

Ethnic Studies College Preparatory

GRADE: 9 CREDITS: 10 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? Yes

PREREQUISITES: None

This Ethnic Studies course is an 18 week semester course designed for students to be politically, socially and economically conscious about their personal connections to local and global histories. By studying the histories of race, ethnicity, nationality, sexuality, and culture, students will cultivate respect and empathy for individuals and solidarity with groups of people locally, nationally, and globally so as to foster active social engagement and community building. Particular focus will be given to the contributions, and struggles of different racial and ethnic groups for liberty, equality, and justice in the United States. Students will investigate and analyze the historical factors of power and privilege and the subsequent impact on historically disadvantaged groups' ability to navigate and mitigate internal and external structures that influence their human experience. Students will apply in-depth analysis to contemporary issues and collectively pose creative, self-affirming solutions in a variety of ways to promote agency through grassroots community advocacy and civic engagement. This course is intended to help build inter-ethnic understanding and socio-cultural bridges in an increasingly more multicultural and multiethnic nation, which is imperative to creating a just society.

Modern World History I College Preparatory

GRADE: 10 CREDITS: 10 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? Yes

PREREQUISITES: none

The curriculum follows a framework set forth in the California State Standards. The Modern World History course covers a period of more than 250 years, highlighting major turning points that shaped the modern world, from the late eighteenth century through the present. This course offers a balanced approach to historical content, providing equal weight to the development of western civilization and the evolution of the non-western world. This course will offer students a truly global historical experience.

In this course, students will critically learn about the history and culture of the world by considering multiple accounts of events in order to understand international relations from a variety of perspectives, in a way that allows students to place themselves in its narratives.

Students will analyze data from original documents, including political cartoons, graphs, letters, etc. In addition, they will improve their skills of primary sources and textbook reading/notetaking. Through all of this they will improve writing, research, and critical reading skills.

Modern World History I Advanced Standing

GRADE: 10 CREDITS: 10 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? Yes

PREREQUISITES: Recommendation of 9th Grade Teachers and Capuchino Counseling Department. or parent/ student statement explaining why they would like to take the course. Any student wishing to take the course is encouraged to do so.

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Modern World History I/II-A.S. provides a level of conceptual sophistication that will be beneficial to students planning to enroll in the IB History of Americans in the junior and senior year.

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United States History I College Preparatory

GRADE: 11 CREDITS: 10 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? Yes

PREREQUISITES: None

This year in U.S. History will focus on the 19th Century and Contemporary times. Students will be introduced to a broad overview of historical events, and will use a variety of course materials to explore the history of the U.S. Students will further develop their critical thinking, writing, and analysis skills.

Throughout this course students will develop the Essential Skills of Reading, Writing, Critical Thinking and –Self-Management. The course will focus on Reading, Writing, Critical Thinking skills through the practice of summary, primary document analysis, non-fiction writing, geography, conceptual review, and Socratic Seminars. .

IB History Higher Level

GRADE: 11-12 CREDITS: 10 in each year COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? Yes

RECOMMENDED PREREQUISITES: Receive an A or B in Modern World History (honors), or an A in MWH (cp), or parent/ student statement explaining why they would like to take the course. Any student wishing to take the course is encouraged to do so.

IB History, at the Higher Level will be taught as a 2-year course. The course is designed to develop and expand the students' understanding of the history of the United States, Latin America, Canada, Europe, and Asia, focusing on the events of the 20th Century. IB History is a dynamic, contested, evidence-based discipline that involves an exciting engagement with the past. It is a rigorous intellectual discipline, focused around key historical concepts such as change, causation and significance. The course also fosters a sense of inquiry. It is also an interpretive discipline, allowing opportunity for engagement with multiple perspectives and a plurality of opinions. Studying history develops an understanding of the past, which leads to a deeper understanding of the nature of humans and of the world today.

The IB Diploma Programme (DP) history course is a world history course based on a comparative and multi perspective approach to history. It involves the study of a variety of types of history, including political, economic, social and cultural, and provides a balance of structure and flexibility. The course emphasizes the importance of encouraging students to think historically and to develop historical skills as well as gaining factual knowledge. It puts a premium on developing the skills of critical thinking, and on developing an understanding of multiple interpretations of history. In this way, the course involves a challenging and demanding critical exploration of the past.

Throughout the course, students have the opportunity to explore historical events that have played a key role in shaping the world today, deepening their understanding of the complex and interconnected nature of past and present events. For example, students explore historical examples of many of the global challenges facing the world today, such as conflict, rights and governance. This helps to meet one of the central aims of the course—to increase students' understanding of themselves and of contemporary society by encouraging reflection on the past.

IB Psychology Higher Level

GRADE: 11-12 CREDITS: 5 Graduation Requirement? No

PREREQUISITES: Recommendation and approval of Social Science teachers

Psychology is the rigorous and systematic study of mental processes and behaviour. It is a complex subject which draws on concepts, methods and understandings from a number of different disciplines. At the core of the IB Psychology (SL) course is an introduction to three different approaches to understanding behaviour:

- biological approach to understanding behaviour
- cognitive approach to understanding behaviour
- sociocultural approach to understanding behaviour.

The knowledge, concepts, theories and research that have developed the understanding in these fields will be studied and critically evaluated to answer some of the questions being asked by psychologists today. The option chosen for an area in depth study in this course is Psychology of Human Relationships. Students will investigate the contribution and the interaction of the three approaches through this area of applied psychology.

As part of the requirements for the course, students will replicate an experimental study to fulfill the Internal Assessment requirement of the IB course. Furthermore, the primary way students will be assessed in the course is through writing assessments in order to prepare students for IB Psychology External Exam. The goal of the IB Psychology (SL) course is to develop the students' critical inquiry, writing skills, and understanding of the various approaches to research. Lastly, IB Psychology studies human beings and as such students will explore and understand the ethical implications of doing so and follow ethical guidelines while doing so.

American Government College Preparatory GRADE: 12

CREDITS: 5 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? Yes

PREREQUISITES: None

In this one semester course students apply knowledge gained in previous years of study to pursue a deeper understanding of the institutions of American government. Topics studied include: a) the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, b) the legislative and executive branches, c) the courts, d) the election process and political culture, e) federalism and f) contemporary issues in the world today.

Economics College Preparatory

GRADE: 12 CREDITS: 5 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? Yes

PREREQUISITES: None

Economics is a 18 week one semester course. In this course students will deepen their understanding of the economic problems and institutions of the United States and world. Topics studied include: a. fundamental economic concepts, b. comparative economic systems, c. microeconomics, d. macroeconomics, and e. international economic relationships. Students learn to make reasoned decisions on economic issues as citizens, workers, consumers, business owners, and members of civil groups. In this final course, students add to economic understandings they acquired in previous courses and apply tools (such as graphing, statistics, and equations) learned in other subject fields.

Leadership Training I GRADE: 9-12 CREDITS: 5 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? No

PREREQUISITES: Recommendation and Approval of Student Activity Director

The Leadership Class, along with Capuchino's elected Student Council Officers and Clubs, plans, implements and evaluates student activities that seek to educate, celebrate, and acknowledge the co-curricular component of campus life. Leadership and learning to become a leader is more than planning school dances or running for student body president. Leadership means taking steps to create positive change in the situations those students are involved in. The Leadership class provides opportunities for students to develop their own style and interpretation of "leadership". Developing skills for communication, time management, goal setting, interpersonal relations, public relations, and organization, will be primary objectives for this class, along with planning and implementing activities on campus.

Academic Language Development GRADE: 9-12 CREDITS: 5 COLLEGE RECOMMENDED? No

PREREQUISITES: None

Academic Language Development is designed for English Language Learners, including long-term English Learners, to develop high levels of academic achievement and proficiency across the core content areas in reading, writing, listening and speaking. This course follows the California English Language Development standards and is designed for students to build competence and confidence through consistent strategic partner work and collaborative instructional routines needed for success in core academic content classes. Students will develop an understanding of how academic

language is a complex, dynamic, and necessary resource for making meaning. Students will focus on academic vocabulary development, language, syntax, grammar and writing structures through close reading of grade level informational and literary texts. Students learn how text structure, language features, and vocabulary vary depending upon purpose and audience and they develop academic language proficiency to recognize the various purposes, audiences and text types. Students draw upon their home languages and cultures as resources to build proficiency in English.