Social studies is the integrated study of the social sciences and humanities to promote civic competence. Within the school program, social studies provides coordinated, systematic study drawing upon such disciplines as anthropology, archaeology, economics, geography, history, law, philosophy, political science, psychology, religion, and sociology, as well as appropriate content from the humanities, mathematics and natural sciences. The primary purpose of social studies is to help young people develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world.

A minimum of three years of study in Social Studies is recommended for college bound students.

Social Studies Courses Required for Graduation:
- One year of World History
- One year of United States History
- One semester of American Government
- One semester of Economics fulfills the Consumer Education graduation requirement

**World History (College Prep)**
SOC103
Open to 9-10-11-12 Full Year Course
Prerequisite: None

This survey course in World History is a foundation course for the social studies. A framework is established in which historical patterns, themes and concepts are explored. Although this course touches on some of the greatest ancient and classical civilizations of the old world, it also covers the development of western traditions, especially in the last 500 years. There is an emphasis on the geographical context of civilizations. Students will find ample reason to appreciate both the diversity of the human past and the commonalities in each stage of history. Basic skills in reading, writing, note and test taking will be practiced. Social skills in cooperative group work, debate and class discussion will be taught. Any student who receives a “D” or “F” will be required to attend tutoring in the resource centers during the next six-week grading period.
Non-Western Civilization (College Prep)  
SOC524
Open to 10-11-12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History
This one semester course will emphasize an examination of the history, geography, and cultures beyond the European continent (China and Japan, India, Latin America, and Africa). In addition, a focus of the course will be the discovery of the major contributions of these regions to worldwide development and the challenges confronting these peoples in the future.

Global Relations Since 1945 (College Prep)  
SOC534
Open to 10-11-12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History
This one semester course will focus on significant topics in World History since the end of World War II. A major goal of the course is to encourage an understanding and evaluation of current world events in light of their historical background. Students will be expected to be reading current news publications in addition to assigned text materials and will be engaged in an examination of a key world conflict or problem throughout the course.

World Religions (College Prep)  
SOC504
Open to 10-11-12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History
This course is designed to introduce students to the major religions of the world. Students will analyze each religious foundations, historical development, principle themes and beliefs, and cultural impact. Its primary purpose is to equip students with an understanding of the major ideas and practices of the world’s religions so that they may better understand the world in which they live.

Constitutional Law (College Prep)  
SOC514
Open to 10-11-12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History
Constitutional Law provides students with an understanding of how the U. S. Constitution came into existence, why it took the form it did, and how it functions in contemporary American society. Students will develop analytic and evaluative skills by applying constitutional principles to a variety of legal issues and political controversies. Students will assume the roles of trial attorney, judge and juror in a mock trial exercise, and legislator in mock legislative debates. These experiences are highly recommended for students considering a legal career. Constitutional Law is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors who have passed World History.

Philosophy: The History of Ideas (Honors)  
SOC674
Open to 12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History, U. S. History
The History of Ideas is an introduction to the philosophies by which humans have attempted to understand their world. It is a college-level elective open to seniors which will consider the major world philosophies, their influence on each other, and their influence on the present. Students will be asked to learn the theories of major philosophers, utilize those ideas in discussion, debates and written assignments, and synthesize those ideas into a personal philosophy of their own. Students who complete this course will have the opportunity to receive dual credit from the College of Lake County.

Advanced Placement Human Geography (Honors)  
SOC613
Open to 10-11-12 Full Year Course
Prerequisite: World History
The purpose of the Advanced Placement course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of our world. Students employ geographical/spatial concepts and tools to analyze topics such as human population movement and organization, cultural patterns and processes, political organization, agricultural and rural land use, industrialization and economic development, and city and urban land use. Students who enroll in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.
Advanced Placement European History (Honors)
SOC603
Open to 10-11-12 Full Year Course
Prerequisite: World History
This college-level course gives students the basic chronology of major events from approximately 1450 through the 1960’s. An understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history and the development of the ability to analyze historical evidence are the major objectives. This course requires excellent reading and writing skills, and its structure is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Test in Modern European History. Students should expect a nightly minimum reading assignment of 10-20 pages and one short paper every 2-3 weeks. Success on this test may entitle a student to college credit, advanced placement or both. It is strongly recommended that a student be a part of the accelerated English program and has maintained a “B” or higher average in World History. A summer reading assignment must be completed prior to beginning this course. Students who enroll in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

U. S. History: American Studies (College Prep)
SOC313
Open to 11 Full Year Course
Prerequisite: World History
This two-semester sequence integrates the study of American history and literature with the development of composition, reading, and research skills. Students are scheduled for consecutive periods of history and English, allowing separate study of the two disciplines, as well as activities which integrate the study of our country’s history and its literature. This course fulfills the graduation requirement of one year of U. S. History as well as the graduation requirement for English.

U. S. History (College Prep)
SOC303
Open to 11 Full Year Course
Prerequisite: World History
This sequence fulfills the graduation requirement of one year of U.S. History as established by the State of Illinois. With an emphasis on the 20th century, the overriding goal of this course is to give students the opportunity to understand how the current domestic and international status of the U. S. developed. It is designed to help students to identify causes and effects, events, philosophies, and individuals which led to the contemporary situation, and provide them with an historical basis for decision making. This course builds on the skills associated with historical inquiry introduced in World History. Geographic themes such as location, mobility, and interaction with the environment are stressed within this historical treatment.

Advanced Placement U. S. History (Honors)
SOC623
Open to 11 Full Year Course
Prerequisite: World History
This sequence fulfills the graduation requirement of one year of U. S. History as set by the State of Illinois. This interpretive college-level course considers the American experience from colonial times to the present. The course requires excellent reading and writing skills, and its structure is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Test in U. S. History. Success on this test may entitle a student to college credit, advanced placement, or both. Course activities include writing three positions papers of 3-8 pages each semester, 2-4 in class essays per month, and 3-4 document based questions per year. A heavy emphasis is placed on analyzing and synthesizing information obtained from primary sources. A summer reading assignment must be completed before the class has begun. Students who enroll in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

Government (College Prep)
SOC404
Open to 12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History, United States History
This course is required for graduation. Topics considered in the course include the fundamental concepts and structure of federal, state, and local government; methods of selecting candidates for office; methods by which individuals and groups may influence government officials; and mechanics of voting. The Federal and Illinois Constitution Tests required for graduation by the State of Illinois are taken during this course.
Advanced Placement Government – Politics (Honors)
SOC634
Open to 12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History, United States History
This course gives students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. political reality. This course fulfills the graduation requirement of one semester of Government. Although previous experience in A.P. courses is not required, it is strongly recommended. Course activities include reading periodicals and daily newspapers, as well as a college textbook and supplementary readings. Students will be required to integrate information obtained from readings, discussions, and lectures to answer detailed multiple-choice questions as well as writing analytical and argumentative essays. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Test in American Government and Politics given in May.

Advanced Placement Government – United States and Comparative (Honors)
SOC633
Open to 12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History, United States History
The first semester of this college level course will focus primarily on U.S. Government and Politics and will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The second semester will focus primarily on Comparative Government and Politics, and will give students a basic understanding of the world’s diverse political structures and practices. This full year course fulfills the Government graduation requirement. Although previous experience in A.P. courses is not required, it is strongly recommended. Course activities include reading periodicals and daily newspapers, as well as a college textbook and supplementary readings. Students will be required to integrate information obtained from readings, discussions, and lectures to answer detailed multiple-choice questions as well as write analytical and argumentative essays. This course prepares students to take both the Advanced Placement Test in American Government and Politics, and the test in Comparative Government and Politics given in May. Students may take one or both examinations in a given year for a single fee.

Political Thought and Its Literature (College Prep)
SOC564
Open to 12 One Semester
Prerequisite: United States History and Junior English
This one semester elective course will focus on the reading and discussion of literature and other material which explore basic issues of politics, ethics, and social problems. Students will read some novels and plays, but much of the material read will be non-fiction, including articles and historical documents. Students will write essays, participate in class debates, and present reports about such issues as individualism vs. the common good in a democracy. An important requirement of the course is student participation in eight hours of community service. Students may elect to take this course for either a single credit of English or a single credit of Social Studies.

Economics (College Prep)
SOC414
Open to 11-12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History
This course serves as an introduction to the financial responsibilities of the adult world within the American economy. Specific topics include credit, budgeting, taxes, prices, investments, insurance, and an analysis of the total American economy and its operation. Fundamental economic principles are included when needed to put personal economic activity into perspective. Completion of this course fulfills the Consumer Education requirement for graduation.

Advanced Placement Macroeconomics (Honors)
SOC644
Open to 11-12 One Semester
Prerequisite: World History
This course is designed to prepare students for the Macroeconomic portion of the Advanced Placement economics test given in May. Macroeconomics stresses the overall view of the economy, and how government plans and implements policies to solve economic problems. Topics include aggregate supply and demand analysis, classical Keynesian and Monetarists analysis, growth, and international trade. Completion of this course fulfills the Consumer Education requirement for graduation.
Advanced Placement Microeconomics (Honors)
SOC654
Open to 11-12               One Semester
Prerequisite: World History

This course fulfills the graduation requirement of one semester of Economics. This is an intensive, college level course preparing students for the Advanced Placement Test in Microeconomics given in May. Course work in AP Microeconomics includes: The basic economic problem, the nature of markets, the firm, the factor markets and the role of government. Completion of this course fulfills the Consumer Education requirement for graduation.

Sociology (College Prep)
SOC544
Open to 11-12               One Semester
Prerequisite: World History

This is a college-oriented elective course designed to expose the students to basic principles of human group life within social institutions. Special attention is given to such sociological topics as culture, social theories, social norms, status, group interaction, stereotypes, social mobility, old age, and deviant social behavior. Students learn how sociologists collect, analyze and report data about the world today.

Psychology (College Prep)
SOC554
Open to 12               One Semester
Prerequisite: World History, United States History

This is a college-level elective designed to help students understand human behavior. This course makes extensive use of independent reading and requires college level reading and writing skills. Through intensive use of readings, essays, statistical experiments, and research projects, the student is given the opportunity to learn and apply aspects of psychological theories relative to learning, intelligence, personality, and social psychology, as well as other factors contributing to human behavior.

Advanced Placement Psychology (Honors)
SOC663
Open to 12               Full Year Course
Prerequisite: World History, United States History

The purpose of the year long Advanced Placement course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfield within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. Specific topic areas include: biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, cognition, personality, abnormal psychology, social psychology, and treatment of psychological disorders. This course will provide the student with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most college introductory psychology courses. Students should be highly motivated, possess strong reading skills, and an interest and aptitude in biology. Students who enroll in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.