

9th Grade

Required Course List: Students must take one of the following **two** courses:

World History 9 = 1 Credit	Global History and Geography 9 = 1 Credit
Part one in a two year study of the major themes and movements that have shaped our world, World History 9 covers the first civilizations to 1750. Special attention is paid to the cultivation of advanced reading, writing and research skills.	This course is the first year in a two year study of Global History and explores the major events and movements that shaped the world from the first civilizations through 1750. With a focus on the development of reading and writing skills, and smaller class sizes, the course provides extra support to students who have struggled with Social Studies in the past.

Elective Course List:

Students may take as many of the following courses as they please.

- **Advanced Placement Human Geography = 1 Credit**
- **Independent Research I , II and III = ½ Credit per course**
- **Model United Nations/Int'l Studies I, II & III = ½ Credit per course**
- **News Literacy = ½ Credit**
- **Philosophy I (Intro to Philosophy)= ½ Credit**
- **Philosophy II (Intermediate Philosophy)= ½ credit**
- **Racial Literacy in Society = ½ Credit**
- **United States History Through Film = ½ Credit**
- **World History Through Film= ½ Credit**
- **World History Workshop = ½ Credit**

Note: detailed course descriptions on back.

Elective Course Descriptions

Advanced Placement Human Geography = 1 credit

- Global Population explosion ... legitimate cause for concern or mere hype? This is just one of many controversies you will investigate in this AP course as we explore shifting patterns of population and demographics, economics, cities, cultural differences and exchange, gender, language, religion and ethnicity as they impact the world today. In this "geography" course maps are just the starting point! This is the course that helps you understand how, where and why the world works the way it does right now.

Independent Research I = ½ Credit

Independent Research II = ½ Credit

- Independently-driven research that prepares you for research competitions, all while earning Honors credit. Student research is based on student interest and may even culminate in internships. Students also meet guest speakers with real-world experiences in volunteer work and research in the social sciences! It's an excellent way to improve the writing and analytical skills that colleges demand.

Model United Nations/International Studies I = ½ Credit

Model United Nations/International Studies II = ½ Credit

- Students who enjoy debating will love this opportunity to research, prepare for and participate in simulated proceedings (contemporary, historical and even fictional!) of the United Nations and other international institutions. In Semester 1, preparation culminates in 2 off campus conferences held on college campuses some as far away as Canada. Semester 2 involves attending 1 college conference and the creation of our very own Model UN Conference. *Note: there is an average cost of \$350/off campus conference for transportation, accommodations and fees. Students can enroll in up to two courses per year and will also receive honors credit on their transcript.*

News Literacy = ½ Credit

- In a time when we are constantly being bombarded with information, many find it difficult to judge the reliability and credibility of news sources. This course is designed to give students the skills to think critically about the news presented to them through print, television, and online sources. This course is offered with support of the News Literacy Program at Stony Brook University. *Note: Students who wish to receive 3 college credits through SUNY Stony Brook can enroll with the University at a cost of \$300. The credits are transferable to any SUNY school.*

Philosophy I (Introduction to Philosophy) = ½ Credit

Philosophy II (Intermediate Philosophy) = ½ Credit

- Stressed out by school? Feel busy all the time? If so, sign up for Philosophy I to help restore a balance to your life while discussing the most fundamental questions confronting humanity including *Who am I? Who do I want to become? What is the point of life? Does God exist? What is happiness?* If you are curious about yourself and these essential questions, then this seminar-based course is a perfect fit! Philosophy II allows students to continue exploring many of the philosophical topics that have fascinated people since the dawn of time, including the true nature of humans, morality, and happiness, but to name a few. As with Introduction to Philosophy, students will be encouraged to apply many of the teachings to their lives in order to create positive change. Please note that Introduction to Philosophy is a prerequisite for Intermediate Philosophy.

Racial Literacy in Society = ½ Credit

- The practice of racial literacy means to hear and appreciate diverse and unfamiliar experiences, recognize how to ask questions, view racial issues through a critical lens that recognizes current aspects of racism and engage in challenging conversation. In this class students are taught to hear and appreciate diverse and unfamiliar experiences, facilitate problem-solving, and create opportunities to discuss race issues.

United States History Through Film = ½ Credit

- If you love movies, then this course is for you! US History Through Film is a unique and exciting way to explore historical topics such as war, race, politics and power. Popcorn optional!

World History Through Film = ½ Credit

- Come explore world history through engaging and captivating films about our world's most fascinating people and events. Cotton candy optional!

World History Workshop = ½ Credit

- This class is designed to help those who may want or need extra support to do better in Social Studies. Assistance will be directed toward the improvement of reading, writing and other important critical thinking skills. This class is highly recommended for those students who have not had previous success in Social Studies.