

History-Social Science - Frequently Asked Questions

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Parent Resources	
Question	Answer
What are required History-Social Science courses?	In middle school, students are required to enroll in 7th Grade World History and Geography and 8th Grade United States History and Geography. In high school, students are required to enroll in a 10th Grade World History course, an 11th Grade United States History course, 12th Grade American Government course, and a 12th Grade Economics course
What additional elective classes can be taken in History-Social Science?	History-Social Science elective classes vary by school site. Please refer to your student's school website for elective course offerings.
How can I learn more about what is taught in each course?	The curricular content of each course is explained in each Course Profile that can be found on our District Website .
What if I have a concern about what is being taught in my child's class?	Parents/Guardians are encouraged to first reach out to your child's teacher and/or school administration with your concern. Additionally, SDUHSD has an Employee Concern Resolution policy that provides specific guidance.
Should my student take Advanced Placement or the on-level class in high school?	AP courses are demanding academically, and it is important that students consider balance in their course schedules and degree of interest in the subject matter when deciding. Additional details regarding course expectations can be found in course profiles on our District Website . Counselors are available to assist students about course selection.

Curricular Questions	
Question	Answer
Why does SDUHSD teach about religion?	In accordance with our History-Social Science Mission/Vision statement , SDUHSD follows state-mandated laws, standards, and framework regarding required Social Science content. As is mandated in the California State Standards for 6th-12th grade, History-Social Science instruction must address world religions and their impacts on daily life and society.
What do students learn about religion in their classes?	Following the guidance of California Standards and Framework, "the history-social science classroom needs to be a place for the study of historical developments that includes understanding how religious beliefs and values affected historical figures." (Source: CA History-Social Science Framework p. 783 Appendix F)
How is religion addressed in California public schools?	Religion is addressed in accordance with the CA History-Social Science Framework. "The primary manner in which schools establish a climate of respect for religious differences is by clearly distinguishing between teaching about religion and indoctrinating students or advocating religion. The following guidelines are recommended approaches to achieve this end: 1. The school's approach to religion is academic, not devotional. 2. The school may strive for student awareness of religion in historical and contemporary societies, but it may not press for student acceptance of any one religion.

	3. The school may include study about religion as part of the history–social science curriculum, but it may not sponsor the practice of religion. 4. The school may expose students to a diversity of religious views in their studies, but it may not impose any particular view. 5. The school may educate about all religions but may not promote or denigrate any religion. 6. The school may inform students about various beliefs, but it should not seek to conform students to any particular belief.” (Source: CA History-Social Science Framework p. 783 Appendix F)
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Ethnic Studies	
Question	Answer
What are California’s requirements for ethnic studies?	Details regarding ethnic studies in California can be found on the California Department of Education Model Curriculum for Ethnic Studies website