

**BROCKTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BROCKTON HIGH SCHOOL
SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

Grade 12: Ancient American Civilizations

This one semester senior elective examines the geography, history, and culture of early Americans. Students will explore the techniques and discoveries of archeologists and anthropologists to gain a greater understanding of the various civilizations including the Olmec, Maya, Inca, Aztec, Maya, Teotihuacano, and Anasazi from their origins through the era of European exploration and conquest.

In addition to the content presented in the course, emphasis will be placed on students' skill development in the literacy areas of reading, writing, speaking and reasoning. The requirements of the course have been written to reflect high expectations of student achievement in reading, writing, speaking, and reasoning.

The student's proficiency will be assessed through a variety of assessment tools which may include: quizzes; notes from readings/discussions/research; multiple choice tests; open response writing; graded discussions; oral and/or visual presentations, both individual and group; primary source analysis; debates; cooperative learning; writing and editing of essays; critiques of historical media; creative writing including poems, song lyrics, newspapers, children's books, and political cartoons; general research; journal writing; daily homework; interviews and/or surveys; departmental final exam.

Participation in National History Day is encouraged for all students in grades 9-12. Information is distributed in October or is available in the Red Social Science office.

CORE KNOWLEDGE UNITS:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL THOUGHT AND THEORY

- Classification of artifacts
- Dating methods
- Culture
- Science v. conjecture

THE PALEO-INDIAN

- Theories surrounding peopling of the Americas
- Clovis v. pre-Clovis
- Kennewick man
- Paleo lifeways and toolkit
- Big game extinction
- Agriculture
- State development

MESOAMERICAN CIVILIZATIONS

- Olmec
- Zapotec
- Teotihuacan
- Maya
- Toltec
- Aztec

SOUTH AMERICAN CIVILIZATIONS

- Early Andean cultures (Chimu, Nazca, Moche, Paracas)
- Inca

CONQUEST OF THE AZTEC AND INCA EMPIRES

- Hernan Cortes/ Francisco Pizarro
- The role of technology, interpreters and Indian allies

ANCESTRAL PUEBLOANS

- Anasazi

MOUNDBUILDERS

- Adena, Hopewell and Mississippian

THE SPANISH IN NORTH AMERICA

- Explorers, priests and conquistadors
- The Pueblo Revolt of 1680

MF/lm
05/19/06