





# Social Science

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Homewood-Flossmoor High School

H-F Academic  
School Year 2011-2012

## Program Rationale

Courses in Social Science are critical to the balanced development of high school students. History, economics, psychology, sociology, geography, and political science each provide a unique window to a deeper understanding of oneself and the world. Through these experiences, students prepare themselves more fully to become educated and active citizens in a democratic society. Social Science courses also sharpen skills necessary for success in school and in life. Through the study of challenging content, students develop their ability to think, read, write, and speak in more effective and complex ways.

## Program Goal

The Social Science Department offers a rich variety of required courses and electives that open windows of understanding to human behavior. As a result of participation in these courses, students will...

1. Deepen self-understanding and empathy and appreciation for others;
2. Acquire knowledge that will strengthen their ability to make good decisions both for themselves and as active citizens of the country and world;
3. Strengthen their reading skills, particularly their ability to identify main ideas and supporting evidence and to analyze text;
4. Expand their writing skills, particularly their ability to create a thesis, organize ideas, and support arguments with evidence;
5. Develop their ability to think critically about human beliefs, behaviors, and institutions;
6. Hone their speaking skills so that they are able to articulate and defend their views clearly and civilly while maintaining an openness to listen to others;
7. Advance their research skills.



## Program Learning Objectives by Core Courses

### World History

Students will...

1. Understand forces, events and people that shaped the world we live in today;
2. Develop the analytic reading, writing, thinking, and speaking skills necessary for both an educated citizenry in a democracy and for historians;
3. Understand the history of countries and cultures around the world so to more fully appreciate the human experience;
4. Understand the significance of interaction among civilizations throughout history;
5. Develop historical empathy;
6. Develop geographic literacy.



### U.S. History

Students will...

1. Understand the narrative of U.S. History and how studying history helps explain the world we live in today;
2. Understand that the United States has always been a diverse society and that the struggle for equal rights was and continues to be central to the American story;
3. Gain a wider perspective on what it has meant and what it means to be an American and to be a human being;
4. Develop critical-thinking skills necessary for historians and for citizens in a democracy;
5. Develop reading comprehension skills for primary and secondary sources and identify points of view;
6. Learn to create a thesis and support the thesis with evidence from primary and secondary sources;
7. Develop historical empathy;
8. Develop geographic literacy;
9. Develop historical research skills that culminate in the production of a paper.

### Economics

Students will...

1. Interpret the effect of the price system on the production and consumption of goods and services and the allocation of resources;
2. Make well-informed choices as an educated consumer in our market economy;
3. Describe the vital role that government plays in the interaction of the international sector, businesses, and households;
4. Apply economic reasoning to their daily lives as citizens;
5. Utilize analytical tools as responsible participants in the political process in order to anticipate effects of major policy changes.

### Special points of interest:

- African American History
- Geography
- Human Geography
- International Relations
- Psychology & Sociology
- U.S. Government and Politics
- Introduction to Law

# Social Science

**Freshman  
Required**

**Sophomore  
Required**

**Junior  
Required**

**Senior  
Required**

**World History**  
AP, Honors,  
College Prep or  
Academic Core

**U.S. History**  
Honors, College  
Prep or  
Academic Core

**Economics**  
Honors, College  
Prep or  
Academic Core

*or*

*or*

*or*

**AP  
European  
History**

**AP U.S.  
History**

**AP  
Economics**

## Elective Courses by Grade Level

*Freshman*

**Geography**  
CP

**AP Human  
Geography** H

**Government &  
Politics**  
(semester) CP

**AP U.S.  
Government &  
Politics** H

*Sophomore*

**Geography**  
CP

**AP Human  
Geography** H

**Government &  
Politics**  
(semester) CP

**AP U.S.  
Government &  
Politics** H

*Junior*

**Sociology**  
(semester)  
H,CP

**Psychology**  
(semester)  
CP

**AP Psychology**  
H

**African American  
History**  
(semester) H,CP

**International  
Relations**  
(semester) H, CP

**Introduction to  
Law**  
(semester) H, CP

*Senior*

**Sociology**  
(semester)  
H, CP

**Psychology**  
(semester)  
CP

**AP Psychology**  
H

**African American  
History**  
(semester) H, CP

**International  
Relations**  
(semester) H, CP

**Introduction to  
Law**  
(semester) H, CP

Each course lasts a full year unless otherwise indicated. Courses may not be repeated for credit.

## Social Science

Code	Title-Level	Year	Credit	Prerequisite	Grade
1123	Geography – CP	1	1	No	9-10
1124/1125	Advanced Placement Human Geography – H	1	1	No	9-10
1346	U.S. Government & Politics -- CP	.5	.5	No	9-10
1347/1348	Advanced Placement U.S. Government & Politics – H	1	1	No	9-10
1213	World History – AC	1	1	No	10
1223	World History – CP	1	1	No	10
1233	World History – H	1	1	No	10
1232/1237	Advanced Placement World History - H	1	1	No	10
1244/1245	Advanced Placement European History – H	1	1	No	10
1302/1312	Sociology – CP & H	.5	.5	No	11-12
1322	Psychology – CP	.5	.5	No	11-12
1446/1447	Advanced Placement Psychology – H	1	1	No	11-12
1471/1472	Introduction to Law – CP & H	.5	.5	No	11-12
1512	United States History – AC	1	1	Yes	11
1522	United States History – CP	1	1	Yes	11
1532	United States History – H	1	1	Yes	11
1541/1542	Advanced Placement U.S. History – H	1	1	Yes	11
1526/1536	International Relations - CP & H	.5	.5	Yes	11-12
1622/1632	African American History – CP & H	.5	.5	No	11-12
1712	Economics – AC	1	1	Yes	12
1722	Economics – CP	1	1	Yes	12
1732	Economics – H	1	1	Yes	12
1742	Advanced Placement Economics – H	1	1	Yes	12

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**Geography 1123** This course is designed as an introduction to geography. During the first semester, physical geography and basic geographical skills are emphasized. Regional studies of Anglo and Latin America are also conducted. The second semester covers the physical, historical and cultural aspects of Europe, Africa, and Asia. Reading and study skills are emphasized through the regular assignment of chapter readings and supplemental handouts. Library and computer projects emphasize research and writing skills. *Students who obtain credit in this course may not enroll in AP Human Geography.*

Level: College Prep  
Prerequisite: None  
Open To: Fr, Soph.  
Length: Year  
Credit: 1

**Advanced Placement Human Geography 1125\*** This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college survey. It aims to introduce students to the basic concepts of human geography and provide a geographic framework for the analysis of current world problems through the use of case studies. The course offers students the opportunity to understand the tools, themes, and concepts of geography; to think critically about geographic problems on the global, national and local scales; to appreciate the diversity of global cultures, including their cultural and economic characteristics; to understand how cultural landscapes are created and how they change over time; and to prepare for the Advanced Placement Human Geography examination. *Students who obtain credit in Geography #1123 may not enroll in this course.*

Level: Honors  
Prerequisite: None  
Open To: Fr, Soph.  
Length: Year  
Credit: 1

**\*Course # 1124 for the class of 2014 and 2015**

**U.S. Government & Politics 1346** This course examines the American political system, particularly at the national level. Topics include Congress, interest groups and lobbyists, elections, the presidency, politics and the news media, the court system, civil liberties, and money in politics. The course also provides an understanding of the historical roots of the American political system and compares the system to others, such as communism and parliamentary democracy. *Students who obtain credit in this course may not enroll in Advanced Placement U.S. Government & Politics.*

Level: College Prep  
Prerequisite: None  
Open To: Fr, Soph.  
Length: Semester  
Credit: .5

## Social Science

<b>World History</b> Level: Academic Core Prerequisite: None Open To: Sophomores Length: Year Credit: 1	<b>1213</b>	This course is a survey of world history from the beginning of civilization in Africa, Asia, and Europe through the Cold War of the late twentieth century. The course helps students form connections among diverse areas of the world, using the themes of trade, migration, and centers of world power. The course concentrates on developing skills in reading, listening, note-taking, and geography. Students are required to complete a research paper. The course is open to only those students whose reading is well below grade level.
<b>World History</b> Level: College Prep Prerequisite: None Open To: Sophomores Length: Year Credit: 1	<b>1223</b>	This course is a survey of world history from the beginning of civilization in Africa, Asia, and Europe through the Cold War of the late twentieth century. The course helps students form connections among diverse areas of the world using the themes of trade, migration, and centers of world power. The course emphasizes the development of reading, writing, analytical, and research skills necessary for understanding historical materials. Students will encounter a variety of learning activities and materials, including maps, films, historical documents, and library sources. Students are required to complete a research paper.
<b>World History</b> Level: Honors Prerequisite: None Open To: Sophomores Length: Year Credit: 1	<b>1233</b>	This course is a survey of world history from the beginning of civilization in Africa, Asia, and Europe through the Cold War of the late twentieth century. The course helps students form connections among diverse areas of the world, using the themes of trade, migration, and centers of world power. Students enrolling in the course at this level should have reading and writing skills above grade level. Students work with primary and secondary historical sources, analyze the multi-causation of historical events, and study conflicting interpretations of historical trends. The course also emphasizes developing the reasoning skills of the historian. Students are required to write a research paper of greater complexity than what is required at the college-prep level.
<b>Advanced Placement World History</b> Level: Honors Prerequisite: Yes Open To: Sophomores Length: Year Credit: 1	<b>1237*</b>	This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college survey and prepare students for the A.P. World History exam. Students will examine major developments in five eras, beginning with the dawn of history and ending with modern times. These developments will be analyzed through the lens of five themes: 1) interaction between humans and the environment, 2) the development and interaction of cultures, 3) state-building, expansion, and conflict, 4) creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems, and 5) the development and transformation of social structures. Reading assignments will be substantial and writing assignments will require mastery of divergent primary and secondary sources. Students are expected to display strong reading and composition skills. Students are required to complete a research paper.
<b>*Course #1232 for the class of 2014</b>		
<b>Advanced Placement European History</b> Level: Honors Prerequisite: None Open To: Sophomores; <i>Fulfills World History Req.</i> Length: Year Credit: 1	<b>1245*</b>	This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college survey. It offers motivated students the opportunity to experience the historical development of Western civilization in greater depth than possible at the honors level in World History. This course is also intended to prepare students for the AP European History exam administered in May. Reading assignments are lengthy. Writing assignments require mastery of divergent primary and secondary sources. The AP European History course is a survey of Western development beginning with the Greeks, but the course emphasizes the period since 1450. Students are expected to display strong reading and composition skills. Students are required to complete a research paper. <i>This course fulfills the graduation requirement in World History.</i>
<b>*Course #1244 for the class of 2014</b>		
<b>Sociology</b> Level: College Prep & Honors Prerequisite: None Open To: Juniors, Seniors Length: Semester Credit: .5	<b>1302/1312</b>	This course introduces students to sociological theories and terminology necessary to explain and analyze social behavior among humans. Students learn how to think with a sociological perspective through discovery, questioning, and analysis of social issues. Culture, social interaction, deviant behavior, social inequality, gender and race are among the specific topics to be studied. Students will apply their knowledge through papers, projects, journals, and research. Students will analyze sociology through the viewing of modern movies, television, and print media. Students enrolled at the Honors level are required to complete additional projects.
<b>Psychology</b> Level: College Prep Prerequisite: None Open To: Juniors, Seniors Length: Semester Credit: .5	<b>1322</b>	Psychology is the study of behavior, mental processes, and the variables that influence them. This class prepares students to study psychology at the college level. Reading and writing assignments are required. Topics covered in this course include early development, cognition, personality theory, learning, the brain, sensory processes, perceptual abilities, social psychology, abnormal behavior, and careers in psychology. <i>Students who obtain credit in this course may <u>not</u> enroll in Advanced Placement Psychology.</i>

## Social Science

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<p><b>Advanced Placement U.S. Government &amp; Politics</b>      <b>1348*</b></p> <p>Level: Honors Prerequisite: None Open To: Fr, Soph. Length: Year Credit: 1</p> <p><b>*Course #1347 for the class of 2014 and 2015</b></p>	<p>This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college survey. It offers students the opportunity to examine deeply the Constitution, civil liberties, civil rights, political ideologies, political parties, interest groups, the news media, political campaigns, Congress, the presidency, the federal courts, and the federal bureaucracy. Students will come to understand how the American political system operates today and how that system has changed over time. Research assignments require students to identify and explain examples from the news media of concepts that have been studied. This course prepares students for the College Board A.P. examination in U.S. Government and Politics. <i>Students who obtain credit in Political Science #1345 may <u>not</u> enroll in this course.</i></p>
<p><b>Advanced Placement Psychology</b>      <b>1447*</b></p> <p>Level: Honors Prerequisite: None Open To: Juniors, Seniors Length: Year Credit: 1</p> <p><b>*Course # 1446 for the class of 2013</b></p>	<p>This course is equivalent to the Introduction to Psychology course at most colleges. It is designed to prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement Psychology examination. Topics covered in this class include research methodology and statistics, brain anatomy and function, sensory processes, perceptual abilities, consciousness, learning, development, motivation, emotion, personality theory, testing, abnormal behavior and its treatment, and social psychology. <i>Students who obtain credit in Psychology #1322 may <u>not</u> enroll in this course.</i></p>
<p><b>Introduction to Law</b>      <b>1471/1472</b></p> <p>Level: College Prep &amp; Honors Prerequisite: None Open To: Juniors, Seniors Length: Semester Credit: .5</p>	<p>This course is designed as an introduction to law and the America judicial system. Topics include the court system, human rights, criminal law, consumer law, family law, and individual rights and civil liberties. The course deals with practical legal problems and applications through in-class discussions and analysis. Preparation and participation in a mock trial require students to demonstrate their knowledge of law and oral advocacy skills. Students taking this course at the Honors level will be required to conduct research beyond the textbook, encounter more complex reading assignments and demonstrate understanding of legal problems through additional written work.</p>
<p><b>United States History</b>      <b>1512</b></p> <p>Level: Academic Core Prerequisite: World History Open To: Juniors Length: Year Credit: 1</p>	<p>This course is a chronological study of the history of the United States. Learning activities include in-class reading, writing, question-and-answer sessions, simulations, and work based on audio-visual materials. The course develops skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students are required to complete a research paper. The course is open to only those students whose reading skills are well below grade level.</p>
<p><b>United States History</b>      <b>1522</b></p> <p>Level: College Prep Prerequisite: World History Open To: Juniors Length: Year Credit: 1</p>	<p>This course is a chronological survey of United States history. Reading and writing assignments emphasize comprehension of main themes, trends and concepts, and analysis of some primary sources necessary for an understanding of the American historical experience. Exams include multiple-choice and essay questions. The course emphasizes the development of reading, writing, analytical, and research skills necessary for understanding historical materials. Students will encounter a variety of learning activities and materials, including maps, films, historical documents, and library sources. Students are required to complete a research paper.</p>
<p><b>United States History</b>      <b>1532</b></p> <p>Level: Honors Prerequisite: World History Open To: Juniors Length: Year Credit: 1</p>	<p>This course is a chronological survey of United States history. In addition to the text, reading assignments in challenging supplementary books are required. Students are expected to read and write above grade level. Students will formulate and defend original interpretations of major historical problems. Written assignments require mastery of both primary and secondary sources. Exams include multiple-choice questions and essays. The course emphasizes the development of reading, writing, analytical, and research skills necessary for understanding historical materials. Students will encounter a variety of learning activities and materials, including maps, films, historical documents, and library sources. A research paper of greater complexity than the college-prep paper is required.</p>
<p><b>Advanced Placement U.S. History</b>      <b>1542*</b></p> <p>Level: Honors Prerequisite: World History Open To: Juniors; <i>Fulfills U.S. History Requirement</i> Length: Year Credit: 1</p> <p><b>*Course #1541 for the class of 2013</b></p>	<p>This course is intended to be the equivalent of a college survey course. Writing assignments require mastery of diverse primary and secondary sources related to issues of historical interpretation. The course is also designed to prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement American History examination. Students will write papers in which they form an interpretation of an historical issue and organize evidence from various sources to substantiate their point of view. Students are required to complete a research paper. Students will be expected to display strong reading and composition skills.</p>

## Social Science

<p><b>International Relations</b>      <b>1526/1536</b></p> <p>Level: College Prep &amp; Honors</p> <p>Prerequisite: World History or AP European History &amp; U.S. History or concurrent enrollment in U.S. History</p> <p>Open To: Juniors, Seniors</p> <p>Length: Semester</p> <p>Credit: .5</p>	<p>This course focuses on international issues since the end of World War II. Students analyze major global themes, such as conflict, the environment, immigration, and trade, and evaluate the role of the United States in world affairs. In examining American foreign policy, students will evaluate different perspectives on what constitutes “the national interest.” Students will use a textbook but will also consider other sources of information, such as news articles and perspective pieces. Students at the honors level should expect additional and more complex readings as well as additional written work.</p>
<p><b>African American History</b>      <b>1622/1632</b></p> <p>Level: College Prep &amp; Honors</p> <p>Prerequisite: None</p> <p>Open To: Juniors, Seniors</p> <p>Length: Semester</p> <p>Credit: .5</p>	<p>This course provides a broad historical survey of the African-American experience in the United States. The course begins with an introduction to the history and culture of West Africa before 1600 and continues from the colonial period of American history through the civil rights movement and issues concerning race today. Students taking this course for Honors credit are required to complete several additional reading assignments that offer complex analyses of various aspects of the African-American experience. Students must demonstrate their mastery of this material through written assignments.</p>
<p><b>Economics</b>      <b>1712</b></p> <p>Level: Academic Core</p> <p>Prerequisite: U.S. History</p> <p>Open To: Seniors</p> <p>Length: Year</p> <p>Credit: 1</p>	<p>The three general areas of concentration in this course are: 1) <i>microeconomics</i>, covering scarcity, factors that influence prices and wages, and the organization and operation of business, 2) <i>consumer economics</i>, including housing, buying a car, insurance, savings and investing, credit, budgeting, consumer protection legislation, and federal, state, and local taxes, and 3) <i>macroeconomics</i>, covering government taxing and spending, business cycles, fiscal policy, monetary policy, inflation, unemployment, economic growth, globalization and international trade. Emphasis at this level is placed on individual instruction and application of practical economic skills needed to become an effective consumer. The course is open only to those students whose math skills are well below grade level.</p>
<p><b>Economics</b>      <b>1722</b></p> <p>Level: College Prep</p> <p>Prerequisite: U.S. History</p> <p>Open To: Seniors</p> <p>Length: Year</p> <p>Credit: 1</p>	<p>The three general areas of concentration in the course are: 1) <i>microeconomics</i>, covering scarcity, how prices and wages are determined, and the organization and operation of business, 2) <i>consumer economics</i>, including housing, buying a car, insurance, savings and investing, credit budgeting, consumer protection legislation, purchasing, and federal, state, and local taxes, and 3) <i>macroeconomics</i>, covering government taxing and spending, business cycles, fiscal policy, monetary policy, inflation, unemployment, economic growth, globalization and international trade. The course helps students master the application of practical skills in consumer economics, comprehend various economic theories, and analyze economic problems. The student will be expected to demonstrate: 1) mathematical skills, including the ability to add, subtract, multiply, divide, and calculate percentages; 2) the ability to read and use simplified statistical and graphical information.</p>
<p><b>Economics</b>      <b>1732</b></p> <p>Level: Honors</p> <p>Prerequisite: U.S. History</p> <p>Open To: Seniors</p> <p>Length: Year</p> <p>Credit: 1</p>	<p>The three areas of concentration in the course are: 1) <i>microeconomics</i>, covering scarcity, how prices and wages are determined, and the organization and operation of business, 2) <i>consumer economics</i>, including car buying, insurance, savings and investing, credit budgeting, consumer protection legislation, purchasing, and federal, state, and local taxes, and 3) <i>macroeconomics</i>, covering government taxing and spending, business cycles, fiscal policy, monetary policy, inflation, unemployment, economic growth, globalization and international trade. The student will be expected to demonstrate: 1) above-average mathematical skills including the ability to calculate percentages and use simple algebra; 2) the ability to read and use simplified statistical and graphical information, and 3) reading skills at least at grade level.</p>
<p><b>Advanced Placement Economics</b>      <b>1742</b></p> <p>Level: Honors</p> <p>Prerequisite: U.S. History</p> <p>Open To: Seniors; <i>Fulfills Economics Requirement</i></p> <p>Length: Year</p> <p>Credit: 1</p>	<p>This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college survey and prepares students for both the Microeconomics and Macroeconomics College Board Advanced Placement exams. The course will therefore operate at a more rigorous level than the honors class. The course is divided into three distinct parts, <i>microeconomics</i>, <i>macroeconomics</i>, and <i>consumer economics</i>. Emphasis is placed on strong critical thinking skills through the understanding, application, and analysis of fundamental economic concepts.</p>

# Notes