



Board Meeting Date: December 11, 2023

Title: 2024-2025 Secondary Social Studies Course Recommendations

Type: Discussion

Presenter(s): Jody De St. Hubert, Director of Teaching and Learning, Bethany Van Osdel, Assistant Director of Teaching and Learning; Erik Anderson, Edina High School Social Studies Content Lead

Description: As part of our continuous improvement efforts, each year the Teaching and Learning department brings forth proposals for new courses and recommendations for course changes for School Board review. These Social Studies recommendations are being brought forth due to new legislation and to comply Edina High School must reorganize the course offerings for Social Studies in 2024-2025. It is important to note that in addition to these course recommendations for 2024-2025, Teaching and Learning is conducting a full K-12 Social Studies curriculum review in collaboration with curriculum design teams of building staff using the implementation science process. The Social Studies Guiding Change document will be brought to the board workshop for feedback and questions on December 11th.

Recommendation: Review the new course proposals and changes for discussion. An additional discussion will occur at the Board Meeting on 1.8.24 and action will occur at the 2.12.24 Board Meeting.

Desired Outcomes from the Board: Review the course information and provide feedback.

Appendix A:

Tentative Budget Proposals

Attachments:

1. [EHS Course Catalog for Reference](#)
2. [Board Presentation](#)

New Course Proposals: High School

Department: Social Studies

Course Title: Cultural Geography

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Length: Full Year, S1 and S2

Meets Requirement for: Social Studies Graduation Credit, SY 26-27 Ethnic Studies Offering

Out of Class Work: Daily as needed

Fee: None

Course Description: Cultural Geography is a year-long course that will prepare students to develop the foundational inquiry and critical thinking skills to be successful in upper-level social studies classes, including AP courses. By pairing human geography with content and methodologies of ethnic studies, history and civics, this course engages students in project-based learning to develop understandings in cultural, linguistic, and ethnic differences as they enter a globalized job market and diverse community. Utilizing a variety of non-fiction texts builds and supports students' skills in reading as they embark on inquiry-based research, historical contextualization, and argumentation writing in a history day project. Cultural Geography supports students' development of personal and community identities, civic discourse and reasoning skills. This course directly aligns to Strategy B in the Edina Public Schools Strategic Plan. It creates learning environments and curricula that enable staff and students to learn from and reflect on their own and others' experiences; explore multiple perspectives; practice civil discourse; encourage empathy; create interpersonal connections and embrace diverse identities.

This course fulfills state standards in Geography and Ethnic Studies as well as partial standards in Government and US History.

Background for Social Studies new course:

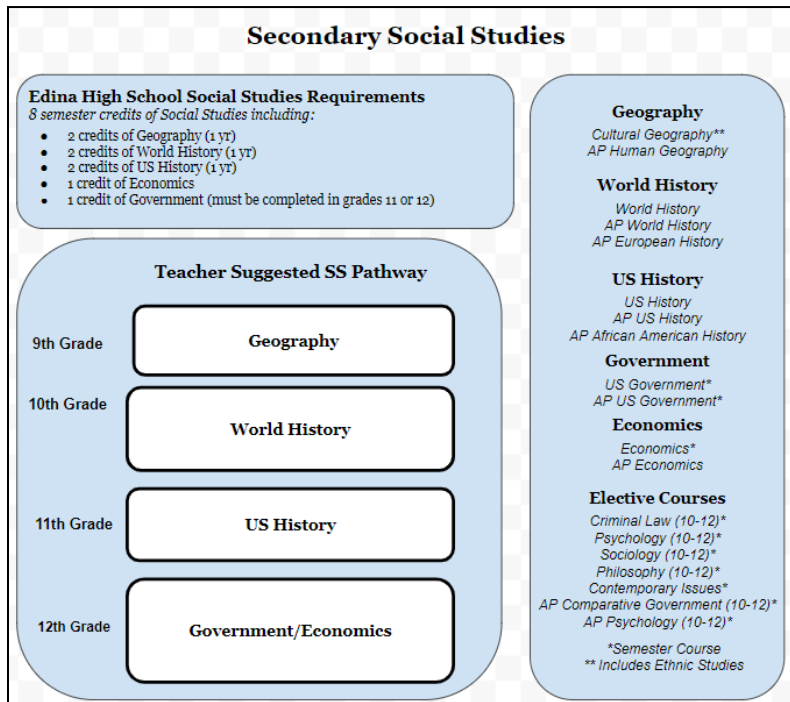


Citizenship and Government Changes Summary of change: Students will be required to take a course for credit in citizenship and government in 11th or 12th grade beginning with students entering 9th grade in 2024-25 school year. This course is part of the existing 3.5 credits in social studies, and does not increase credits required to graduate. Students can substitute an advanced placement, international baccalaureate, or other rigorous course on government and citizenship for this requirement. It is allowable for districts to create an interdisciplinary course in 11th or 12th grade or revise an existing course offering so long as that includes the majority of the citizenship and government benchmarks and the other citizenship and government benchmarks are taught in a class in an earlier grade. It is imperative that all students are taught and given the opportunity to demonstrate learning in all of the Social Studies benchmarks between 9th and 12th grade. Districts are no longer required to administer the civics test to high school students.

Effective date: Course requirement is effective beginning with the students entering 9th grade in the 2024-25 school year, to coincide with the intended implementation date of the 2021 Academic Standards in Social Studies in 2026-27.

In order to comply with the legislation, Edina High School must reorganize the course offerings for Social Studies in 2024-2025. Currently, EHS has a yearlong government course in 9th grade. The legislative updates now require that the government standards are taught in 11th or 12th grade. To make this shift, 9th grade will now have a yearlong Geography class in place of the Government course in 9th grade. The team recommends the following approach:

- Increase from 7 to 8 credits of Social Studies:
 - 9: Full year course encapsulating Geo, Civics and Ethnic Studies Standards
 - Option to take AP Human for the full year instead. Some Gov standards would need to be embedded into AP Human.
 - 10: World/Euro/APWorld (all full year)
 - 11: US/APUSH/APASS (all full year)
 - 11 or 12: Econ (Sem) and Gov (Semester)
 - APGov (Semester)
 - AP Econ (Semester)



Beginning in 2024 Adding 1 credit to Social Studies		
New	Changing	Staying the Same
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultural Geography (new course) as an option to meet the requirements in Grade 9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP Human Geography moving from a 10-12th grade semester elective to the full year side by side option to meet the requirements in grade 9. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All other courses are staying the same.

Change Course : High School

Course Title: AP Human Geography

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9,10,11,12

Length: Full Year, S1 and S2

Meets Requirement for: Social Studies Elective

Out of Class Work: Daily as needed

Fee: None

This course requires students to compare how components of culture shape the characteristics of regions and analyze the impact of technology and human modifications on the physical environment. On completion of this course students must demonstrate how to use and think about maps and spatial data, understand and interpret the implications of associations among phenomena in place, recognize and interpret at different scales the relationships among patterns and processes, define regions and evaluate the regionalization process, and characterize and analyze the interconnections among places. This course is intended to prepare students for taking the National Advanced Placement test in the spring.

Reason: AP Human Geography moving from a 10-12th grade semester elective to the full year side by side option to meet the requirements in grade 9.

Course	Curriculum	Curriculum Writing/PD	Other expenses
Approximate Totals for 24-25:	\$25,000	\$5,600	\$0
Cultural Geography	Cost of curricular materials TBD	\$2,800 20 hours per teacher (4 teachers)	None
AP Human Geography	none	\$2,800 20 hours per teacher (4 teachers)	None