

Minnehaha Academy Upper School
AP Application Form-- Social Studies

Due: February 15, 2018

Return to your first semester Social Studies teacher

Or

Ninth graders return to first semester WHI, Bible, or English teacher

Step 1 - For the Student

Student's name _____ Grade '18-'19 _____

AP course you are applying for _____

Write a one-page (approx. 300 words) essay on the topic selected for the course you are applying for and staple the essay to the back side of this application form. The essay may either be neatly handwritten or typed, double spaced.

Essay Topics

1. Essay for AP World History

AP World History traces the evolution of global processes in interaction with different types of human societies. Why do you think it is important to study the history of non-western as well as western societies?

2. Essay for AP United States History

What is/are the purpose/purposes of studying United States History? How should the content of United States History reflect that purpose?

3. Essay for AP Economics

Why are you interested in taking AP Economics? Explain your reasons as specifically as possible.

4. Essay for AP U S Government and Politics

Since the 1960s, the participation of Americans in community activities – voting, town meetings, political rallies, church services, labor unions, the Red Cross, Boy Scouts – has declined sharply. Robert Putnam (Professor of Public Policy, Harvard University) argues that this trend will ultimately harm the effectiveness of American democracy and government. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.

Step 2 - For the Parent

Check one of the following:

_____ I strongly support my child's decision to apply for AP Social Studies

_____ I support my child's decision to apply, although I am concerned about my child taking on too much with academics, sports, job, etc.

_____ I do not support my child's decision to apply for AP Social Studies

Step 3 - For the Student and Parent

In order for this application to be processed, both the student and parent must sign on the lines provided below.

We, the undersigned, confirm that the essay was written solely by the student applicant named in Step 1. Also, we understand this is an application form only and does not guarantee enrollment in the course.

(student signature)

(parent signature)

(date)

Step 4 - For the Student

Complete the appropriate essay, staple to this form and give to your first semester Social Studies teacher by February 15, 2018

TEACHER EVALUATION OF _____
(name of student)

Social Studies Teacher: Evaluate the student in the following areas of GPA and overall recommendation. Return the form with the essay attached to the teacher of the AP course the student is applying for. Once the essay has been read and scored, the Social Studies department will make the final recommendations for students in AP courses.

A. _____ Social Studies GPA for Semester 1

- 5 A (95% - 100%)
- 4 A- to A (90% - 94%)
- 3 B to B+ (85% - 89%)
- 2 B- to B (80% - 84%)
- 1 less than B- (below 80%)

B. _____ Overall Recommendation

- 5 Highest Recommendation
- 4 Strong Recommendation
- 3 Recommend
- 2 Recommend with reservations
- 1 Not recommended

Comments or explanations: _____

C. _____ Essay Score - with 5 being the best score

D. _____ Total Score - out of 15

It is the decision of the Social Studies Department that this student applicant

_____ is recommended

_____ is not recommended