**Academic Electives**

World Cultural Geography (full year)

Examines cultures as well as geographical features on a continent-by-continent basis.

Almost all work is done in the classroom (homework is rare unless you never finish in class) on a mostly activity-driven basis.

Perfect if you like learning about other places and people.

Great for any grade and academic level student.

AP Human Geography (full year)

Examines the interaction of people with each other and the planet on a topic-centered basis (population, culture, etc).

Really an AP “Social Studies” class since it incorporates a little bit of everything at a challenging level.

Perfect for learning about other people and places AND attempting college credit at the same time.

Ideal for ANY grade-level as a 1st-time AP student, or can be an AP elective for someone with AP experience who wants to learn more about the world.  (If no previous AP experience, should be an A/B Honors student willing to complete homework every night).

AP Computer Science Principles (full year)

It is NOT a hard core programming class. It is meant to introduce students to the world of computer science as it relates to the creation and manipulation of anything interactive. The class is structured to encourage students to work together, not with group projects, to solve computer related problems.

 What the class is NOT:

1. Learning how to tear apart and assemble a computer
2. Learning how to use any specific software such and Microsoft office
3. Learning how to create a website
4. Learning a Coding Language

 What the class DOES do:

1. Explores real world situations used to create interactive applications
2. Fosters open communication between students to collectively find solutions to computational problems
3. Introduces student to the fundamentals of coding through a block based application (not a language)
4. Focuses on creative problem solving using technology

 Overall the class is about 20% lecture based and 80% working on the computer.

Psychology I & II (semester classes)

It is a SUS Academic Elective Course.  The purpose of this course is to provide conceptual knowledge of how human brains and bodies react to information and situations because of psychology.  Understanding psychology will help students to better understand aspects of their career, navigate diversity, and deal with difficulties they may experience in life.  Studying psychology will help students become more effective in their most important and basic role in the world: relating and understanding themselves. Students are expected to be attentive in class, complete assignments accurately and on time, write in complete sentences and use correct spelling, bring appropriate materials daily, participate in class activities and discussions, and work well independently and cooperatively.

AP Psych (full year)

Description: Explore the ideas, theories, and methods of the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. You’ll examine the concepts of psychology through reading and discussion and you’ll analyze data from psychological research studies. Topics include consciousness, memory, personality, psychological disorders, treatment, social psychology, and more.

Expectations: In-class attendance and participation is vital! Textbook is required to be read at home (about 30 minutes each night including questions) and checks occur on a weekly basis.

Suggested Prerequisites: 10th+ grade reading level (Passed ELA FSA), time-management skills, and success in past AP class or honors class with high expectations and homework! (Psychology I/II not required as a prerequisite but suggested if you are unsure about ability to understand college-level text or ability to manage time/homework)

Contemporary History (semester) - 1950s-present.  We study major world events along with the pop culture of each decade including music, fads, tv shows, movies, hair styles, clothing etc.

THERE IS NOT TEXT FOR THIS CLASS, THEREFORE ATTENDANCE IS VITAL TO SUCCESS.

Sociology (semester) - We study human behavior and interaction.  Units include: culture, socialization, social stratification, crime and deviance, racism, prejudice and discrimination.  Class is active- very little book work.  Activities, class discussions, ppt- ATTENDANCE CRUCIAL

Holocaust Honors (semester) - a class that is design to take a deep study of how the Holocaust and similar events throughout history has had a lasting effect on society as a whole. The course pertains to the examination of the events of the Holocaust (1933-1945), the systematic, planned annihilation of European Jews and other groups by Nazi Germany. The class further examines twentieth and twenty-first century genocides, investigation of human behavior during this period, and an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice, racism, and stereotyping on current real-world situations.