

INTRODUCTION TO WORLD CIVILIZATIONS 1 — 1 Unit of credit

Prerequisite: Current Teacher or Department Chair recommendation

World Civilizations 1 is designed for the student who has reading difficulties and yet desires to pursue the study of human history. The course will introduce students to the civilizations and cultures which developed in Africa, Asia, Meso America and Europe from the earliest prehistory to the eve of the Scientific Revolution and global exploration in the late 16th century. In addition to geography and current event supplements, the course also provides instruction in such study skills as note taking, active listening, and summarizing the main idea in test material.

This course satisfies the Global/Non-Western distribution requirement in social studies.

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES – ½ Unit of credit

Prerequisite: No prerequisite

Students will explore the people, culture and history of the nations of Latin America. The course will introduce students to many cultural achievements of the region, including visual art, music, literature, poetry, dance, drama, etc. The course will also explore how this part of the western hemisphere affects the United States: Trade arrangements such as NAFTA make significant contributions to our economy and helps Mexico be the United States' second largest trade partner; issues such as immigration and the environment present concerns for a sustainable future for the western hemisphere and the world; the stability of national governments in Latin America impacts the political balance of the region as a whole.

This course satisfies the Global/Non-Western distribution requirement in Social Studies.

MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES – ½ Unit of credit

Prerequisite: No prerequisite

This one semester course introduces students to the contemporary Middle East through an interdisciplinary approach of geography, history, political science, and anthropology. Topics to be covered in the course include the origins of modern Middle East nations, the Arabic language and shared culture, the religion of Islam, the status of women in society, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, issues of democratization, and the international relations of the region, including current topics such as the war in Iraq. The course will give students an understanding of this region and the prominent role it has in global affairs today and will include the use of primary sources and Arabic perspectives.

This course satisfies the Global/Non-Western distribution requirement in Social Studies.

WORLD CIVILIZATIONS 1 — 1 Unit of credit

Prerequisite: None

World Civilizations 1 is a one-year course which will introduce students to the civilizations and cultures which developed in Africa, Asia, Meso America and Europe from the earliest prehistory to the eve of the Scientific Revolution and global exploration in the late 16th century. At the end of the one-year course, the students will be familiar with the key concepts, events, and individuals which are vital to an understanding of world history. Such items will specifically include ideas, terms, places, times, people and their significance to specific civilizations of the world. Students will also participate in activities and exercises that promote geographic awareness, thinking skills, writing instruction and research procedures.

This course is intended primarily for first year students and satisfies the Global/Non-Western distribution requirement in social studies.

WORLD CIVILIZATIONS 1 Honors — 1 Unit of credit

Prerequisite: Current teacher or Department Chair recommendation

World Civilizations 1 H is designed for students who have demonstrated the ability and motivation to handle the rigors of a challenging academic program which includes a serious writing component. World Civ. 1 H covers the period from pre-history to the Renaissance. The course examines the political, economic, social and cultural development in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. World Civ. 1 H also emphasizes thinking and study skills which include analysis, synthesis and evaluation of information. A variety of learning activities are utilized including lectures, cooperative learning, simulations and student presentations.

World Civilizations 1 H satisfies the Global/Non-Western distribution requirement in social studies.

**AFRICA TO AMERICA – A HISTORY OF AFRICA
AND AFRICAN AMERICANS — 1/2 Unit of credit**

Prerequisite: No Prerequisite

This one semester course surveys the early history of the African continent inclusive of the origins of civilizations, development of cultural patterns and the interaction of African civilizations with peoples from Europe and Asia. Africa to America continues with a study of the transatlantic slave trade and explores such topics and issues as: Slave culture and life, experience of free blacks, contributions of African Americans to early America, the anti-slavery movement and events leading to the American Civil War. The infusion of African and African American literature, music and art into western culture completes this comprehensive study of African American history prior to the Civil War.

This course satisfies the Global Studies distribution requirement in social studies.

THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN THE MODERN ERA — 1/2 Unit of credit

Prerequisite: Although no requirement exists, it is strongly recommended that the first semester course of Africa to America be completed before enrolling in this second semester course.

This second semester course, surveys the African American experience in the modern era. Topics of study include the Civil War, Reconstruction, the Jim Crow Era, the Harlem Renaissance, the history of the civil rights movement, African American participation in global warfare, the myths surrounding affirmative action, and issues concerning American race relations and contemporary African American culture. Comparisons will be studied involving Americans of African, European, Hispanic/Latin, Asian and Native descent. Student involvement is encouraged as emphasis is placed on student participation, research, and the development of critical reading, thinking and writing skills.

This course satisfies the Social Science distribution requirement in the social studies.

CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN STUDIES – ½ Unit of credit

Prerequisite: No Prerequisite

This one semester course introduces students to contemporary Africa, its rich history, culture and contributions to the world. This course is taught regionally and topically providing for a full and detailed picture of the issues that impact the African continent. Basic topics to be covered in each region are geography and its impact on development, culture (music, dance, food, gender relations, family, art, etc.), and religions including traditional African religions, Islam, and Christianity. A survey approach will be used to present the history of colonization and imperialism and their impact on the African content. Emphasis will be placed on discussing nationalism and independence movements that have created the modern-day Africa we know. The teacher will use a variety of methods including: lecture, discussion, technology, group projects, primary and secondary source work, oral reports and African literature and song.

This course satisfies the Global/Non-Western distribution requirement in social studies.

ASIAN STUDIES – 1/2 Unit of credit

Prerequisite: No Prerequisite

This one semester course will introduce students to Asia, the most populated and fastest economically growing region in the world today. The course is designed to expose students to modern history, current day issues, and culture of Asia. Countries studied in this class will be China, Japan, North Korea, South Korea, India, Cambodia and the Himalaya Region. Students will learn how Asia has emerged from its long struggles of the past to become one of the most dynamic regions in the world today. This course will also integrate literature as part of the course requirement, and field trips to Chicago's Asian communities and cultural institutions.

This class satisfies the Global/Non-Western distribution requirement in social studies.
