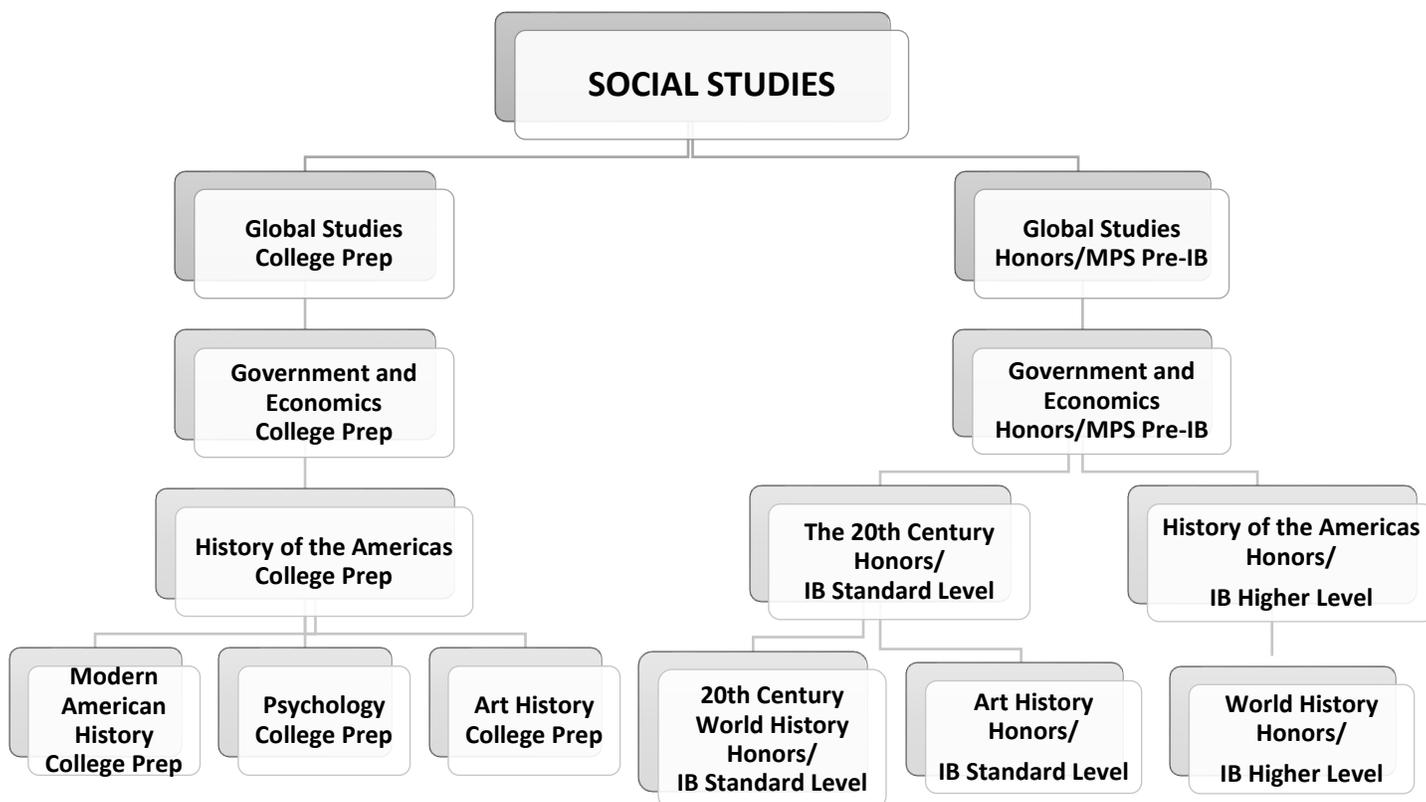


## SOCIAL STUDIES

*As residents of a global village our common future depends on understanding each other.*

The Social Studies department provides an interdisciplinary approach to the social sciences, emphasizing global education. The major goal of the department is to help our students develop the values, the knowledge, and the skills that they need to become productive, proactive, and concerned citizens of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Four years of social studies core curriculum courses are required for graduation. (Seniors who qualify may fulfill the fourth year requirement by taking a social studies course at the college.) Students also are encouraged to take additional electives to broaden their knowledge in the field of social studies.



Please note: There is mobility among the College Prep, Honors, and IB Levels based on teacher and/or department recommendations.

Term Electives: The Civil War, Anthropology, Sports and Society, Non-Western Art History, World War II, Nazi Germany, Hollywood and History, The Vietnam Era, 9/11 and the Aftermath, Model UN, Global Perspectives, and Speech and Debate

### GLOBAL STUDIES – COLLEGE PREP

#2023

Freshman

1.00 credit

Yearlong

This course is designed to provide the students with an awareness of and appreciation for the issues that our global community faces in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and for the cultural diversity that exists in our world today. Students will examine the major social, political and economic questions of the day and study major cultural regions of our global community. Regions of study include the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa. (Core curriculum)

**GLOBAL STUDIES– HONORS/MPS PRE-IB**

#2024

Freshman

1.00 credit

Yearlong

This course is designed to provide the students with an examination of the major social, political and economic challenges that our global community faces today and to provide the students with an awareness of and appreciation for the cultural diversity that exists in our world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Each challenge will focus on causation, mitigation and possible resolution of the issue. Additionally the students will explore major cultural regions of our global community. These regions include the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa. Each region will be examined for the historical, social, economic, and political forces that contributed to the unique ways of life that evolved in these cultural realms. (Core curriculum)

**GOVERNMENT\ECONOMICS – COLLEGE PREP**

#2003

Sophomore

1.00 credit

Yearlong

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of the fundamental principles of our country's political and economic systems. Substantial class time will be devoted to the development of the students' understanding of how our government works, the options available to them as United States citizens to be active participants in the political process, and the effects that economics has on their lives. (Core curriculum)

**GOVERNMENT\ECONOMICS – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB**

#2004

Sophomore

1.00 credit

Yearlong

This course is designed to provide the students with an in depth study of the fundamental principles of our country's political and economic systems. The class will trace the development of democracy from its historical roots to its application in today's world. The students will receive a broad view of the people and events that have contributed to the formation and smooth operation of government. The class will analyze the capitalist system with emphasis on evaluating its strengths and weaknesses. The goal is to produce students who will be active and informed global citizens. (Core curriculum)

**HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS – COLLEGE PREP**

#2005

Junior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

The Americas course is designed to act as a survey of the history of the Americas from the Great Awakening through Pre-Great War. Utilizing a thematic approach, the students will examine the major events of each era for their political, social, and historic importance. (Core curriculum)

**THE 20<sup>th</sup> CENTURY– HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL**

#2020

Junior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

This course is the first part of a two year sequence that prepares students for the standard level history IB exam. Students will examine the topics of conflict and intervention as they shaped 20th century history in different regions of the world. Topics to be studied include the causes and effects of World War I and World War II. There will be particular focus on how authoritarian leaders impacted the events of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Students will also examine how the Cold War impacted Latin America.

**HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS – HONORS/IB HIGHER LEVEL**

#2016

Junior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

The Americas IB regional option covers the United States, Canada and Latin America, including the Caribbean. The option extends from the mid- 18<sup>th</sup> century to 1945. Students will study the key political, social, economic, and cultural events and themes that have had an impact on the Americas. Some of these topics include achievements of independence, slavery and its effects, evolution and changes in governments, causes and effects of the great depression, different paths to and effects of industrialization, and foreign policy of the region. Several themes and a wide range of events in more than one country will be studied. (Core curriculum for IB students)

**INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY – COLLEGE PREP**

#2007

Senior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

Prerequisite: All core curriculum requirements must be met.

This survey course will introduce students to the history, science, and theories of psychology. Areas studied include physiology and philosophy of mind; states of consciousness; developmental processes; methods of learning, remembering, and testing; personality theories and therapies; mental and behavioral disorders. Written reports and projects are an integral part of this course as well as research and experiments involving the formation and testing of hypotheses and the analysis and reporting of results.

**MODERN AMERICAN HISTORY – COLLEGE PREP**

#2009

Senior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

Prerequisite: All core curriculum requirements must be met.

This course is a survey of the crucial events that have shaped United States history during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and a study of those events which will play a defining role in shaping the destiny of the nation as it moves through the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Discussion and the application of critical thinking skills will play key roles in the activities designed for this course.

**20TH CENTURY WORLD HISTORY – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL**

#2022

Senior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

This course will cover the major events, individuals, and issues which shaped the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Focus will be on analysis of the military expansion from 1931 to 1941 which led to global war. The origins, ideology, form of government, organization, and impact of single-party states will be a major focus of the course. A detailed study of Hitler's Nazi Germany and Fidel Castro's Cuba will allow for comparison and debate. A study of the Cold War from its origins to its significance will be examined in order to promote an international perspective and understanding of world affairs during this era. Students who decide to sit for the IB standard level history exam will complete an individually designed and researched guided coursework project.

**WORLD HISTORY – HONORS/IB HIGHER LEVEL**

#2018

Senior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

This course will cover the major events, individuals, and issues which shaped the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Focus will be on analysis of the military expansion from 1931 to 1941 which led to global war. The origins, ideology, form of government, organization, and impact of single-party states will be a major focus of the course. A detailed study of Hitler's Nazi Germany and Fidel Castro's Cuba will allow for comparison and debate. A study of the Cold War from its origins to its significance will be examined in order to promote an international perspective and understanding of world affairs during this era. Students will complete an individually designed and researched guided coursework project.

**A deposit on the IB exam fee is required for registration.**

**ART HISTORY-COLLEGE PREP or HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL**

#6031 College Prep

Sophomore, Junior, Senior

1.00 credit

Yearlong

#6032 Honors/IB-SL

Students will view slides and films and receive background information on the important movements and periods throughout art history. The course is designed to familiarize the student with artists and their works in order to foster a greater appreciation of the arts. Core sequence covers Prehistoric to Medieval, Renaissance to Baroque, and Neoclassic through 20th century. This course may be taken for a credit in art or as an elective in history, but does not supplant core social studies curriculum requirements. Students enrolled in the honors course will be assigned extended essays on tests, three additional reading selections, and a paper/oral presentation is required.

**THE CIVIL WAR - COLLEGE PREP**

#2501 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed as an in-depth study of the War Between the States. The main areas studied will include the effects of the war on the home front, the local involvement of area regiments, the major campaigns of the western and eastern theaters, and an extensive study of the Battle of Gettysburg. The students will also get a first-hand feel for the intricacies of battlefield tactics and leadership when the class reenacts the opening hours of the Battle of Gettysburg using the computer game *Gettysburg*. Students will be placed in command of various infantry, artillery and cavalry units as they vie for dominance on the battlefield.

**ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE HUMAN CAREER - COLLEGE PREP**

#2503 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed as an introduction to the field of anthropology - the study of human origins and development and the rise of culture. It will focus on some of the basic questions and trends in archaeology and anthropology including human origins, gatherer/hunter cultures, and origins of agriculture, the rise of the state and the collapse of civilization. Also addressed will be some basic concepts in physical anthropology. The Classic Maya civilization will be used as a case study for how physical anthropology, archaeology and cultural anthropology can be used to gain a better understanding of a culture.

**ART HISTORY II: NON-WESTERN ART TRADITIONS - COLLEGE PREP**

#6033 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed to expand the students' awareness of the arts and cultures of the non-Western world. During the term the focus will be on East Asian cultures (China, Japan), India, the Islamic world, Africa and Pre-Columbian America. Among the topics addressed in this class will be issues concerning cultural property, art theft, forgery and other problems relating to the arts of cultures covered in class. Students do not need to have taken Art History prior to this class.

**THE RENAISSANCE - COLLEGE PREP**

#6035 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This artist didn't bathe or change his clothes for months at a time, but he created some of the most beautiful images in art. This pope murdered his political rivals to consolidate his power and advance the careers of his illegitimate children. This woman was so brilliant and charming that her death caused the city of Rome to close for a week for her funeral. This poet inspired by the death of his "true love" would pen one of the greatest literary works of all time. What do these people have in common? They lived in one of the most dynamic times of human history...the Renaissance. Experience the heights and the darkest depths of this most fascinating period in time.

**SPORTS AND SOCIETY - COLLEGE PREP**

#2511 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This term course is designed to provide the students with an in-depth study of the role sports have played in the development of human culture. The class will examine the historical and cultural events and patterns that led to the growth of sports participation and significance. Particular emphasis will be placed on how sports influence culture, on sport as a symbol of nationalism, on the rise and fall of sports icons, and on the significance of the growth of women's participation. The students also will learn how sports became enmeshed with the entertainment and business worlds. Each of these topics will be examined through the study of the history and development of sports such as football, baseball, basketball, soccer, hockey, and track and field. Finally, the course will look at what value sports bring to a society and where the evolution of sports is going in the future.

**WORLD WAR II - COLLEGE PREP**

#2513 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course seeks to put the Second World War into the context of world and military history with a special emphasis on U.S. participation and the campaigns of the war. Topics covered include the economic and political causes of the war; military weaponry and doctrine and their development throughout the war; social and cultural implications; significant air, sea, and land campaigns of the war; the aftermath and consequences of the war; and perspectives on the meaning and place of World War II in history and in our lives today.

**HOLLYWOOD AND HISTORY - COLLEGE PREP**

#2515 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Does Hollywood tell the truth? Are your favorite movies accurate? How much creative license do directors take? Learn the answers to these questions and much more as we journey through history as it is portrayed in the movies.

### **NAZI GERMANY – COLLEGE PREP**

#2523 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

Did you ever wonder how a well-educated society could support Adolf Hitler's rise to power? Did you know that *Time* magazine made Hitler the Man of the Year in 1938? Was the key to Nazi power based on force and fear or were other factors more important? The Nazis were beneficiaries of the conditions that began with the end of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles. However, the Nazis used a variety of methods to win the support of the majority of the German people. Once in power the Nazis attempted to create a totalitarian society that would lead the nation to start the most devastating war in the history of mankind.

### **THE VIETNAM ERA – COLLEGE PREP**

#2525 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This class will focus on America's longest military conflict, the war in Vietnam. We will analyze what drove U.S. forces into Southeast Asia as well as the military tactics used by both American and Vietnamese soldiers. However, the class will be more than a study of battles and warfare. Students will also explore how the United States changed in the 1960s and 1970s, learning about the radical music, literature, cultural shifts, and protest movements that arose in response to the conflict in Vietnam.

### **9/11 AND THE AFTERMATH – COLLEGE PREP**

#2531 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 shattered America's sense of invulnerability. Three thousand Americans died that morning. The world awoke to horrific images of planes smashing into buildings and debris clouds sweeping down Manhattan streets. In the months following, the U.S. began an exhaustive hunt for Osama Bin Laden and his accomplices. From the rugged mountains of Afghanistan to the posh capitals of Europe, the U.S. military, CIA, or Special Forces killed and captured Al Qaeda members. This class will explore the history, people, and circumstances that led to the 9/11 attack; the events of September 11, 2001; and the United States' hunt for Osama Bin Laden. The class culminates with an analysis of the infamous 2011 Seal Team Six raid on Bin Laden's Pakistani compound.

### **GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES**

#2529 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Global Perspectives is a term course designed for students in their junior and/or senior years to research, examine, discuss, and reflect upon a wide variety of global current events and issues as they are presented in the news (ex: maintaining international peace and security, protecting human rights, providing economic and military assistance, and protecting the environment). Conducted in a seminar setting, perspectives on these topics will be looked at from the reporting of credible news organizations from the United States and other countries throughout the world such as China, Russia, and Great Britain. These issues will be further examined on a more in-depth level through discussions and research in the classroom to better achieve a global understanding and world view. Knowledge of issues, research, and participation will be the key points assessed throughout the course.

### **MODEL UN**

#2533 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed specifically to prepare students to participate in at least one or two Model UN conferences during the academic year. At these conferences, students will represent diplomats from a foreign country in a simulation of UN committee meetings. In these committee meetings, "diplomats" representing countries around the world will write formal resolutions in an effort to address a wide variety of global problems. Emphasis is placed on the development of the student's writing, research and speaking skills, which are essential to effective performance at a Model UN Conference.

Attendance and participation at the annual Gannon University Model UN Conference held in November is required as part of this course. Any exception to this requirement is at the discretion of the instructor.

### **SPEECH AND DEBATE**

#2535 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

The Speech and Debate course is designed to offer students interested in enhancing their skills in presenting an argument and oral interpretation. In class, students will prepare for competitions in the Erie Catholic Forensic League and the National Speech and Debate Association that occur throughout the season. Those taking the course will perfect their approach to their selected event in which they will compete. The goal is to gain skills that will help students in other academic pursuits, including writing skills, research tools, and public speaking. Students who take the course are expected to participate in the various CFL and NSDA events during the year.