

## SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

### **PRE-IB GOVERNMENT A/B (Grade 9)**

**2133/2134**

**.5 credit/.5 credit**

This course, traces the history of our form of government from the ancient world to the creation of the American Constitution. Units focus on the purpose, structure, function and operations of the U.S. government; rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens; and a comparison of parliamentary, socialistic, and constitutional governments. Students begin to focus on international problems between various forms of government and on critical issues which have faced America and the world since 1945. Issues such as civil rights, the Cold War, nuclear confrontation, the Vietnam War, and east-west relations are examined. Several units parallel themes taught in Pre-IB English 9. This course fulfills the social studies graduation requirement for National, State, and Local Government.

### **AP U.S.HISTORY (Grade 10)**

**2114/2124**

**.5**

**credit/.5 credit**

Students complete this college-level US history course to fulfill the social studies graduation requirement for U.S. History. The college-level work prepares students for the higher-level thinking and writing skills required in IB History. See the course description in the general Social Studies section of this catalog.

### **IB HISTORY 1 A/B (Grade 11)**

**2230/2231**

**.5 credit/.5 credit**

This course, the first year of a required two-year sequence, surveys European and world history from the Renaissance (1450) through the Age of Enlightenment (1750) to 1900. Emphasis is on the rise of the European nation states; the scientific, economic, industrial, and political revolutions; colonialism; the “new imperialism” and its impact on Asia and Africa; nationalistic movements in Europe; and the long-term causes of World War I.

### **IB HISTORY 2 A/B (Grade 12)**

**2403/2404**

**2Course Fee \$ 19.00**

**.5 credit/.5 credit**

This course, which completes the requirement for the higher-level IB history examination, is a detailed study of 20th-century history. The first semester focuses on the causes, practices, and effects of war; the rise of single-party states and economic development; and the work of international organizations and minorities in the modern state. The study of the 20th century is continued through a detailed investigation of nationalistic political movements, decolonization and problems of newly independent nations, social change, the artist and society, religion and politics, and the relations between East and West after 1945. “Guided course work,” an individual study of a limited topic in history, is completed in February of the senior year.

### **IB ECONOMICS A/B (Grades 11-12)**

**2234/2235**

**.5 credit/.5 credit**

IB Economics A focuses on macroeconomics, the branch of economics that views the economy as a whole. Emphasis is on the analysis of economic problems such as unemployment and inflation and the role that government plays in maximizing economic growth while keeping prices stable. International economic topics are given particular emphasis as part of the IB curriculum. IB Economics B focuses on microeconomics, which investigates decision-making of individual consumers and producers. The course focuses on the nature and function of product and resource markets, with the international economy and the role of the government given particular emphasis. The course prepares students for the standard-level IB economics examination and the AP economics examinations.

### **IB PSYCHOLOGY (Grades 11-12)**

**2232/2233**

**.5 credit/.5 credit**

This course focuses on the nature of human beings, appreciation of psychology and methods of psychological inquiry. Students study human behavior through four psychological perspectives: behavioral, cognitive, humanistic/phenomenological, and psychodynamic.. Students also study research design, methods, statistics

and ethical issues in psychological research and application. Students must also undertake one internally assessed research study, either an experiment or observational study. This course prepares students to take the standard-level IB exam.

**THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE 1 (Grade 11)**

**200702 – SECOND SEMESTER ONLY**

*Prerequisite: Must have special permission of the IB Coordinator to enroll in Theory of Knowledge without the extended essay support. Students are strongly encouraged to enroll in 103000/103001*

Theory of Knowledge 1 provides an introduction to the sources, varieties, and systems of knowledge. Major topics include the roles of language and thought in knowledge, the requirements of logical reasoning for knowledge, and the systems of knowledge applied by mathematicians and natural and human scientists.

**.5 credit**

**THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE 2 (Grade 12)**

**200801 – FIRST SEMESTER ONLY**

In this required course students first investigate the system of knowledge applied by historians, and then turn to value judgments and knowledge, focusing on moral, political, and aesthetic judgments. The final topic investigates the differences among belief, opinion, faith, knowledge, and truth.

**.5 credit**

**THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE/EXTENDED ESSAY (Grade 11)**

**103000/103001**

This required course combines the contents of Theory of Knowledge 1 with support for IB students who are launching the extended essay process. In the fall, most of the class time is devoted to Theory of Knowledge with occasional time allocated for instruction in research techniques. As the year progresses, more and more emphasis is placed on independent work as students refine their topics, conduct their research, and create a first draft of their extended essays. Because the extended essay is not a credit-bearing course, only the .5 credit earned by the Theory of Knowledge component of this class is assigned to the full year.

**.5 credit**