

Frequently Asked Questions -- Social Studies

What is the importance of Social Studies?

Helps Students To Become Better Citizens: Subjects in Social Studies like Economics, Political Science and History educate students on Political Ideologies, Constitutional Laws, Citizenship, Rights and Duties, Morals and Virtues, Social Code of Conduct, thus making children aware of their roles and responsibilities particularly in relation to social and civic affairs. By providing relevant information and knowledge, skills and attitudes, the study of Social Science prepares students to grow up as active, responsible, and reflective members of society. It also teaches them to address societal and global concerns using literature, technology and other identifiable community resources. (quoted from [The Importance Of Social Studies In The School Curriculum March 2020 issue.](#))

What is taught in high school Social Studies?

High School social studies includes history, economics, geography, government/civics, psychology, criminal law. Students will apply their reading, writing, analytical, speaking and listening skills to gather, evaluate and apply knowledge in a collaborative learning environment. These topics are taught using a combination of authentic tasks, primary sources, and structured lessons in order to allow high school students to learn using modern and historical resources. Students become researchers, debaters and problem solvers using 21st century skills and an inquiry-based approach to learning.

What is difference between an AP and on level course?

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program which offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. American colleges and universities may grant placement and course credit to students who obtain high scores on the examinations. AP courses are meant to be college level courses, so generally they are more rigorous. They require considerably more reading, work that demonstrates critical thinking, and more homework. (quoted in part from College Board)

What is the difference between the AP and Dual credit option?

AP courses are essentially **entry-level college courses**. AP is designed to prepare students for college-level work by offering a more accelerated and challenging course of study. Doing well in the AP class itself is a good indicator that a student will be awarded college credit, but in order to earn college credit, they have to do well on the exam.

Dual enrollment courses are pretty straight forward—they're college classes open to high schoolers which can be listed on both high school *and* college transcripts. Because these are actual college courses, high school students who pass are automatically awarded both high school *and* college credit. (information modified from Pearson Accelerated Pathways)

In the Chandler High Social Studies Department, students hoping to earn college credit will enroll in an AP class. Students will be notified if the class is eligible for dual credit. Students will be able to choose if they want to take the class for dual credit or attempt AP credit. Generally, both are transferable to a university, but it is the student's responsibility to check with the university of his/her choice.

What AP Courses are offered in Social Studies at Chandler High?

AP Human Geography	AP United States Government
AP Comparative Government and Politics	AP Microeconomics
AP United States History	AP Macroeconomics

What courses in Social Studies may be (depends on the instructor's certification) offered for Dual Enrollment?

- college credit is earned from Chandler Gilbert Community College while taking the course at Chandler High

Honors World History	AP US Government/ IB MYP US Government
AP Comparative Government and Politics	AP US History

What is the difference between on-level World History and Honors World History?

Honors World is the springboard to either AP or IB classes. It will help develop a set of skills that will be directly used throughout their high school career. The curriculum goes more in-depth and includes the critical analysis of differing perspectives. In general, it takes the content to a more rigorous level. This includes: source analysis, more difficult readings/questions, inquiry-based activities, interactive lessons, and essays.

What is Academic Decathlon Class?

It is a class that prepares students to compete in an annual high school academic competition organized by the [United States Academic Decathlon](#). The competition consists of seven objective multiple choice tests, and two subjective performance events. It is designed to include students from all achievement levels. Every year the USAD selects a theme (WWII, The Environment, India, etc.) The material tested at the competitions are based on the theme chosen that year.