

OVERVIEW

The Social Studies Department, secondary course offerings, provides options and electives for meeting individual needs, experiences, and goal in meeting New York State graduation requirements in social studies. In the Buffalo Public Schools we want all of our students to be confiden in their ability to think critically as well as actively participate in our democratic society and interdependent world. Each high school provides a range of social studies courses in order to meet students' individual differences. Most students are on grade-level in Regents Approved Commencement Level Social Studies Courses. Some students are accelerated in Advanced Placements and International Baccalaureate Courses. The descriptions below cover all aspects of social studies instruction in the Buffalo Public Schools: our Benchmark programs, our accelerated programs, and non-benchmark our programs.

BENCHMARK PROGRAM: REGENTS APPROVED COMMENCEMENT LEVEL SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

There are five high school social studies courses: Global History and Geography (9), Global History and Geography (10), United States History and Government (11), Economics (12), and Participation in Government (12). These courses are developed to allow students to gain a better understanding of major themes and events in history. Additionally, all students must earn four credits in social studies and are required to pass two Regents Assessments: Global History and Geography (Grade 10); U. S. History and Government (Grade 11).

HONORS/ACCELERATED PROGRAM: COLLEGE LEVEL SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Our vision is to accelerate the progress of those students who are able to meet the highest standards in social studies. Advanced Placemer courses are available in every high school. The purpose is to introduce skills, concepts, and assessment methods crucial to preparing student for success at the college level. Students scoring well on the advanced placement exam can receive up to 6 hours of college credits.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES (A.I.S.):

A.I.S. means additional instruction, which supplements the instruction provided in the general curriculum. Academic intervention services are provided t students who are at risk of not achieving the State learning standards in social studiesor who are at risk of not gaining the knowledge and skills needed t meet or exceed designated performance levels on State assessments. Our summer school program also provides additional opportunities for **A.I.S**.

SPECIAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTION:

Students who have been identified as needing special education services in social studies receive additional support from a special education teached individually or in a small group as per their Individual Education Plan.



Honors/Accelerated Program

Grade	eSIS#	Course Description	Core Program	Textbook	Credit
		Honors and Accelerated	and State		
9	IL01G	Introduction to Law I This course introduces freshmen law students to legal terms, trial techniques, the criminal and juvenile justice system, and legal research writing. Through the use of mock trials, field trips to court, and guest speakers from the legal field, students will begin to gain a better understanding of our criminal system.	Assessment One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0
10	IL02G	Introduction to Law II This course emphasizes constitutional law. Students will delve into constitutional rights and issues, learn the art of legal research and continue their participation in mock trial competition.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0
12	SL04G	History 5: Senior Seminar in Law This course for seniors in the Law Magnet will focus on speaking skills and interview techniques, basic computer skills, investigation of law-related careers, completion of job application, and resume writing.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	0.5
10 or 12	ЕН02Р	Advanced Placement European History This rigorous course is, according to the College Board, intended for qualified students who wish to complete classes in secondary school equivalent to college introductory courses in European History. This course covers European history from 1450 to the present and is divided into three major themes, including: i. Intellectual and Cultural History; II. Political and diplomatic History; III. Social and Economic History. Students must take an AP exam in mid-May and are also required to take the NYS Regents exam in June, if they take the exam as a sophomore.	One period per day College Board AP European curriculum	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0



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12	ME04P	Advanced Placement (AP) Microeconomics The purpose of an AP in Microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. The course covers four themes, including: I. Basic Economic Concepts; II. The Nature and Functions of Product Markets; III. Factor markets; and IV. Efficiency, Equity, and the Role of Government.	One period per day College Board AP Microeconomics curriculum	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0
12	HA04G	History 5: African-American Studies This course explores the history of Africans in the Americas. Major topics covered include, but are not limited to: African cultures, the African Diaspora, the culture of American Slavery, and African influences on and contributions to American culture and society. A teacher made exam is given at the conclusion of the course.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	0.5
12	HH04G	History 5: Understanding the Holocaust This course explores the history of the Holocaust. Major topics covered include, but are not limited to: European Jewry and the roots of Anti-Semitism, Hitler and the National Socialist Party (Nazis), the role of WWI and WWII on European Jews, the Holocaust and the Jewish Diaspora, the creation of Israel. This course will conclude by exploring other modern episodes of genocide including Cambodia and Rwanda. A teacher made exam is given at the conclusion of the course.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	0.5
11	HS03G	History 5: Street Law This course covers basic principles and the American Legal	One period per day	Refer to approved	0.5



Pro referent		System, including, but not limited to, the Executive, Judicial, and Legislative branches. Students participate in Mock Trial and Youth Court. Students must take the Teacher Made Exam at the conclusion of the course.		textbook list	
9 – 12	HW01G	History 5: Women's History Major units in this course include: origins of Women's Rights Movement, Women's Suffrage, major figures in American History, the Feminist Movement, and Women's Legal Rights. Major projects include a billboard recognizing "Women in American History" and a term paper on a teacher-approved topic. Students must take the Teacher Made Exam at the conclusion of the course.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	0.5
12	SO04G	History 5: Sociology This course covers the basic principles of sociology including how societies form, cultural institutions, cultural formation, and other course-specific topics. A teacher made exam is given at the conclusion of the course.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	0.5
10	GT02R	Geography of Travel and Tourism This course covers basic principles and concepts of physical and destination geography. The course has two distinct semester courses. The first semester focuses on the Western Hemisphere and the second focuses on the Eastern Hemisphere. Students must take the NYS Global History and Geography Regents Assessment and a teacher made exam at the conclusion of the course.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0
11 & 12	PS03P	Advanced Placement Psychology The AP Psychology course is designed 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	One period per day College Board AP Psychology curriculum	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0



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		associated with each of the major			
12	SU02G	Social Studies 4 This is a SUMMER SCHOOL ONLY or CREDIT RECOVER course intended for students who did not pass Economics or Participation in Government. The course parameters in ESIS mirror those of Economics or Participation in Government. Use during the regular academic year is strictly prohibited.	One period per day	Refer to approved textbook list	0.5
9	WHO2P	AP World History The Advanced Placement World History course is designed to prepare students for college history courses by making demands upon them equivalent to a full-year introductory college course. Students will be expected to develop interpretive and analytical skills in dealing with historical materials. They will be expected to present their findings clearly and persuasively in verbal and written forms. Excellent reading and writing skills are essential for ones success in this class. The subject matter of American history will be dealt with chronologically from colonization to the present. In addition to reading from the text, extensive outside reading and research will be required. It is assumed a student in this course is motivated, interested in history, and academically prepared to do the various reading and writing assignments, which are required. This course helps prepare the student for the college bound Advanced Placement Exam given in the May of each year.	One period per day College Board AP World History curriculum	The Earth and Its Peoples: A Global History, 3rd Ed. McDougal Littell.	1.0
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10	HG02P	AP Human Geography The Advanced Placement Human Geography course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students will employ concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.	One period per day College Board AP Human Geography curriculum	Human Geography, 9th ed. McGraw-Hill	1.0
11	USO3P	AP U.S. History & Government The Advanced Placement American History course is designed to prepare students for college history courses by making demands upon them equivalent to a full-year introductory college course. Students will be expected to develop interpretive and analytical skills in dealing with historical materials. They will be expected to present their findings clearly and persuasively in verbal and written forms. Excellent reading and writing skills are essential for ones success in this class. The subject matter of American history will be dealt with chronologically from colonization to the present. In addition to reading from the text, extensive outside reading and research will be required. It is assumed a student in this class is motivated, interested in history, and academically prepared to do the various reading and writing assignments, which are	One period per day College Board AP U.S. History & Government curriculum	The American Pageant. McDougal Littell	1.0



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7799		required. This course helps prepare the student for the college bound Advanced Placement Exam given in the May of each year.			
12	PS03P	AP Psychology The purpose of AP 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 subfields within psychology. It is assumed a student in this class is motivated, interested in history, and academically prepared to do the various reading and writing assignments, which are required. This course helps prepare the student for the college bound Advanced Placement Exam given in the May of each year.	One period per day College Board AP curriculum	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0
12	G001P	AP Government and Politics: Comparative This course is designed to provide students with the conceptual tools necessary to develop an understanding of some of the world's diverse political structures and practices. We will examine six countries in detail: Great Britain, Russia, China, Mexico, Nigeria, and Iran. These countries are taught because they are excellent examples of the six core topics of a comparative course. These topics include methodology, power, institutional structure, civil society, political/economic change and public policy. It is assumed a student in this course is motivated, interested in history, and academically prepared to do the various reading and writing assignments, which are required. This course helps prepare the student for the college bound Advanced Placement Exam given in the May of each year.	One period per day College Board AP Government and Politics: Comparative curriculum		1.0



12	GP04P			Refer to approved textbook list	1.0
		AP US Government & Politics This course explores the political theory and everyday practice that direct the daily operation of our government and shape our public policies. The express purpose of this course is to prepare students to take the AP Exam for U.S Government and Politics. The course is for all intents and purposes taught on a college level and it requires a substantial amount of reading and preparation for every class. The objectives of this course go beyond a basic analysis of how our government" works." Students will develop a critical understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the American political system, as well as their rights and responsibilities as citizens. It is assumed a student in this course is motivated, interested in history, and academically prepared to do the various reading and writing assignments, which are required. This course helps prepare the student for the college bound Advanced Placement Exam given in the May of each year.	One period per day College Board AP US Government & Politics curriculum		
12	EC041	IB economics IB economics is a one-year IB course that will give students an understanding of economic systems, the generation of wealth, and the distribution of goods. Students will examine how economies allocate scarce resources among competing activities in an efficient manner. Economic theory, models, empirical analysis, positive and normative analysis will provide students with an understanding of how markets, labor forces, economies function, fluctuate, and evolve. Economic issues frequently influence voters in national, state, and local elections.	One period per day, IB Economics IB examinations	Refer to approved textbook list	1.0
12	H1041	IB History of America is a two-year IB course that will focus on	One period per		1.0



relevant	of the entire continent, including Canada, Spanish, Portuguese	day, IB History of Americas IB examinations



Benchmark and Strategic Program – Recommended High School Social Studies Program

Grade	eSIS#	Course Description Benchmark Courses	Core Program and State Assessment	Textbook	Credit
9	SG02G	Global Studies This course is a general survey of the major events and developments of world history. This course is organized chronologically with content topics that focus on the major time periods of classical and medieval eras. Significant movements in social, economic, and political systems will be discussed. Emphasis will be on students' ability to ability to study and analyze global issues regarding politics, economics, society, and the environment.	One period per day, NYS Global Studies Core Curriculum	World History: Patterns of Interaction. McDougall Littell	1.0
10	GSO2R	Global Studies and Geography R This course is the concluding sequence of study of Global History and Geography. This course builds on the knowledge and skills students have acquired in their previous studies in Global History and Geography. This course is organized chronologically with content topics that focus on the major time periods of classical, medieval and modern eras. Significant movements in social, economic, and political systems will be discussed. Emphasis will be on students' ability to study and analyze global issues regarding politics, economics, society, and the environment	One period per day, one semester NYS Global Studies Core Curriculum Regents Global Studies and Geography examination	World History: Patterns of Interaction. McDougall Littell	1.0
11	USO3R	U.S. History & Government R This course is a comprehensive study of the historic development of American ideas and institutions from Reconstruction to present day. While focusing on political and economic history, this course provide students with a basic knowledge of American culture through a chronological survey of major issues, movements, people, and events in United	One period per day, U.S. History & Government Core Curriculum Regents U.S. History & Government	America: Pathways to the Present Pearson	1.0



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12	PG04G	Participation in Government This course is designed to prepare students to participate in the democratic process of the United States. Emphasis on voting requirements, participation in elections, political parties and current affairs are important parts of the course. An in-depth look at landmark Supreme Court decisions relative to our rights as citizens will be included. Students are required to engage in at least 20 hours of community service activities.	One period per day, one semester NYS Participation in Government	The Challenge of Democracy McDougall Littell	0.5
	ECD4G	Economics This course focuses on the historical background and current application of economic concepts, methodology and terminology, and upon problem solving as a way of demonstrating understanding. The American economy is emphasized, with study of comparative systems included. The intent of this course is to provide students with the tools to understand and make informed decisions as participants within our economy.	One period per day, one semester NYS Economics Core Curriculum	Economic Principles and Practices McGraw Hill	0.5