

## SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

### Graduation Goals:

Students will be able to:

- Use social studies terminology knowledgeably;
- Summarize and analyze the origin, purpose, values and limitations in a wide variety of texts, including primary and secondary sources and maps;
- Analyze arguments independently;
- Analyze causation, change over time, and the impact of different perspectives on a situation or text;
- Synthesize information to create models;
- Apply the principles of Catholic social teaching to real-world situations;
- Compose essays and create projects that demonstrate historical thinking, support opinions adequately, and correctly cite and incorporate source material.

### Honors Foundations of Civilization

610 Semester 0.5 Freshman (honors only)

Through a review of the Foundations of Civilization and world geography, this course will introduce Honors-level students to the skills and methods of understanding history and historical thought, including the recognition of causality and patterns in history and the analysis of points of view in primary and secondary historical texts and articles.

Through study of physical, human, and political geography, students will develop an understanding of the ways societies have interacted with the earth, and how the earth has defined how humans interact with one another. Students will read a variety of texts and develop their own historical curiosity by engaging those texts independently.

**Approval:** Students will be placed in this course based on standardized testing, grades and other admissions data.

### Honors World History

620 Year 1.0 Sophomore

This course surveys world history from ancient times to the rise of the Atlantic world in the 1600s. Students will study historical events, emphasizing ideas and theories which influenced the progress of humankind. Students will engage in independent reading that will enhance their understanding of influences on human history. Honors students will engage in reading and research tasks that will further develop content understanding and analytical skills. *This course is required of all students who are being considered for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.*

**Approval:** Placement in Honors World History will be based on students' performance and work habits in ninth grade social studies and English.

### World History

621 Year 1.0 Sophomore

This course surveys world history from ancient times to the rise of the Atlantic world in the 1600s. Students will study historical events, emphasizing ideas and theories which influenced the progress of humankind. Students will engage in independent reading that will enhance their understanding of the influences on human history.

### **United States and the World to 1900**

631 Year 1.0 Junior

Students will analyze the causes, changes, and decisions behind historical actions and choices in U.S. and World history from the 16<sup>th</sup> Century to 1900. Students will investigate historical patterns and analyze different perspectives of historical actors. Major historical themes will include the Age of Discovery, the Atlantic World, colonization, trade, and political and industrial revolutions.

**Note:** If the Social Studies Department determines that there is a need, a section of Honors U.S. & the World to 1900 will be established. Placement in the course will be based on students' demonstrated achievement and work habits in World History or Honors World History.

### **Honors United States Government**

625 Semester 0.5 Junior (and Sophomores considering I.B.)

This course will familiarize students with the three branches of government as they function on the federal, state/District and local levels. It will also empower students to be good citizens on all three levels. As in most honors social studies courses, reading, writing and analysis expectations are greater than those in the non-honors course.

**Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation**

### **United States Government**

642 Semester 0.5 Junior

This course will familiarize students with the three branches of government as they function on the federal, state/District and local levels. It will also empower students to be good citizens on all three levels.

**Note:** Students who have taken Honors Intro to U.S. Government in 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade are exempt from this requirement.

### **The United States and the World in the Twentieth Century**

636 Year 1.0 Senior

From the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to today, students will evaluate the causes, changes, and decisions behind historical actions and choices in modern U.S. and World history, and their impact on the present day. Students will evaluate the different perspectives of both historical actors and historians and apply that investigation towards their own historical understanding. Major historical themes will include industrialism, decolonization, nationalism, the Cold War, globalism, and 20<sup>th</sup> century social upheaval. Completion of a major research project is an essential component of this course.

**Note:** If the Social Studies Department determines that there is a need, a section of Honors U.S. & the World in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century will be established. Placement in the course will be based on students' demonstrated achievement and work habits in World History or Honors World History.

**I.B. History 11**

680 Year 1.0 Junior

In keeping with the I.B. History Higher Level curriculum, students in this course will engage in an in-depth study of several topics in the History of the Americas from 1895 to the present. It is presented chronologically, and while the topic may focus either on the United States or one of its neighbors each topic will examine the international connections among the nations in this region.

**Approval/Prerequisites:** This course is for I.B. Diploma Candidates and is their required 11<sup>th</sup> grade history course.

**I.B. History 12**

682 Year 1.0 Senior

The I.B. History curriculum provides students a two-part focus in their senior year: examination of a single topic in-depth, as professional historians do, and a thorough examination of Twentieth Century history. Carroll I.B. seniors will study the Cold War as their proscribed topic and explore the interconnectedness of the Americas with the global processes changing the world in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

**Approval/Prerequisites:** Successful completion of I.B. History 11.

**Latin-American Studies**

656 Semester 0.5 Sophomore, Junior, Senior

The purpose of this elective course is to introduce students to important issues in Latin American history, geography, culture and society. These issues include the survival of indigenous cultures, an appreciation for their contributions to humanity, the economic and cultural legacies of the Spanish and Portuguese, the formation of multi-ethnic societies, the legacy of social and political revolutions, relations with the United States, and the creation of distinctive art forms and cultural practices of Latin America arising from a diversity of cultures.

**African-American Studies**

654 Semester 0.5 Sophomore, Junior, Senior

This elective course begins with the examination of African Civilizations of the Nile Valley, Egypt, Ethiopia and Nubia; the Western Sudanic Civilizations of Ghana, Mali and Songhai; and the Moorish Empire. It will explore slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, Civil Rights Movements, Black politics, racism and discrimination in the context of U.S. history and society. The course consists of lectures, video presentations, class discussions, critiques of literature, and special projects.

**Political Science**

639 Semester 0.5 Junior, Senior

This course will provide students with a foundation for understanding major issues in contemporary global politics. It will also provide students an understanding of economic, business and social issues that have political influences in the modern world.

**Psychology**

645 Semester 0.5 Junior, Senior

This course focuses on the study of human development from infancy to adulthood, with special references to learning, perception, memory, language, thinking, emotions, and individual differences in intelligence, aptitude, and personality. Emphasis will be on leading researchers in the field and how they have impacted our daily living. Projects include writing essays, participating in class discussion, and research.

**Sociology**

646 Semester 0.5 Junior, Senior

This course focuses on group interaction through key social institutions--economy, family, religion, government and education—and how these institutions shape culture, attitudes and behavior. Special topics covered will include class, race and gender inequality, sexuality, poverty and welfare, and crime. Students will be required to engage in a research project where each develops a hypothesis and uses the scientific method to prove or disprove its validity.

**DC History**

672 Semester 0.5 Junior, Senior

This course offers the student an opportunity to explore and share the many and varied historical interpretations of the development of the District of Columbia from the pre-colonial period to the present. Other objectives will be to introduce students to historical literature about the District of Columbia; students will have the chance to read and respond to that literature in a careful and critical manner. Students will also engage in research-based projects.