

SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

Philosophy:

Ours is a great nation which God has richly blessed, but we struggle with political, social and economic complexities which affect our lives, nation, and global community in countless ways. Students will be able to identify the roots of these complexities, explore their ramifications and understand God's calling on our lives to be a light to this world. In this process, students will develop critical thinking skills to examine and explore past and present societies. They will gain an understanding of political, social and economic factors which guide decision making and the results of these decisions, both positive and negative. Developing an appreciation for what makes societies unique in this vast world and celebrating how God brings us all together is significant for students to appreciate in our ever expanding global society. Students will explore their dual role as citizens of the Kingdom and citizens here in our society. Most importantly, students will develop a foundational understanding of God's sovereignty over the past, present, and future. II Chronicles 20:6b "You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations. In your hand are power and might, so that none is able to withstand you."

Goals:

1. The students will be able to recognize God's sovereignty over all time, history nation, and places.
2. The students will be able to communicate God's view of production, stewardship and personal responsibility.
3. The students will be able to express their responsibilities as a citizen of Michigan and the United States; as well as their responsibilities as a believer and Christ follower in our society.
4. The students will be able to evaluate factors guiding decision making and differentiate between positive and negative effects of current and past decisions.
5. The students will be able to demonstrate critical thinking skills appropriate at all grade levels.

6. The students will be able to demonstrated understanding of different political structures and God's ultimate authority.

7. The students will be able to identify or explain social complexities with either a local, national, and/or global perspective.