

# Small Learning Communities



## POLITICAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE-I

## SOPHOMORE LEVEL



**SUMMARY:** Conducted in a cohort fashion, this institute satisfies the requirements of the New Jersey State Core Content Curriculum Standards for English and US History while placing a focus on the topics, subjects, and skills necessary to prepare students to someday enter the worlds of politics, international relations, or law. In addition to the customary program of study, students will be exposed to the significant writings and debates of political theory and law for the time period being studied. The establishment and evolution of the American governmental system will be an ongoing theme with a focus on its impact on people of all classes and ethnicities regardless of gender. Additionally, the role of the emerging nation within world politics will continually be revisited. By scheduling students in a cohort, both the Social Studies and the English teacher may work in a double-period block if it is advantageous to achieving their goals for a particular unit. Students may choose to enroll in the Institute their sophomore year and/or their junior year.

## HONORS ENGLISH II

## Grade 10

## 5 Credits

This Honors English II course encompasses the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and technology. The English and Social Studies instruction is aligned so that the cohort of students will come together throughout the year in an interdisciplinary manner. For the *Political Science Institute*, this course has been modified from the standard English II curriculum with respect to the readings and texts that are examined. Students will also be expected to produce writings and speeches that not only demonstrate mastery of the English curriculum requirements but are aligned with the political ideology of the era. Various reading selections, audio-visual materials, classroom activities, and assessment tools will be utilized to allow students with differing learning styles to display their abilities.



**Prerequisite:** 91 in Accelerated or Classical English I or 84 in Honors English I

## HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY I

## Grade 10

## 5 Credits



U.S. History I, a required course, is designed to address and achieve the goals set forth in the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for Social Studies. Embedded in these content areas are economic, cultural, anthropological, sociological and global perspectives. While the customary areas of history and geography are examined, the concentration will be politics (national and international), law, and citizenship. Students will develop skills in research, debate, public speaking, persuasive speech writing, and they will interpret and analyze primary source documents. Students will also be expected to be active participants in their learning. For the *Political Science Institute*, this course has been modified from the standard U.S. History I curriculum with respect to the readings and texts that are examined. By the end of the course, students will have studied three of the five major periods in history delineated in the Standards for Social Studies, the Revolution and Early National Period (to 1820), the Age of Civil War and Reconstruction (to 1870) and Industrial America (to 1915)

**Prerequisite:** 91 in Accelerated or Classical World History or 84 in Honors World History