

ST. DOMINIC H.S

SOCIAL STUDIES

HONORS PROGRAM

2015-2016

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DEADLINE
Friday, OCTOBER 2, 2015

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Dear Parent,

The goal of St. Dominic High School is for every student to work to his/her full potential and achieve academic excellence. To ensure this, St. Dominic is offering to our sophomore, junior and senior Social Studies students an opportunity to receive an honors designation on their transcripts, since the class is not offered.

With a teacher recommendation, your son/daughter can participate in the Social Studies Honors Program. This program includes a rigorous project that will require time and dedication. The project will then be entered into the Long Island History Day competition held at Hofstra University. The goal is to provide each student with intellectually stimulating work that will not only help them attain the honors designation, but will provide a glimpse into college level work. The final product will then be evaluated by a committee of Social Studies teachers, along with the Social Studies Chair. This project will provide the student the opportunity to explore a topic of interest and to produce a product that reflects a mastery of both concepts and skills.

Any student that shows a continued interest for Social Studies and meets the prerequisite of a final grade of 85 the previous year may be eligible for the program with the procurement of a recommendation from a Social Studies teacher. Once the student is accepted for the program, he/she will be expected to complete and sign the honors contract, secure a mentor, and follow the calendar of required due dates. Students must adhere to the scheduled due dates of the program. It is the students obligation to be aware of and adhere to all due date. If any of the required steps have not been met by the student he/she will be terminated from continuing the project.

Students that complete the project do not automatically receive honors credit. The project must meet the conditions of the approved contract and be reviewed by the honor committee. The mentoring experience is used to help students complete the project in addition to providing an engaging opportunity to work individually with their mentor and to challenge them to grow intellectually.

The specific demands of the program are outlined in the accompanying sheets. Please complete the contract that you and your child must sign and acknowledge your acceptance to the program. I wish your son/daughter success in the program.

Sincerely,

Robert Drysielski
Social Studies Department Chairperson

THE HONORS PROGRAM IN SOCIAL STUDIES
Grades 10-12

A. Eligibility

In order to be accepted into the honors program, a student must have demonstrated a continued interest for Social Studies and must submit a recommendation for his/her previous social studies teacher. Students must have a grade of 85 or higher in their previous year of Social Studies

B. Description of Honors Projects

In order to attain the Honors designation each student must complete a project following the rules and guidelines of the National History Day Association. A student may choose to complete one of the following projects:

1. Exhibit
2. Performance
3. Web site

Students are not allowed to work in groups. Each year a theme is selected for the National History Day contest. Effective National History Day entries not only describe an event or a development, but they also analyze and place it into historical context.

C. Project Proposal

A detailed project proposal stating your topic, project type and goals of your project must be submitted. This proposal should be a clear reflection of the quality of work you intend to submit as your Honors Project. The proposal will be evaluated by your teacher/mentor and department chairperson.

TEACHER'S RECOMMENDATION
Honors Project in Social Studies

I recommend _____ for participation in the Social Studies Honors Program.

I believe this student has demonstrated, by past performance, his/her intellectual ability, as well as the necessary independence and reliability to meet deadlines and to produce a worthy honors level project.

Teacher's Signature _____

Date _____

(Additional comments may be added here):

**SOCIAL STUDIES HONORS
Teacher-Student Contract**

NAME OF STUDENT _____

TEACHER _____ **GRADE** _____

Project Description – Please attach a detailed project proposal stating your topic, project type and goals of your project. This proposal should be a clear reflection of the quality of work you intend to submit as your Honors Project. The proposal will be evaluated by your teacher/mentor and department chairperson.

The Contract:

I understand that this project will be done in conjunction with my present course instructor – his/her workload permitting. If the instructor’s honors workload does not permit his/her assuming more candidates, a student shall be assigned to an instructor within the department. Periodic meetings, which will be determined between my mentor and me, are mandatory.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM TWO OF THESE MEETINGS OR FAILURE TO PRESENT THE WORK THAT NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED FOR EACH MEETING WILL RESULT IN BEING DROPPED FROM THE PROGRAM (see accompanying calendar).

STUDENT’S SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

I have read the project packet including the letter to parents on page 3.

PARENT’S SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

MENTOR’S SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

CHAIRMAN’S SIGNATURE _____ **Date:** _____

SOCIAL STUDIES HONORS PROJECT CALENDAR

September 14 – 25, 2015	Required proposal meeting with mentor to discuss potential project ideas and readings. (Bring your own ideas and be prepared to brainstorm.)
Friday, October 2, 2015	Deadline for submission of honors project proposal, including teacher recommendations and parent signature. Absolutely no proposal will be accepted after this deadline.
Week of October 19, 2015	First required meeting with mentor. (Research and books should be presented)
Week of November 16, 2015	Second required meeting with mentor. (All research should be complete and project should begin)
Week of December 14, 2015	Third required meeting with mentor. (Project should be nearing completion.)
Tuesday, January 19, 2016	Final Project Due
February, 2016	Long Island History Day Registration deadline
March, 2016	Long Island History Day Contest

Your completed Honors Project should include the following:

Name: _____

Assignment	Date Completed	Teacher Signature
Project Proposal		
1st Meeting with Mentor		
2nd Meeting with Mentor		
3rd Meeting with Mentor		
Project Submission		
LI History Day Registration		
LI History Day Competition		