



All students are required to take a world studies course. Students will be identified as G/T based upon grades in previous World Studies classes, teacher recommendations, and parent recommendations.

World Studies - Grade 6 (Full Year)

World Studies 6 consists of four units. The themes of these units are: *patterns of settlement in the ancient and modern worlds, citizenship and governance in classical and modern times, the impact of economics, and past and present cultural systems*. Each unit focuses on present day issues as well as ancient history up to about 1000 CE.

World Studies Grade 6 – Gifted and Talented (Full Year)

The objectives in G/T world studies will be the same as those in the world studies 6 curriculum. Students are heterogeneously grouped (mixed ability levels) in classes and those students identified as G/T will receive instruction that requires higher order thinking skills and processes. Students will be expected to retain information rapidly and teachers may utilize higher reading texts, alternative assessments, and research projects.

World Studies - Grade 7 (Full Year)

The four units in seventh grade world studies include the following topics: *conflict and power during feudal times, the role of trade in Africa, the impact of geography in meso-America, and the interconnected world*. The seventh grade World Studies curriculum includes the period of early modern world history and compares and contrasts it with current times.

Advanced World Studies Grade 7 – (Full Year)

This course will be available to grade 7 students beginning in the 2008-09 school year. This course extends the content and concepts contained in the four units of grade World Studies. Through the study of world civilizations and global interactions from 1000 CE to 1450 CE, students learn about political, economic, and social systems today. Analysis of primary source texts and visuals is a central method for learning about the past and the challenges of historical interpretation.

US History - Grade 8 (Full Year)

The curriculum for eighth grade World Studies investigates four aspects of U.S. History. The units are: *the American Revolutionary period, the geography and economics of the early nation, the Civil War, and Reconstruction*. Students will be expected to investigate historical questions through a variety of sources. Each of the four units compares early American history with events and issues in the present.

Advanced US History Grade 8 – (Full Year)

This course enhances the four MCPS grade 8 U.S. History units through the development of skills from high school Advanced Placement courses in history. In addition to the MCPS course of study, students deepen their understanding of key concepts and events through reading, writing, document analysis, and historical thinking. These skills will be applied in each unit and students will be expected to show progress in skill development and historical knowledge in exams and historical document-based projects.