

## Social Studies

As of 2002, all Maryland public school students must earn three credits in social studies and sit for the MSDE High School Assessment in U.S. Government to earn a Maryland High School Diploma. The three credits include:

- one credit in United States Government
- one credit in World History
- one credit in United States History.

Students can meet the graduation requirement in United States History with the successful completion of Advanced Placement United States History.

Students can meet the graduation requirement in World History with the successful completion of Advanced Placement European History or Advanced Placement World History.

Students with senior status that need a Government credit to graduate may meet that requirement by taking both the Advanced Placement U.S. Government & Politics and Advanced Placement Comparative Government courses. Additional course requirements will be added to this course to prepare students for the MSDE High School Assessment in Government. Students taking AP U.S. Government & Politics to meet the Maryland Government requirement are required to sit for the High School Assessment in U.S. Government.

Anne Arundel County Public Schools also offers a wide range of Social Studies electives from the history and social sciences. Electives are offered in high schools based on student demand and teacher expertise. Not all electives will be offered in all high schools.

### Advanced Placement Social Studies Seminars

In these courses, students will develop their ability to function as independent learners in the Advanced Placement Social Studies course. Students will refine fundamental learning, writing and analytical skills. They will improve their ability to recognize and understand cause and effect relationships, multiple causation, trends, themes and interactions. They will strengthen their ability to read college-level texts, manage their time, listen critically, outline, and work effectively in a group. To address the importance of writing in the Advanced Placement course, students will participate in activities that will help construct coherent, well-supported historical arguments in extended essay form, as well as gather, interpret, classify, summarize, synthesize and evaluate the validity of various types of evidence. A matching seminar course may be taken concurrently with these Advanced Placement Social Studies courses.

*One Semester*    *1/2 credit*

*Prerequisites:*    *None*

Available Seminar Courses:

**B49619 AP European History Seminar**

**B50619 AP United States History Seminar**

●★#B42000

**Advanced Placement Comparative Government & Politics**

This course will provide students with the conceptual tools necessary to develop an understanding of some of the world's diverse political structures and practices. Students will study both specific countries and their governments and general concepts used to interpret the political relationships and institutions found in virtually all national polities. Five countries form the core of the AP Comparative Government and Politics examination: Great Britain, France, China and Russia, and the selection of either India, Mexico or Nigeria. Topics will include the sources of public authority and political power, the relationship between state and society, between citizens and states, political institutions and frameworks, political change and the comparative method. This course will prepare students for the AP examination in Comparative Government and Politics.

*One Semester 1/2 credit*  
*Prerequisites: None*

●★#B51000

**Advanced Placement Macro Economics**

The purpose of an Advanced Placement course in Macroeconomics is to give students thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system. Such a course places particular emphasis on the study of national income and price determination, and also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics. This is a college level course designed to earn college credit for those students scoring at an acceptable level on the college's board examination. This course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination in Macroeconomics. Students will be expected to analyze issues in class and to be able to express their thoughts in a logical manner both orally and in writing.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*  
*Prerequisites: None*

●★#B52000

**Advanced Placement Micro Economics**

The purpose of an Advanced Placement course in Microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and function of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. This is a college level course designed to earn college credit for those students scoring at an acceptable level on the college's board examination. This course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination in Microeconomics. Students will be expected to analyze issues in class and to be able to express their thoughts in a logical manner both orally and in writing.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*  
*Prerequisites: None*

●★#B71000

**Advanced Placement Human Geography**

Students are introduced to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the earth's surface. Students will investigate the nature, perspective and methods of geography, population, cultural patterns and processes, use and think about maps and spatial data sets; understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in places; recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes; define regions and evaluate the regionalization process; and characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places. This is a college level course designed to earn college credit for those students scoring an acceptable level on the College Board Examination.

*Two Semesters 1 Credit*  
*Prerequisites: None*

●★#B49000

**Advanced Placement European History**

Students will study the achievements and accomplishments of European civilization. This is a college level course designed to earn college credit for those students scoring at an acceptable level on the Advanced Placement European History exam. Students will be expected to analyze issues in class and to be able to express their thoughts in a logical manner, both orally and in writing. The successful completion of this course will meet the graduation requirement for world history.

*Two Semesters 1 Credit*  
*Prerequisites: None*  
*Meets the required credit for World History*

●★#B61000

**Advanced Placement Psychology**

Students will study the behavior and mental processes of human beings. This includes the facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields in psychology. This is a college level course designed to earn college credit for those students scoring at an acceptable level on the Advanced Placement Psychology exam. Therefore, students will be expected to analyze issues in class and to be able to express their thoughts in a logical manner, both orally and in writing.

*Two Semesters 1 Credit*  
*Prerequisites: None*

●★#B32000

**Advanced Placement U. S. Government and Politics**

This course provides students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. This course will prepare students for the AP examination in United States Government and Politics.

*Two Semester 1 credit*  
*Prerequisites: None*  
*Meets the required credit for U.S. Government for students with senior status*

●★B50000

**Advanced Placement United States History**

Students will study United States history from the colonial period to the present. This is a college level course designed to earn college credit for those students scoring at an acceptable level on the Advanced Placement U.S. History exam. Students will be expected to analyze issues in class and to be able to express their thoughts in a logical manner both orally and in writing.

*Two Semesters 1 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for U.S. History*

●★B31000

**Advanced Placement World History**

Students will develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and interaction through their study of world history from 1000 C.E./A.D. to the present. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. Students will study major developments that illustrate six thematic eras and major civilizations in Asia, Africa, Europe and the Americas. This is a college level course designed to earn college credit for those students scoring an acceptable level on the College Board Examination. This course prepares students to sit for the Advanced Placement World History examination.

*Two Semesters 1 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for World History*

●☉B77000 P 2,3 (Honors Option)

**African American History**

Students will study the achievements of African-Americans in their struggle for political, economic, and social equality. Through the investigation of local and national historical events, students will be able to describe the accomplishments of African Americans through American History. Students will also investigate the causes and consequences of issues that face African Americans in contemporary society. Students will be expected to read and analyze primary sources in this course.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

●B69000 (Honors Option)

**Comparative Religions**

Students will investigate the beliefs of the world's five major religious groups: Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam. They will analyze similarities and differences among the beliefs and practices of these world religions. Students will be required to read primary source material, including religious texts, in this course.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

●★B43000 (Honors)

**Constitutional History and Law**

Students will study significant Supreme Court cases in United States history for a better understanding of how the Constitution protects the liberties and rights of the people. Current issues being heard by the Supreme Court will be analyzed.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

B45000

**Criminal Justice**

In this senior level course, students will investigate issues of crime and justice, the police, the courts, corrections, and juvenile justice. Students interested in pursuing careers in law enforcement, corrections, juvenile justice, court administration, and other law related and social service areas with federal, state, and local government agencies, including private organizations would find this course interesting and challenging.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: Senior Status*

●★B56000 (Honors)

**Economics**

Students will study the principles of economics, including the concept of choice, supply and demand and the relationship of labor and management. Students will also develop an understanding of the role of government and international economic interdependence.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

☉#B55000 P 2,3

**Economics for Travel & Tourism**

A basic principles and practices one-semester course of study in the economics of the Travel and Tourism industry. Throughout the course, examples of economic principles are drawn in from the world of travel and tourism in order to integrate academic learning and practical business applications.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: Enrollment in Academy of Travel & Tourism*

●☉B59000 P 2,3

**General Psychology**

Students will study the methods of research in psychology used to understand human behavior, and development. They will learn about the physical systems of the body and how they affect emotions and behaviors. Students will also discuss learning theories and social interaction.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

☉#B53000 P 2,3

**Geography for Travel & Tourism**

A one-term course of study which is geared at having students develop broad geographic skills. In addition to learning how to utilize the basic tools of the geographer, students learn how economics, culture, history, and political issues all impact upon geography, and how geography impacts upon other disciplines.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: Enrollment in Academy of Travel & Tourism*

●☉#B20000 P 1,2,3,4 (Honors Option)

**History of the United States A**

Students will concentrate on the historical period from the Reconstruction to the 1920. Students will use problem solving and critical thinking skills to identify major issues of the period and analyze their importance to us today.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for U.S. History*

●●#B21000 [P] 1,2,3,4 4 (Honors Option)

**History of the United States B**

Students will concentrate on the historical period from the 1920's to the present. Topics of special interest will include the Depression, the Civil Rights Movement, the changing role of women, Vietnam, Watergate and Reaganomics, and the end of the Cold War.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for U.S. History*

●★B11000 (Honors Option)

**Humanities**

Students will study the art, literature, music and philosophy of European culture from the Classical Age through the Modern Era. This course will help students understand how ideas of human nature and the place of humans in the universe have changed over time. Students will examine major works from the performing arts, fine arts, literature and philosophy and consider how these works were influenced by their historical, political and economic settings.

*One Semester 1/2 credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

★B98000

**Independent Study**

Students with special abilities and talent may work on a special project in history or the behavioral sciences under the direction of a teacher. Students report periodically for evaluation and further assignments.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

●B46000 [P] 2,3

**Inquiry Into Community Problems**

Students will study the structure and functioning of government at the local level. They will have the opportunity to interact with county officials to discuss concerns and problems. Students will also discuss the importance of involvement and civic responsibility at the local level. This course will also include a service learning component for students still needing to fulfill this requirement.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

★B70000 (Honors)

**International Studies**

This course is intended for 11th and 12th grade students with a strong interest in world affairs. Students enrolled in this course will develop an understanding that we live in an interdependent world in which a knowledge of other cultures is essential to mutual survival. They will understand why nations act the way they do and analyze responses to these actions. Students will also recognize that decision-making is based on accurate information and a knowledge of how to deal with particular world situations.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

●B62000

**Sociology**

Students will learn about people in American society. They will discuss the idea of culture and how people learn the ways of their society. They will also discuss roles people play both as individuals and as members of groups. Students will analyze the influences that make people behave in both predictable and unpredictable ways.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

●●B01000 [P] 2,3

**Maryland History**

Students will examine political, economic and social events of Maryland from the colonial period to the present. They will understand and appreciate the role of Maryland as a member of a community of states comprising the United States and will come to see that Maryland is a "close-to-home" example of other parts of our country.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

B57000

**Personal Finance**

Students will apply and demonstrate an understanding of economics to personal finance decisions and explain how those decisions affect the economy. Students will be involved in career exploration and decision-making. They will investigate their role in the American economy—buying and selling, budgeting, paying taxes, using credit and banking, and investing.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

●●B60000 [P] 2,3

**Psychology of the Individual**

Students will study people and their interactions with others. They will discuss self concept, develop an understanding of how people function as individuals and as members of groups, and understand the impact of social institutions.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

●B41000

**Social Issues of the 21st Century**

Students will analyze the causes of social problems which impact United States society. Issues of special concern will include the role of the family, crime, poverty, and civil rights.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: Freshman Status*

●●#B38000 [P] 1,2,3,4 (Honors Option)

**United States Government A**

Students will study the structure and functions of government and politics in the United States. They will evaluate how the United States has maintained a balance between protecting rights and maintaining order. They will analyze the relationship of cultural and physical geographic factors, as well as economic principles, institutions and processes in the devel-

opment of government policy. This course will prepare students for the MSDE High School Assessment in Government.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for U.S. Government*

●●#B39000 **P** 1,2,3,4 (Honors Option)

### **United States Government B**

Students will analyze the role of the U.S. government in world affairs. They will learn how democratic principles and practices have evolved by studying Supreme Court cases, and civil and criminal law. They will investigate critical public issues, and apply what they have learned about government to the solving of practical problems in their community—earning 20 hours toward their service learning graduation requirement. This course will prepare students for the MSDE High School Assessment in Government.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for U.S. Government*

B38019

### **U.S. Government A Inquiry**

B39019

### **U.S. Government B Inquiry**

In this course, students will use the inquiry method to understand events that occurred in 20th century America in order to understand contemporary social and political issues. Students will build their confidence and improve their achievement to be successful in the U.S. Government-A and/or U.S. Government-B by practicing strategies to process, organize and retain information. They will practice reading the tools of Social Studies—graphs, charts, and maps. Course work will include reading comprehension skills, and work on improving student writing with test items similar to the MSDE U.S. Government high school assessment test. This course can be taken concurrently with U.S. Government-A and/or U.S. Government-B.

*One Semester 1/2 credit*

●●#B29000 **P** 1,2,3,4 (Honors Option)

### **World Civilizations A**

Students will study the achievements and contributions of world civilizations from the European Late Middle Ages to the mid-19th century. Students will develop an understanding of how people interacted economically, politically, culturally and militarily during this time period. Students will be expected to read and analyze primary source documents in this course.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for World History*

●●#B30000 **P** 1,2,3,4 (Honors Option)

### **World Civilizations B**

Students will study the development of world history and culture from the beginning of the 20th century to the present. Emphasis will be on an appreciation of the diversity of world cultures, the reality of human interdependence and the need for world cooperation.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Meets the required credit for World History*

●B54000

### **World Cultures & Geography**

Students will study the physical features and major climatic factors of the world. They will relate this information to its impact on culture and the development of technology. They will also discuss the relationship between geography, history, and contemporary human activities including world religions, population growth, and change.

*One Semester 1/2 Credit*

*Prerequisites: None*