



# Social Studies

**The Clinton High School Social Studies Department strives to prepare students to become lifelong learners as they examine their world, country, history, democracy, community, as well as the groups they live and their relationships with others. Social Studies prepares students to be citizens of a diverse and ever changing world that is 21<sup>st</sup> Century America.**

**The CHS Social Studies Department offers comprehensive courses in 13 different areas of study including: Honors, AP and post-secondary college level classes. In addition to the standard history classes our department has exciting electives that students may choose from; Criminal Justice, Psychology, Economics and Sociology. Our department works to provide students with opportunities to acquire knowledge about human societies and relationships. In addition, our curriculum offers students activities to increase their capacities to think reflectively and to identify, interpret, assess, evaluate, and draw conclusions regarding the continuing issues and problems which confront human societies.**

**Classroom methods such as social experiments including surveys, discussions and interviews allow the students to broaden their own personal knowledge of the world. Students will also be exposed to the newest technology of smart boards and self-guided lessons in the classroom and computer labs.**

**Possible careers in this area would be: economist, financial analyst, bank officer, appraiser, financial reporter, investment analyst, consultant in business or government, auditor, teacher or professor, travel agent, international business, foreign service officer, economic developer, intelligence analyst, political risk analyst, research and educational assistant, journalist, political history archivist, public and private researcher, urban planner, customs agent or inspector, labor relations specialist, governmental relations, pre-law, veterans' claims representative, foreign service officer, pollster, lobbyist, political aide, criminologist, community organizer, corrections officer, market research analyst, statistician, opinion pollster, management trainee, government agencies at all levels, industrial sociologist, child welfare, case-worker, demographer, non-profit organizations.**



# SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE OFFERINGS

Below is a listing of courses offered through the Social Studies Department. The graph indicates the course title, the grades that a student can take the offering, and the prerequisites for taking the class.

	Semesters	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Prerequisite Courses
United States History	2	X				
Honors U.S. History	2	X				
Advanced Placement United States History	2			X	X	U.S. History and World History or AP World History
World History	2		X			
Advanced Placement World History	2		X	X	X	U.S. History or Honors U.S. History
Economics	1		X	X	X	
Advanced Placement Macroeconomics	2			X	X	
American Government	1			X	X	
Advanced Placement American Government	2			X	X	
Criminal Justice and Law	1	X	X	X	X	
Psychology	1		X	X	X	
Advanced Placement Psychology	2			X	X	
Sociology	1		X	X	X	





## ECONOMICS

**Grade:** 10, 11, 12

**Semesters:** 1

**Credits:**

1

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** This course is a required course for students to learn how the American economy works and our role as members of the world economy. In class you will exhibit a mastery & understanding of fundamental economic concepts including scarcity and opportunity cost. Much of our work will examine international economics, the US economy, the stock market, and economic issues in the news. Objectives of the course include: understand common economic & financial terms, and economic reasoning, analyze US & international economic issues, analyze the impact of various governments on the economy, analyze the stock market & a stock portfolio, understand the interaction of goods and services and the interdependence of the global economy, understand scarcity, specialization and productivity, distribution of goods and services, and interdependence of the United States economic system, explain how people respond to incentives, opportunity costs, and trade-offs, explain how economic factors influence societies, Course learning outcomes include: explain need & want, explain opportunity cost & the role of scarcity, understand the role of supply & demand, financial institutions, and the fundamentals of investing, complete an individual career plan, complete a vacation plan, participate in a stock market simulation & reflection.

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## ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) MACROECONOMICS

**Grade:** 11, 12

**Semesters:** 2

**Credits:** 2

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** This is an exciting time to be studying macroeconomics in the United States. The purpose of this AP course in macroeconomics is to give students a college level introduction to the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. Topics to be covered will include: basic economic concepts, formulation of GDP, inflation, unemployment, aggregate supply, and aggregate demand, monetary policy, and international trade. Students must earn an A, B, or C to qualify for 5.0 credit. Students will be expected to complete the course final OR the AP Exam.

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## AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

**Grade:** 11, 12

**Semesters:** 1

**Credits:** 1

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** American Government fills the government requirement for graduation. It is intended to offer the student a basic understanding of the structure, function and application of the political process in the United States. A student may take either American Government **OR** AP United States Government to meet the graduation requirement.

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## ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

**Grade:** 11, 12

**Semesters:** 2

**Credits:** 2

**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** This course is a 2 trimester class, focusing on political behavior, the design of the American political system, its functions and the involvement of the people. The goals of the class are to offer the student a rigorous look at the functions of government and the unique American system of democracy. A student may take either AP United States Government **OR** American Government to meet the graduation requirements. Students will be expected to complete additional assessments, including but not limited to the National AP Government Exam in May. Students will be expected to complete the course final OR the AP Exam.



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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND LAW****Grade:** 9, 10, 11, 12**Semesters:** 1**Credits:** 1**Prerequisite:** None

**Course Description:** The course is designed and geared for those students who have an interest in studying the criminal justice system and the how the criminal system operates in the United States. The course will emphasize the following areas; crime classification, juvenile justice, civil and criminal law, Constitutional law, violent and nonviolent crimes, capital punishment, forensic investigation and the process of the criminal system.

Further investigation and analysis will include how crime makes an impact on American society, gangs and gang participation, drugs and alcohol abuse, the history and influence of organized crime and how the correctional system of the United States copes with the burden of housing and rehabilitating criminals.

Completion of the course will result in student aptitude in critical thinking, knowledge, and application skills in each of these areas. Students will also be able to objectively resolve controversial issues in the criminal justice system.

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**PSYCHOLOGY****Grade:** 10, 11, 12**Semesters:** 1**Credits:** 1**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** Psychology is the scientific study of behavior. This behavioral science course offers a systematic study of the basic principles, theories, and concepts of psychology. Students will learn about the influences and causes of human behavior and will examine its major components.

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**ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PSYCHOLOGY****Grade:** 11, 12**Semesters:** 2**Credits:** 2**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** This course is intended to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Students will increase their understanding of psychology, its methods, theory and research. AP psychology is a survey course, so students will focus on bits of information from many different areas in psychology. Primarily, the course will explore the psychological facts, principles and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields of psychology (research, consciousness, learning, personality, motivation, cognition, abnormal, social, developmental, etc.) The main objective of this course will be that each student take and pass the Advanced Placement Exam for psychology and all aspects of the course will reflect this fact. AP psychology will be taught at the college level and student study habits and participation should reflect this fact. All vocabulary, information and activities are intended to prepare you for the AP exam. Students will be asked to complete many writing assignments and projects. Students should be prepared for work outside of class. Students will be expected to complete the course final OR the AP Exam.

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**SOCIOLOGY****Grade:** 10, 11, 12**Semesters:** 1**Credits:** 1**Prerequisites:** None

**Course Description:** Sociology is one area of the social sciences. Sociology deals with how people react to each other, treat each other, and handle everything from institutions to family. This sociology course gives students an understanding of the basic concepts in sociology and how it relates to them. This course is a preparation for students going to college, but will be helpful for students who go directly into the workforce as well. This course will give students insight into everyday relationships, group interactions, and the actions of people who come in and out of their lives. We explore our culture, socialization process, and how we are indoctrinated into our family, society, and workplace.

