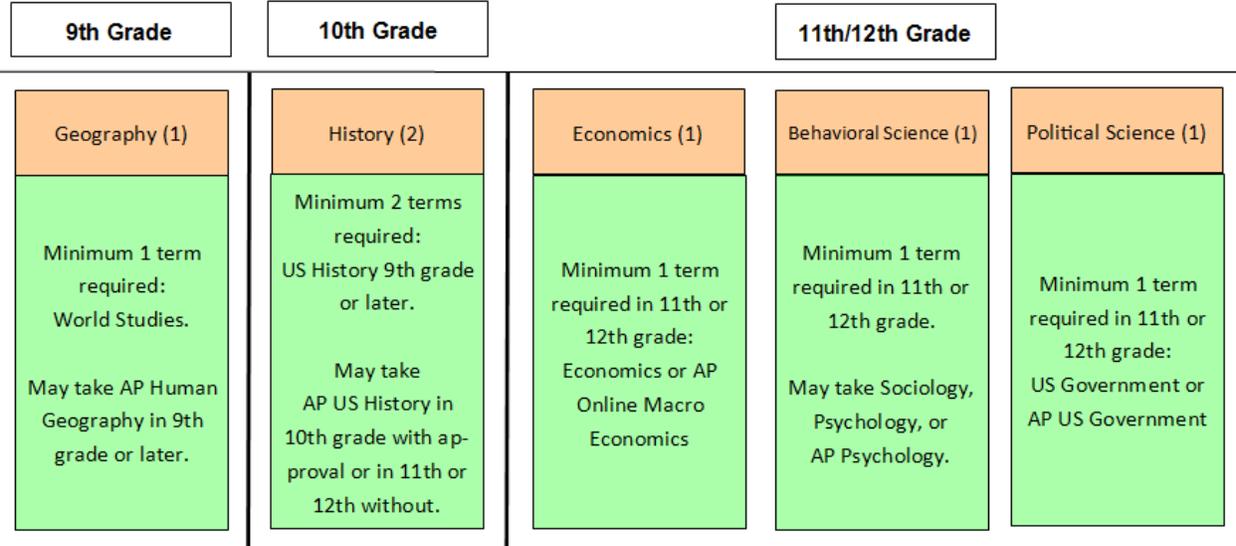


# SOCIAL STUDIES

## Recommended Social Studies Course Flow Chart

A total of 6 terms of Social Studies is required to successfully meet graduation requirements.



Subject	Course#	Credits	Grade Level				Prerequisites and related info
			9	10	11	12	
<b>REQUIRED</b>							
<b>Geography (1 term)</b>							
World Studies	271211	0.5	X				None
AP Human Geography	270151 270152	1	X	X	X	X	None
<b>History (2 terms)</b>							
U.S. History	272311 272312	1		X			None
AP U.S. History	272501 272502 272503	1.5	X	X	X	X	None
<b>Economics (1 term)</b>							
Economics	274131	0.5			X	X	None
<b>Behavioral Science (1 term)</b>							
Sociology	277511	0.5			X	X	None
Psychology	277111	0.5			X	X	None
AP Psychology	277451 277452 277453	1.5			X	X	Instructor approval.
<b>Political Science (1 term)</b>							
U.S. Government	273011	0.5			X	X	None
AP U.S. Government & Politics	272521 272522 272523	1.5		X	X	X	10 <sup>th</sup> graders must have instructor approval.
<b>GENERAL ELECTIVES</b>							
Early Western Civilization	271311	0.5		X	X	X	

Modern Western Civilization (since 1700)	270711	0.5		X	X	X	
Contemporary American Conflicts	000071	0.5		X	X	X	None
World Religions	000072	0.5		X	X	X	None
Contemporary World Issues (GLS100)	272511	0.5		X	X	X	
Contemporary Culture in the US	000051	0.5	X	X	X	X	None
Intro to Psych (PSY111)	277113	0.5			X	X	Psychology <b>3 college credits +</b>
Independent Study Social Studies	279611	0.5		X	X	X	See course description
Student Senate/Student Council	279911 279912	0.5	X	X	X	X	Elected by student body
Student Page Iowa General Assembly	279921	0.5	X	X	X	X	Elective and by application only

### College Credits and Transfer Key

+	Transfers to some state colleges as equivalent course.
◆	Transfers to some state colleges as elective credit.
◆	Nontransferable at some colleges

## SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

*\*\*All students are required to complete six terms of Social Studies during grades 9-12, two terms of which are required in grade 9 and four terms in grades 10-12. Students are free to develop their own individual Social Studies program that best meets their educational goals.*

### GEOGRAPHY

#### World Studies

271211

0.5 credits

This course provides students with an overview of world geography and culture. Topics include the physical environment; the political landscape; the relationship between people and the land; economic production and development; and the movement of people, goods, and ideas. Additionally, within the context of the five themes of geography, students will examine problem-solving, religion, government, history, and the arts.

#### AP Human Geography

270151, 270152

1 credit

This course will follow College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level Human Geography courses. AP Human Geography introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped the ways in which humans understand, use and alter the earth's surface. Students use spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences and also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. Students are strongly encouraged to take the National CEEB Advanced Placement Exam. There is an additional fee for materials.

### HISTORY

**U.S. History** 272311, 272312 1 credit  
U.S. History is a 2-term course required of all 10th grade students. U.S. History is a continuation of the history sequence, started in grade 8. U.S. History covers the time period from 1865 to the Cold War.

**AP United States History** 272501, 272502, 272503 1.5 credits  
Following the College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level U.S. History courses. AP U.S. History courses provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to address critical problems and materials in U.S. History. Students learn to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. The course examines the discovery and settlement of the New World through the recent past. AP U.S. History will only satisfy Group 1 requirement IF and only IF students complete the 3rd term of the class. (Term 3 covers the required curriculum for this group). Students are strongly encouraged to take the National CEEB Advanced Placement Exam. There is an additional fee for materials.

### **ECONOMICS**

**Economics** 274131 0.5 credits  
This course is a study of the basic principles and problems of economics and is centered on how society produces and distributes the goods and services in a market economy.

### **BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE**

**Sociology** 277511 0.5 credits  
This course concerns the interaction of social groups in our society. It is designed to give students knowledge of the various social relationships, behavioral patterns, social progresses and systems that are imbedded in their culture.

**Psychology** 277111 0.5 credits  
This is an in-depth exploration of human behavior patterns. The ability to recognize concepts and perform analysis of complex material is recommended for students taking this course. Areas presented include the brain and nervous system, learning and memory, experimentation, maladjusted behavior and current treatment styles and personality development.

**AP Psychology** 277451, 277452, 277453 1.5 credits  
Following the College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel a college-level psychology course, AP Psychology courses introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals, expose students to each major subfield within psychology, and enable students to examine the methods that psychologists use in their science and practice. Students are strongly encouraged to take the National CEEB Advanced Placement Exam. There is an additional fee for materials.

### **POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**U.S. Government** 273011 0.5 credits  
This course is a study of the workings and functions of the American political system. Topics include the Constitution, the three branches of government and the development of democracy in the United States.

**AP U.S. Government & Politics** 272521, 272522, 272523 1.5 credits  
Following the College Board's suggested curriculum designed to parallel college-level U.S. Government and Politics courses, this course provides students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States, involving both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case

studies. The course generally covers the constitutional underpinnings' of the U.S. government, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties and interest groups, the institutions and policy process of national government and civil rights and liberties. Students are strongly encouraged to take the National CEEB Advanced Placement Exam. There is an additional fee for materials.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES ELECTIVE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

**Early Western Civilization (to 1700)                      271311                      0.5 credits**  
Includes a study of the main concepts which western culture has inherited from the past. Such concepts as Greek democracy, Judeo-Christian ethical concepts, Roman Law, Medieval social and economic systems, Renaissance and Reformation ideas, English parliamentary system, beginning of Modern science, market economy of the 16th century and the ideas of the Enlightenment will be included.

**Modern Western Civilization (since 1700)    270711                      0.5 credits**  
This course, which can be taken separately, is a world history course which continues the historical sequence of Western Civilization. It is based around the political lives, experiences, innovations and political behavior of people from the French Revolution to the present. By studying more significant events of this century, based upon their derivations from the nineteenth century, the student will have a better understanding of the world we live in and the reason for why things appear as they are.

**Contemporary American Conflicts            000071                      0.5 credits**  
Deeper interest study in how previous conflicts have gotten us to this point; impact on the United States and our position in the world; How has previous American Conflict led to social, economic and political impact on the United States.

**World Religions    000072                      0.5 credits**  
In this course students will explore the traditions of Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. We will examine the history, structure, and practice of each religion. Students will be expected to read the sacred writings from each tradition and evaluate them from an academic perspective. In this class we will also be completing a project examining a religion and its impact on our world.

**Contemporary World Issues (GLS100)    272511                      0.5 credits**  
This course is an interdisciplinary approach to the study of issues affecting life in the modern world. It identifies theoretical and topical areas of study as background and influences to major contemporary issues. Typical areas of discussion will address international politics, conflict, ecology, economy, and resource utilization. This course awards college credits.

**Contemporary Culture in the US            000051                      0.5 credits**  
This is an interdisciplinary course that will focus on current events which impact students, their communities and the nation. By using theories, frameworks and a process for critical thinking, students will develop a critical analysis to comprehend how these events impact the community and world in which we live. This will be an elective course.

**Intro to Psych (PSY111)                      277113                      0.5 credits**  
This college level course will examine the fundamentals of behavior. The course is designed to familiarize students with human behavior, how it is studied and the applications of the results of that study. Theoretical issues, comprehension or research findings and research techniques will also be examined. This course awards college credit.

**Independent Study in Social Studies 279611 0.5 credits**

This course is designed to allow the student to pursue an area of study not available in our standard offerings. Before registering for the course, the student must secure a faculty advisor who is convinced of the student's ability to carry out independent study and who is willing to supervise the student's program. A proposed plan of study should be submitted to the instructor before registration. That plan should be approved by the instructor, department chairperson, the student's counselor and the principal. Independent study does not meet as a regularly scheduled class. Conferences are arranged between teacher and student as needed.

**Student Senate/Student Council 279911, 279912 1 credit**

Open to duly elected officers and student senate members only. This course is designed to provide the "Student Senate" the opportunity of meeting, learning and conducting "Senate" activities in accordance with the principles of formal and informal parliamentary law on a regularly scheduled basis. (This course will not replace the American Government requirement.)

**Student Page Iowa General Assembly 279921 0.5 credits**

(When the legislature is in session.) Students chosen and employed by the Iowa General Assembly to serve as a Student Page (duties include: assisting State Representatives, State Senators, local patrons; serving as capitol guides, delivering messages, etc.) shall be given elective credit in Social Studies for successful completion of Page duties.