

Small Learning Communities



POLITICAL SCIENCE INSTITUTE-II

JUNIOR LEVEL



SUMMARY: Conducted in a cohort fashion, this institute satisfies the requirements of the New Jersey State Core Content Curriculum Standards for English III and US History 2, 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. The junior level is a continuation of the thematic approach used in the sophomore Political Science Institute. Students do not need to have been enrolled in the sophomore Political Science Institute to be part of the junior cohort.

HONORS ENGLISH III

Grade 11

5 Credits

This Honors English III course encompasses the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and technology. This course has been modified from the standard English III curriculum with respect to the readings and texts that are examined. Literature will either be taken directly from the arenas of politics, government, or culture, or will be a product of the environment created by those influences. 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 and/or cultural ideology of the era. The English class will utilize the areas of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, and technology to deepen students' mastery of the skills necessary to be successful on the High School Proficiency Assessment, taken in the spring of the junior year. 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 II or 84 in Honors English II*

HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY II

Grade 11

5 Credits

U.S. History II, a required course, is designed to address and achieve the goals set forth in the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for Social Studies. Three areas of humanities are emphasized; history, citizenship and geography. 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), government, law, and citizenship. As a continuation of the U.S. History I in the Political Science Institute, the students will further their skills in research, debate, public speaking, persuasive speech writing, as well as further interpretation and analysis of primary source documents. For the *Political Science Institute*, this course has been modified from the standard U.S. History II curriculum with respect to the readings and texts that are examined. Students will also be expected to be active participants as well as independent learners. In terms of scope and sequence, this course will continue from the end of the U.S. History I course. By the end of the course, students will have studied the following major periods in history, as delineated in the Standards for Social Studies, Industrial American and the Era of World Wars (to 1945), The Modern Age (post World War II to the present)

The students will have the opportunity to engage in projects, assembly presentations and field trips in collaboration with the Honors English III cohort.



Prerequisite: *91 in Accelerated or Classical US History I or 84 in Honors US History I*