and why don't people like it? Should we redistribute taxes to pay for people on welfare? What is happening with social security? Will you have any money by the time you retire? Should flag burning be legal? What is a polling package? How much influence do the media and special interest groups have in our political system? Are executive orders within the parameters of the Constitution? These and many other questions will be discussed in Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics. AP* U.S. Government is a college-level course that meets the requirements for graduation. The course is intended for the student who is interested in government and politics and who wishes to engage in a critical evaluation of the U.S. federal system and current issues that face our nation. The course will analyze the various entities of government as well as the many players within and outside the system. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be prepared for the College Board AP* U.S. Government and Politics exam in May.

Credit Type: USGOV

ECONOMICS SS420

0.5 (SEM) **AM Option Available**

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 12

1.0 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: English II and Teacher Signature

Grade Level(s): 11

Our American culture is based on our tradition, our values, our way of thinking, and our way of life. Experiencing past events through history, literature, art, and music should lead to a greater understanding and appreciation for that heritage. This course offers students the opportunity for building these connections through a chronological study of U.S. history, literature, and culture in an integrated class taught by one member of the Social Studies dept. and one member of the English dept. During the year, students produce college-level essays, document-based responses, and research projects. They also refine critical thinking, speaking, listening, reading and group interactive skills. Emphasis will be placed on preparing for the Advanced Placement® U.S. History exam, which allows for university/college credit in most post-secondary programs. The course fulfills the history and English requirements for junior year and will be taught in a two-hour block (1 credit Honors English III, and 1 credit AP® U.S. History).

Credit Type: USHIST

ECONOMICS SS420

0.5 (SEM) **AM Option Available**

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 12

Economics is a semester course that meets the senior elective requirement. Topics of interest that are covered in this course are: What makes a dollar worth a dollar? Why does working on a garbage truck guarantee you a wage differential? Does private ownership of wild elephants in Africa mean they will survive? Does international trade jeopardize American jobs? Should organs be sold on the open market? What does crime cost? Are monopolies illegal? If so, why? Are sweatshops a bad thing? If I can sell my pollution, does it help solve global warming? Guns vs. Butter? Say what? Are taxes good, bad, indifferent or just confusing? Should fatty foods be taxed by the government to reduce consumption? These and many more questions are answered in Economics.

Credit Type: SSEL

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY SS430

0.5 (SEM)

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 12

Human Geography is a semester course that meets the senior elective requirement. Human Geography is the study of the interaction between humans and their environment. It is an exploration of people and place that will

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utilize contemporary events in both the industrialized and developing countries of the world to provide students with a deeper understanding of the physical impacts of human decisions.

Credit Type: SSEL

AP® HUMAN GEOGRAPHY SS540

1.0 (YEAR)

impacts of human decisions.

Credit Type: SSEL

AP® HUMAN GEOGRAPHY SS540

1.0 (YEAR)

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 11, 12

AP Human Geography is a year-long course that meets the senior elective requirement. This advanced level course allows students the opportunity to earn college credit in Human Geography and prepares students for the AP® exam in May. The purpose of the AP® course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

Credit Type: SSEL

NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES SS330

0.5 (SEM)

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 11, 12

Native American Studies is a course with an emphasis on Native American history, geography, literature and culture. The course would examine the lives of native peoples in North and South America from pre-Columbian times to the present day. A special emphasis will be placed on Montana's Indians. To the greatest extent possible, course content would prioritize native voices through primary sources, works of literature and film, guest speakers, and field trips. Higher level thinking skills and primary source analysis will be emphasized.

Credit Type: SSEL

AP® MICROECONOMICS SS530

0.5 (SEM)

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 12

Microeconomics is a semester course that meets the senior elective requirement. The purpose of an AP course in microeconomics is to give students

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 12

Microeconomics is a semester course that meets the senior elective requirement. The purpose of an AP course in microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the decisions of individuals—both consumers and producers—within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. The course will be divided into five units: Basic Economic Concepts, Supply and Demand, The Theory of the Firm, Factor Markets, and The Role of the Government.

Credit Type: SSEL

LAW & JUSTICE SS335

0.5 (SEM)

Prerequisite: Grade Level

Grade Level(s): 11, 12

What does justice look like in the United States? What are your rights as a citizen and student? How do laws and the execution of these laws impact you and your family? Law and Justice is a semester long elective that will explore these questions and serve as an introductory course to law and legal systems in the United States. The scope of content for this course includes Constitutional Law, Criminal Law and the Criminal Justice process, Consumer Law, International Law, as well as a host of other special topics. This course provides students with the ability to navigate and understand the law, legal systems, and how it affects us in everyday life. We will use case studies, individual research, group discussions, debates, field trips, guest speakers, and mock trials throughout the course in order to reach this goal. Dueling opinions and lively debate will be the norm in this course making the class exciting, relevant, and applicable.