Course Description:
The study of history, geography, economics, and civics is the study of humanity, of people and events that have individually and collectively shaped our nation and the world. A strong and effective social studies program helps students make sense of the world in which they live and helps them see themselves as active members of a global community.

9th grade social studies is designed to help students understand the interconnectedness of the world. Students will investigate the world and develop the knowledge and skills in history, geography, civics, and economics. The course provides students with the opportunity to explore and compare various regions and cultures through thematic units. In addition, the course enables students to investigate issues and themes from multiple perspectives using a variety of primary and secondary sources that lead to in-depth understanding.

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### Power
Students will investigate the distribution of power around the world, and the complexities that make countries more or less powerful. Students will also investigate the structures of power within different types of governments, and how these different types of governments distribute power among their population. These concepts of power will be the foundation for discussion for the remaining units throughout the year.

### Movement
Students will be able to determine how movement of people and ideas are spread throughout the world.

### Culture and Conflict
Students will investigate conflict around the world including the interdependent nature of the causes and effects.

### Resources, Environment and Population
In this unit, students will explore different environmental and resource usage issues, especially those resulting from global population growth. This exploration will culminate in students researching solutions to these issues and evaluating the best solutions to different challenges related to conservation.