## High School Social Studies Courses

**The Background:**

Rules, Regulations, and Minimum Standards of the State Board of Education 0520-01-03-.05(1) calls for the State Board of Education to adopt curriculum standards for each subject area, grades K-12. The approved standards are to be the basis for planning instructional programs in each local school system. Section 3.205 Approved High School Courses of the State Board of Education Policy identifies those courses which have been approved by the Board for instruction across the state.

In July 2013, the SBOE approved a new set of social studies standards. The list of high school courses in board policy needs to be updated to reflect the changes to course titles to align with the new standards. The approved list of high school social studies courses in board policy also needs to be updated to reflect the changes in the courses that are currently offered, AP course titles, and course substitutions, including:

- Add Sociology to the list of courses. The board has approved standards for the Sociology course and it needs to be added to the list of approved courses.
- Remove "Modern History" from the list of courses; the content of this course is included in the World History and Geography course.
- Align the list of AP courses in board policy with the current titles and list of AP courses offered by College Board. The board does not approve standards for AP courses.
- Update the list of CTE courses that students can take to substitute to meet the graduation requirements for approved social studies courses.
- Add courses that students can take to substitute to meet the graduation requirements for approved courses. These course substitutions have been reviewed by content experts against the new social studies standards:
    - The following AP course will satisfy the graduation requirement for United States History and Geography: AP United States History.
    - The following IB courses will satisfy the graduation requirements for United States History and Geography, United States Government and Civics, and Economics: History of America I and History of America II (credits must be received in both courses).
    - AP Microeconomics and/or AP Macroeconomics would satisfy the graduation requirement for economics.
    - AP Comparative Government and Politics and AP U.S. Government and Politics would also satisfy the graduation requirement for U.S. Government.

- The following AP courses will satisfy the graduation requirement for World History and Geography: AP Human Geography, AP European History, or AP World History.
- AP Psychology will satisfy the graduation requirements for Psychology.
- IB European History will satisfy the graduation requirement for World History and Geography.

Since first reading, additional course substitutions have been added to this item, as reflected in the attached proposed changes to Board Policy 3.205.

**The Recommendation:**

The Department of Education recommends adoption of this item on final reading. The SBE staff concurs with this recommendation.