

West Springfield High School 2025 - 2026

- **The West Springfield Social Studies Department Chair is: Brad Swain (2076)- btswain@fcps.edu**
 - **The Social Studies 4 curriculum (CT) leaders are:**
 - **World History and Geography I – Kaitlin Owczarski (2071)- kmowczarski@fcps.edu**
 - **World History and Geography II – Erik Lind (2075) – eolind@fcps.edu**
 - **United States and Virginia History – Tami Odgen (2059)- tdogden1@fcps.edu**
 - **United States and Virginia Government – Jason Croston (2046) jtcroston@fcps.edu**

Expectations of 10th Graders:

AP World History	AP Human Geography	World History II Honors	World History II Regular / Teamed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rigorous College-level course ● A in World History I and A/B in English 9. ● Consistent attendance ● Able to write a complex multi-paragraph essay with minimal assistance. ● Able to analyze primary and secondary sources with minimal assistance ● Independent learner who can follow directions and work independently towards meeting course demands and deadlines. ● Has strong time management skills and is able to handle the heavy workload and rigor of the course. ● Willingness to complete multiple projects (including National History Day) as well as daily homework assignments outside of class.* ● Nightly workload is estimated to be between 90-30 minutes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is it? ● It's more than WHERE places are. It's the <u>WHY and HOW</u> of humans changing the surface of the Earth! ● An <u>introductory college level class</u> ● Advised to have a B+ or higher in 7th & 8th grade BOTH Social Studies and English courses. ● Advised to have passed advanced English and Social Studies SOLs/Performance based assessments. ● Student should be able to: ● Reading non-textbook sources both inside and outside of class including news articles, journal articles, etc. <u>that are of a college reading level.</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Engage in effective class discussion both with instructor and peers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advised to have a B+ or higher in 9th grade BOTH Social Studies and English courses ● Advised to have earned a 3 or 4 on the World History I Performance based assessments. ● Expectations of reading and writing performed <u>both inside and outside of class</u> that are of higher rigor and length than standard history ● Student should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Successfully write a claim (or thesis) statement</u> and support it in more than one paragraph. ○ <u>Independently read and answer questions</u> on multi-page articles and sources. ● The honors curriculum includes challenging primary and secondary sources, requiring the development of analytical skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expectation of nightly homework averaging roughly 15-30 minutes of homework per class period. ● 1 writing assignment per quarter starting with greater support ending with independence ● In class projects required both independent work and collaboration. ● No GPA bump is available at this level.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interested in World History ● GPA bump +1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Apply content learned to real world scenarios. ○ Independently research and apply it to learned content. ● Expectations of completing homework assigned nearly nightly averaging 30-45 minutes. ● +1.0 GPA bump received at end of year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Willingness to perform multiple projects and be a frequent contributor to class discussion ● Possess time management skills that allow for successful completion of several tasks over extended time frames ● Expectation of completing homework assigned nightly, averaging roughly 30-45 minutes per period. ● Exhibits a high interest in Social Studies classes ● + .5 GPA bump received at end of year. 	
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***National History Day (NHD) is a major research project that is a requirement for students enrolled in the advanced placement program. It is completed either individually or with a small group and is largely done outside of school.**

Questions regarding World History and Geography II can be directed to Erik Lind (eolind@fcps.edu)