

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

PHILOSOPHY

The Social Studies Department of Neumann High School believes that the Social Sciences are fundamentally studies of human relationships between the individual and other individuals, institutions, environment and value systems.

We believe that the program provided by the Social Studies broadens the student's horizon by providing learning experiences and opportunities that would culminate in

- a.) the development of skills in problem solving and decision making
- b.) respect for and appreciation of one's culture and society and the difference in other cultures and societies
- c.) a sense of responsibility toward one's community, the nation and the world

We believe our department offers courses that will not only give students a sense of the past and an awareness of the present, but also a realistic outlook for the future.

OBJECTIVES

The Social Studies Department will:

1. encourage the study of interactions of human culture and the natural environment by offering courses in world history and sociology
2. help students appreciate people's responsibility for other people in the world by raising social consciousness and an awareness of the need to share the resources of the world
3. challenge individuals to actively participate in social and civic endeavor by familiarizing them with our governmental and political system.
4. provide occasions for problem solving and decision making through group or individual activities
5. offer courses to enable students to know, understand and appreciate their American heritage, of history, culture, ideas and social values.
6. assist in the development of an understanding of an individual's interactions with oneself and with others through studies in sociology
7. promote an awareness of changing events in the nation and in the world through the utilization of current magazines, news quizzes and sharing in class discussions

COURSE OFFERINGS AND DESCRIPTION

American Government

(full year 10 credits)

Grade 12

American Government is an in-depth study of the U.S. Government, with an emphasis on the Federal branches and United States Constitution.

Prerequisites: senior standing and American History

American History 1860 - Present

(full year - 10 credits)

Grade 11

A study of the American way of life, its history, government, economy, international relationships and cultural diversities. This course is an attempt to help the student understand his/her country and its contributions to recent world history from civil war (1860) to the present.

Prerequisite: junior standing

Honors American Government

(full year - 10 credits)

Grade 12

An upper level course in American Government. There will be a greater depth of study of the U.S. Government, the Constitution, and the Federal Branch. This class will be tested at an advanced level. Weighted.

Prerequisites: Senior standing, and 93% in World History and American History and recommendation of department.

Modern Problems

(semester – 5 credits)

Grade 11-12

Modern Problems is a course dealing with the analysis of economic, social, political, cultural issues which influence the economic, social, political, and cultural change and development of modern societies, specifically American society. This course will be offered during the first semester opposite of the course Sociology that will be offered during the second semester.

Prerequisites: none

Sociology

(semester – 5 credits)

Grade 11-12

Sociology is a study of people's physical and cultural development. Included in this course will be some foundations of psychology including human growth, learning, emotions and adjustment techniques. This course will be offered during the second semester opposite of the course Modern Problems that will be offered during the first semester.

Prerequisites: none

World History

(full year - 10 credits)

Grade 9

This course studies of the facts of world history, the significance of events in that history and an understanding of the people in all parts of the world. beginning with Early Man on through the Industrialized Nations.

Required in 9th grade