**Social Science Department Courses**

**Junior Courses**  
**Year 9 and 10**  
All Year 9 and 10 students study four periods of Social Studies as a core subject each week. They learn to ask questions and find solutions to some of the important issues that face us locally, internationally and nationally. They will refer to prior times to ensure that they have the knowledge to make decisions and problem solve. They will learn skills and spatial awareness which will help them understand where they fit in the world. They learn about resources, people, cultures and their own place in the future world.  
  
**Senior Courses**  
**History  
Year 11- 13**  
Historians enjoy being the detectives of the information world. Imagine if you woke today and had no memory of yesterday. History is the study of how and why the past has meaning to the present. You would study History to connect with the past and imagine possible futures, consider the dilemmas and choices of people in the past and investigate your community, New Zealand and the wider world. Historians develop empathy, confidence in their ideas and beliefs, and gain highly critical thinking skills.  
  
**Geography  
Years 11 - 13**  
Geographers enjoy learning about how people use the land and the environment. Geography examines current issues involving conflict about use of the land, ranging from climate change to local town planning or land-use. Geographers also learn to develop a keen spatial awareness of the environment around them. Imagine if you woke today and had no idea of where you lived or how you fitted into the wider picture of the environment around you. Studying maps is integral to Geography and understanding peoples’ different perspectives is the human angle of Geography.