
WESLEY COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

"Wesley College Preparatory School delivers a rigorous world class education in a safe, inclusive and diverse learning environment that provides individualized learning, character development and globally aware graduates."



Curriculum Guide

2022-2023

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Home of the Polar Bears

A guide to courses, graduation requirements, and college entrance for students and parents.

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Welcome Students and Parents!

I am excited to introduce you to Wesley College Preparatory School. At Wesley College Prep, we support a rigorous academic curriculum that fulfills a college preparatory program. Our students are challenged daily to develop their intellect through focused academics while learning in an environment that nurtures their strengths and character. WCPS's mission is to deliver a rigorous world class education in a safe, inclusive and diverse learning environment that provides individualized learning, character development and globally aware graduates. Recognizing the ever-increasing importance of digital technology in the lives of students worldwide, Wesley College Preparatory School is a one-to-one school utilizing laptops and pertinent technology for instructional and digital support. Students engage in dynamic digital learning across the curriculum both in and out of the classroom. Real-time feedback provides diagnostic data to teachers that results in differentiated instruction for accelerated learners and remediation opportunities when needed. The benefit is for student learning to increase as instruction becomes more individualized. Wesley College Prep's caring faculty pour their lives into our students. They consistently bring new teaching modalities into the classroom to engage our diverse student body in the most captivating and innovative ways. WCPS's Counselors meet with students as early as junior high to develop a plan to help students identify the best academic journey and the best college match for them. At WCPS, each student is celebrated as an individual. I hope that you will join us on this extraordinary journey and see what we have to offer.

Blessings,

Mark Hamilton

Dr. Mark Hamilton,
Director of Academics

Wesley College Preparatory School

Our Mission

Wesley College Preparatory School delivers a rigorous world class education in a safe, inclusive and diverse learning environment that provides individualized learning, character development and globally aware graduates.

Our Core Values

Safety

Taking every measure to ensure the physical health and well-being of each member of our community. Creating a culture where it is safe to express oneself honestly, where every person is valued and every opinion is respected.

Excellence

We strive for continuous improvement and foster a team spirit. We always challenge ourselves and look for new opportunities to learn and grow. The work of God is excellent, and so we will reflect that excellence in all that we do.

Innovation

Creatively thinking outside of the box that results in new paradigms, approaches, or technologies. The flexibility to adapt and change to meet new challenges and arrive at new solutions.

Community

Embrace individual and cultural differences, understand civic responsibilities and democratic principles, exhibit positive Christ centered character and values in everyday life, and contribute time, skills, and talents to improve the community at large.

Learner Outcomes

The school's Learner Outcomes for Wesley College Preparatory School are as follows:

1. A productive individual in society who:

- a. Identifies and solves problems by applying critical thinking skills and mathematical reasoning
- b. Finds appropriate solutions as an individual or in collaboration with others
- c. Uses effective communications skills
- d. Actively pursues knowledge through a variety of resources incorporating the use of technology

2. An effective and informed citizen who:

- a. Interprets and responds to different sources of information
- b. Takes a positive, active role in his/her community
- c. Practices environmental responsibility

3. A culturally aware person who:

- a. Respects their own culture and appreciates cultural similarities and differences
- b. Recognizes and affirms the dignity and worth of every individual as a child of God
- c. Accepts and deals positively with human diversity

4. A self-directed learner who:

- a. Reflects upon personal and spiritual growth and development
- b. Practices good health habits and physical fitness
- c. Acquires new skills and applies new knowledge
- d. Establishes career and life-long goals
- e. Accepts personal responsibility for his/her actions

Planning Your Course of Study

Wesley College Preparatory School's academic program consists of required courses and a wide range of elective courses. The "at a glance" pages provided in this book may help make it easier to navigate through the options available. There is one page for each grade level. When meeting with the school counselor, the "at a glance" pages are a good place to start. The pages show which subjects must be taken and a range of additional elective courses.

Wesley College Preparatory School does offer a non-college preparatory track called the "general high school diploma". More information regarding the general diploma can be found toward the end of the requirements section.

REQUIREMENTS FOR 6-YEAR PROGRAM

Students are required to complete five academic classes per semester in addition to electives. The requirements listed below include students in grades 7-12.

- English—six years (required each year)
- History and Social Studies—five years
- Mathematics—five years; six years strongly recommended
- Science—five years of laboratory sciences; six years strongly recommended
- *World Languages—the completion of study of one language through level II but level III is strongly recommended; or two languages both through level II
- **Bible—six years (required each year)
- Visual or Performing Arts, grade 7 or 8—one year
- Visual or Performing Arts, grades 9, 10, 11, or 12—one full-year course or two semester courses
- College Preparatory Electives, grade 7 or 8—one year
- College Preparatory Electives, grades 9–12—six semesters
- Physical Education 7, grade 7—one year
- Physical Education 8, grade 8—one year
- Physical Education or Sports, grades 9–12—four semesters of PE or four seasons of sports or a combination thereof
- Health, grades 9–12—one semester

**Wesley College Preparatory School offers a language waiver to students in two categories. The first is for students who have educational testing that reveals a specific language-based learning disability and have demonstrated difficulty in second-language acquisition. Students or families that have had testing that they believe may qualify a student for this waiver must contact the school's counselor. The second category is for students who are already fluent in another language and have had most, if not all, of their previous educational experience in another language. This will primarily apply to international students or students who have attended a full immersion program. The counselor will determine if the waiver is granted for either of these two situations.*

***The Bible requirement may be partially waived for students who attended a non-religious school prior to attending Wesley College Preparatory School.*

SERVICE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the course requirements as listed on the previous page, all students are required to complete a minimum number of service hours per school year and participate in school service projects. Students must submit proof of community service each year while enrolled at Wesley College Preparatory School. The community service hour requirements are in addition to any community service hours that individual campus organizations may require as well. For example, students in the National Honors Society must complete the school's required community service hours PLUS the National Honors Society's community service hours. However, students may use their community service hours from non-campus organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America to fulfil the requirement. It is salient to note that community service hours are different from school service projects. Each specialized student group (grade, program, team, etc.) is assigned a specific project to complete each school year. The hours for school service are in addition to community service hours. Some examples of school service projects include murals, clean-up initiatives, assisting in building a new student area, planting a garden, and establishing a recycling program. Some of these programs take place before school while others take place after school. Students will be notified of when their group is meeting to complete their school service projects.

- Community Service, grades 7-8—10 hours per year
- Community Service, grades 9-12—20 hours per year
- School Service, grades 7-12—two times after or before school per year

COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The school's criteria for graduation (college preparatory diploma program) meet or exceed the requirements for admissions to universities and colleges in the United States to which Wesley College Preparatory School students typically apply, including those for admission to University of California (UC) system schools. Students are guided by their counselors to ensure that all requirements will be met, not only for the UC system but for any college or university to which a student seeks admission.

ADDITIONAL COURSES AND ACTIVITIES

Courses are available beyond the requirements listed above, and students are encouraged to participate in clubs and other activities.

Students who wish to take multiple Honors or Advanced Placement (AP) courses must carefully consider their total work commitments. Students who elect to enroll in AP courses must take the AP examination in that subject

Note that students are required to adhere to the following AP maximums: no more than two (2) AP courses during the sophomore year, three (3) AP courses during junior year, and four (4) AP courses during senior year. Students may elect to take additional AP courses during summer school.

Junior High School Diploma

For clarity purposes, the requirements for completing a junior high school diploma (grades 7 & 8) and qualifying for high school entrance are listed below.

Course Requirements

- English—two years
- History and Social Studies—two years
- Mathematics—two years
- Science—two years
- World Languages—not required but recommended (can count as a CPE)
- Visual or Performing Arts—one year
- *Bible—two years
- College Preparatory Electives—one year
- Physical Education or Sports—two years

**The Bible requirement may be partially waived for students who attended a non-religious school prior to attending Wesley College Preparatory School. Students must complete a Bible course for each year they attend WCPS.*

Service Requirements

- Community Service, grades 7–8—10 hours per year
- School Service, grades 7-8—two times after or before school per year

Wesley College Preparatory High School Diploma

It is assumed that all students at Wesley College Preparatory School desire to attend college. As such, all students are automatically enrolled in the college preparatory high school diploma track. This track is meant to have each student who completes it qualify for college admissions to the school of their choice. The following outlines the requirements for the college preparatory high school diploma and only refers to courses taken in grades 9-12.

Course Requirements

- English—four years
- History and Social Studies—three years
- Mathematics—three years (4 years strongly recommended)
- Science—three years of laboratory sciences (4 years strongly recommended)
- *World Languages—the completion of study of one language through level II but level III is strongly recommended; or two languages both through level II
- **Bible—four years
- Visual or Performing Arts, grades 9, 10, 11, or 12—one full-year course or two semester courses
- College Preparatory Electives, grades 9—12—six semesters
- Physical Education or Sports—four semesters of PE or four seasons of sports or a combination thereof
- Health—one semester

**Wesley College Preparatory School offers a language waiver to students in two categories. The first is for students who have educational testing that reveals a specific language-based learning disability and have demonstrated difficulty in second-language acquisition. Students or families that have had testing that they believe may qualify a student for this waiver must contact the school's counselor. The second category is for students who are already fluent in another language and have had most, if not all, of their previous educational experience in another language. This will primarily apply to international students or students who have attended a full immersion program. The counselor will determine if the waiver is granted for either of these two situations.*

***The Bible requirement may be partially waived for students who attended a non-religious school prior to attending Wesley College Preparatory School.*

Service Requirements

- Community Service, grades 9-12—20 hours per year
- School Service, grades 9-12—two times after or before school per year

General High School Diploma

For students who are not interested in attending a four-year college or university in the United States, the general high school diploma track may be the ideal path for you. The following outlines the requirements for the general high school diploma and only refers to courses taken in grades 9-12.

Course Requirements

- English—three years
- History and Social Studies—three years
- Mathematics—two years (must include Algebra I or higher)
- Science—two years of laboratory sciences (must include Biology)
- *World Languages or Visual or Performing Arts—one year or the same course
- **Bible—four years
- College Preparatory Electives, grades 9—12—six semesters
- Physical Education or Sports—four semesters of PE or four seasons of sports or a combination thereof
- Health—one semester

**World Languages waivers are not available for the general diploma track as this requirement can be fulfilled by completing a visual or performing arts course.*

***The Bible requirement may be partially waived for students who attended a non-religious school prior to attending Wesley College Preparatory School.*

Service Requirements

- Community Service, grades 9-12—20 hours per year
- School Service, grades 9-12—two times after or before school per year

University of California Entrance Requirements

- ❖ *To satisfy the Subject Requirement, students must complete the high school courses listed with a grade point average of 3.0 or above.*
- ❖ *SAT with Essay or ACT with Writing required.*
- This sequence of courses is also known as the “A-G” subject requirements. Students must complete 11 of the University of California’s 15 required college preparatory courses by the end of their junior year in high school.
- All academic courses listed under the “A-G” requirements must be passed with a grade of “C-” or higher to meet the UC entrance requirements.
- Repeats of courses in which the student earned a “C-” or better will not be counted in the grade point calculation.

A-G Minimum Subject Requirements:

- A. History/Social Science
Two years required including one year of World History plus one year of U.S. History or one semester of U.S. History and one semester of American Government.
- B. English
Four years required of college preparatory English composition/literature including no more than one year of Advanced ESL/ELD.
- C. Mathematics
Three years required (four years recommended) including first year Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II. Mathematics courses taken in seventh and eighth grade may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if the high school accepts as equivalent to its own courses.
- D. Laboratory Science
Two years required (three years recommended) including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.
- E. Language Other Than English
Two years required (three years recommended) of the same language other than English.
- F. Visual and Performing Arts
One year required of Art, Music, Dance, or Drama (must see approved list).
- G. College Preparatory Elective
In addition to the requirements above, one year long course is required from any area on the approved “A-G” course list.

Private Colleges and Universities Admission Requirements

- ❖ Graduation from an accredited high school.
- ❖ Subject Requirements: Most colleges usually require 15 or 16 units of study from an accredited high school, not including Physical Education.
- ❖ Entrance requirements vary widely among private universities. Check individual college websites for precise requirement information. Please also speak with your counselor to find out each college's information.
- ❖ Another factor in the selection process is college testing. The SAT with Essay or ACT with Writing exam is required by most private schools; however, refer to the individual college website or speak with your counselor for updated information.
- ❖ Most private schools may require at least two SAT subject exams.
- ❖ A personal interview is sometimes required as part of the application process for some prestigious schools.

The courses of study are generally as follows:

- A. English – 4 years
- B. Mathematics – 2 to 4 years
- C. Social Science – 1 to 3 years
- D. Laboratory Science – 1 to 4 years
- E. Foreign Language – 0 to 4 years
- F. Other units to fulfill minimal requirement

California State University Admission Requirements

- ❖ Admission Offices at the 23 campuses use three factors to determine eligibility. Most applicants who are admitted need to meet the standards in each of the following areas:
 - Specific high school courses (referred to as the “A-G” courses)
 - Grades in “A-G” courses and SAT/ACT Tests Scores.
 - Graduation from high school.
- ❖ Many CSU campuses have higher standards for particular majors or for students who live outside of the local admission area. Because of the number of students who apply, several campuses have higher standards and supplementary admission criteria for all applicants. Please speak with your counselor for more information.
- ❖ Language Waiver: If a student can demonstrate competency in a language other than English that is equivalent to or higher than that expected of students who have completed two years of language other than English study, students may be allowed a waiver for this language requirement. Please contact the CSU campus or speak with your counselor for more information.
- ❖ Please note that California residents receive priority over non-Californian residents whenever admissions space is limited.

A-G Minimum Subject Requirements:

- A. History/Social Science
Two years required including one year of World History plus one year of U.S. History or one semester of U.S. History and one semester of American Government.
- B. English
Four years required of college preparatory English composition/literature required including no more than one year of Advanced ESL/ELD.
- C. Mathematics
Three years required (four years recommended) including first year Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II. Mathematics courses taken in seventh and eighth grade may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if the high school accepts as equivalent to its own courses.
- D. Laboratory Science
Two years required (three years recommended) of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

- E. Language Other Than English
Two years required (three years recommended) of the same language other than English.
- F. Visual and Performing Arts
One year required of Art, Music, Dance, or Drama (must see approved list).
- G. College Preparatory Elective
In addition to the requirements above, one yearlong course is required from any area on the approved "A-G" course list.

7th Grade at a Glance

REQUIREMENTS

Courses

- *English*—English 7
- *History and Social Studies*—Geography
- *Mathematics*—Placement is determined by the department
- *Science*—Science 7
- Bible—Bible 7
- *Performing or Visual Arts*—At least one year taken in either seventh or eighth grade
- *Physical Education*—Physical Education 7
- *World Languages*—Not required but recommended to begin before high school. Courses available include Spanish, French, German, Latin, and Chinese. Please note that some courses may only be available online.

Service

- *Campus Service*—Two times after school
- *Community Service*—Ten outreach hours

8th Grade at a Glance

REQUIREMENTS

Courses

- *English*—English 8
- *History and Social Studies*—U.S. History 8
- *Mathematics*—Placement is determined by the department
- *Science*—Science 8
- Bible—Bible 8
- *Performing or Visual Arts*—At least one year taken in either seventh or eighth grade
- *Physical Education*—Physical Education 8
- *World Languages*—Not required but recommended to begin before high school. Courses available include Spanish, French, German, Latin, and Chinese. Please note that some courses may only be available online.

Service

- *Campus Service*—Two times after school
- *Community Service*—Ten outreach hours

9th Grade at a Glance

REQUIREMENTS

Courses

- *English*—English 9
- *History and Social Studies*—World History (may be taken in the 10th grade)
- *Mathematics*—Placement is determined by the department
- *Science*—Physical Science or Biology
- *World Languages*— Courses available include Spanish, French, German, Latin, and Chinese. Please note that some courses may only be available online. In most cases, students continue to study the language chosen in junior high, but have the option to add a second language if they intend to fulfill the World Languages requirement by studying two languages through level two.
- *Bible*—Bible 9
- *Visual or Performing Arts*—one full year during grades 9-12.
- *Physical Education*—four semesters of Physical Education credit earned while in grades 9–12; two semesters in grade 9 strongly recommended. Students in ninth grade can earn credit by taking Physical Education 9 and/or a Dance class and/or by participating on a sports team (see the Athletics section for a complete description of the program options).
- *College Preparatory Electives*—six semesters of College Preparatory Electives credit while in grades 9-12.

Service

Community Service—Twenty outreach hours

School Service—Two times after school

10th Grade at a Glance

REQUIREMENTS

Courses

- *English*—English 10 (World Literature)
- *History and Social Studies*—World History (may be taken in the 9th grade)
- *Mathematics*—Placement is determined by the department
- *Science*—Biology or Chemistry
- *World Languages*— Courses available include Spanish, French, German, Latin, and Chinese. Please note that some courses may only be available online. In most cases, students continue to study the language chosen in junior high, but have the option to add a second language if they intend to fulfill the World Languages requirement by studying two languages through level two.
- *Bible*—Bible 10
- *Visual or Performing Arts*—one full year during grades 9-12.
- *Physical Education*—four semesters of Physical Education credit earned while in grades 9–12. Students in tenth grade can earn credit by taking Physical Education 10 and/or a Dance class and/or by participating on a sports team (see the Athletics section for a complete description of the program options).
- *College Preparatory Electives*—six semesters of College Preparatory Electives credit while in grades 9-12; two semesters in grade 10 are strongly recommended.

Service

- *Community Service*—Twenty outreach hours
- *School Service*—Two times after school

11th Grade at a Glance

REQUIREMENTS

Courses

- *English*—English 11 (American Literature)
- *History and Social Studies*—U.S. History
- *Mathematics*—Placement is determined by the department
- *Science*—Chemistry or Physics
- *World Languages*—Courses available include Spanish, French, German, Latin, and Chinese. Please note that some courses may only be available online.
- *Bible*—Bible 11
- *Visual or Performing Arts*—one full year during grades 9-12.
- *Physical Education*—four semesters of Physical Education credit earned while in grades 9–12. Students in eleventh grade can earn credit by taking Physical Education 11 and/or a Dance class and/or by participating on a sports team (see the Athletics section for a completed description of the program options).
- *College Preparatory Electives*—six semesters of College Preparatory Electives credit while in grades 9-12; two semesters in grade 11 are strongly recommended.

Service

- *Community Service*—Twenty outreach hours
- *School Service*—Two times after school

12th Grade at a Glance

REQUIREMENTS

Courses

- *English*—English 12 (British Literature)
- *History and Social Studies*—U.S. Government & Economics
- *Mathematics*—Placement is determined by the department
- *Science*—Physics or Science Elective
- *World Languages*—Courses available include Spanish, French, German, Latin, and Chinese. Please note that some courses may only be available online.
- *Bible*—Bible 12
- *Visual or Performing Arts*—one full year during grades 9-12.
- *Physical Education*—four semesters of Physical Education credit earned while in grades 9–12. Students in twelfth grade can earn credit by taking Physical Education 12 and/or a Dance class and/or by participating on a sports team (see the Athletics section for a complete description of the program options).
- *Health*—one semester; students may take this course at any time during grades 9-12.
- *College Preparatory Electives*—six semesters of College Preparatory Electives credit while in grades 9-12; two semesters or more in grade 12 are strongly recommended.

Service

- *Community Service*—Twenty outreach hours
- *School Service*—Two times after school

General Course List for 2021-2022

A **History/ Social Studies**

- U.S History
- U.S Government and Politics
- World Geography
- World History
- Geography and World Cultures
- Honors U.S History
- Honors U.S Government and Politics
- Honors World History and Geography
- AP Government and Politics
- AP United States History
- AP World History
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Psychology

B **English**

- English 7
- English 8
- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12
- Expository Writing
- Honors English 9
- Honors English 11
- Honors English 12
- AP English Language and Composition
- AP English Literature and Composition

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Mathematics

- Algebra I
- Algebra II
- Geometry
- Pre-Calculus
- Statistics and Probability
- Liberal Art Mathematics 1
- Honors Algebra I
- Honors Algebra II
- Honors Geometry
- Honors Precalculus
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics

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Laboratory Science

- Biology
- Physics
- Physical Science
- Physics in the Universe
- Chemistry
- Chemistry in Earth Systems
- Earth Science
- Environmental Studies
- Honors Biology
- Honors Chemistry
- Honors Physics
- Honors Earth Science
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Environmental Science

E**Language Other Than English**

- Chinese I
- Chinese II
- French I
- French II
- German I
- German II
- Latin I
- Latin II
- Spanish I
- Spanish II
- Spanish III
- AP French Language and Culture
- AP Spanish Language and Culture

F**Visual and Performing Arts**

- Art Appreciation
- Digital Arts I
- Digital Arts II
- Music Appreciation
- Art History

G

College-Preparatory Elective

- Explore Computer Science
- College and Career Preparation, I
- College and Career Preparation II
- Physical Education
- Health Education
- Financial Algebra
- Statistics and Probability
- Bridge Math
- Liberal Arts Mathematics 1
- Liberal Arts Mathematics 2
- Creative Writing
- Media Literacy
- Reading
- Writing Skills and Strategies
- Ethnic Studies
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Financial Literacy
- Legal Environment of Business
- Accounting I
- Accounting II
- Business Applications
- Computer Applications
- Human Resources Principles
- Information Technology Application
- Introduction to Business and Technology
- Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance
- Principles of Health Science
- Principles of Information Technology
- Bible 7
- Bible 8
- Bible 9
- Bible 10
- Bible 11
- Bible 12/ World Religion

Course Description

Department of English

English 7

This course has goals for the areas of reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language to make students able to read and write confidently in all subject areas. The students will continue to develop their research skills by drawing evidence from different texts that support their own writing.

English 8

This course will continue to develop students' reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Students will be learning significant pieces of literature and begin practicing several styles of writing, hold meaningful discussions, practice grammar, and expand vocabulary.

English 9

This freshman level course is designed based on state standards in literature integrated with conventions of language taught in context and through supplementary texts and resources. The students are exposed to a wide range of classical and modern literature in all genres. All literature will be discussed through students' individual understanding and related to their own lives and others.

English 10

This sophomore level course extends the issues, values taught in English 9. Students will enhance their interpretive skills and will learn to relate the meanings inherent in literature to themselves, as well as others. This course will also challenge students to enlarge their views of a culturally diverse world.

English 11

This junior level course continues to extend the issues, values taught in both English 9 and 10. It will mainly focus on historical context which examines the diverse and changing culture of the United States. Students will be exposed to a variety of literature in all genres. Students are also expected to perform critical thinking, analytical writing, formal and persuasive speaking in this course.

English 12

This senior level course focuses on both expository writing in several genres, and literature reading in all content areas. Students will be exposed to literature as an integral part of the human experience of a time period. Students will also learn how art and literature related to each other and the world they live in today.

Expository Writing

In Expository Writing, students delve into the power and potential of the English language. Reading and writing assignments explore relevant and universal themes including war, human rights, cultural awareness, and humans' relationships with the environment, the media, and technology. By reading and evaluating seminal speeches, essays, and stories, students learn how writing is used to explain, persuade, and entertain. Students develop and practice expressing their own ideas in four types of essays: compare and contrast, persuasive, evaluative, and explanatory.

Honors English 9

English 9 Honors is an overview of exemplar selections of literature in fiction and nonfiction genres. Students read short stories, poems, a full-length novel, a full-length Shakespeare play, and two book-length outside readings of their choice. For all readings, students analyze the use of elements of literature in developing character, plot, and theme. For example, in selected stories, students compare the effect of setting on tone and character development.

Honors English 11

In English 11 Honors, students examine the belief systems, events, and literature that have shaped the United States. They begin by studying the language of independence and the system of government developed by Thomas Jefferson and other enlightened thinkers. Next, they explore how the Romantics and Transcendentalists emphasized the power and responsibility of the individual in both supporting and questioning the government. Students consider whether the American Dream is still achievable and examine the Modernists' disillusionment with the idea that America is a "land of opportunity."

Honors English 12

The English 12 Honors course asks students to closely analyze British literature and world literature and consider how we humans define and interact with the unknown, the monstrous, and the heroic. In the epic poems *The Odyssey*, *Beowulf*, and *The Inferno*, in Shakespeare's *Tempest*, in the satire of Swift, and in the rhetoric of World War II, students examine how the ideas of "heroic" and "monstrous" have been defined across cultures and time periods and how the treatment of the "other" can make monsters or heroes of us all.

AP Language and Composition

This course will prepare 11th grade students for the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Exam as well as college level thinking, reading and writing. Students are expected to become skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines and rhetorical contexts. They will write different types of essays including rhetorical analysis, synthesis essays and argumentative essays. Students may take this course in the 12th grade with permission from the counseling department.

AP Literature and Composition

This course will prepare 12th grade students for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Exam as well as preparing them for college level thinking, reading and writing. Students will read and analyze selected American, British novels, plays and poetry. Students are expected to write in depth analysis and orally present their works. Substantial and intensive readings and writings are required. Students may take this course in the 11th grade with permission from the counseling department.

Department of Bible Studies

Bible 7

Students are introduced to Christianity and examine the major themes and stories of the Old Testament of the Christian Bible. Schoolwide service projects are completed through this Bible course. Students are also required to submit their yearly community service hours proof/records to their Bible teacher.

Bible 8

This course builds upon the previous course in that students continue to explore the major themes and stories of the New Testament of the Christian Bible. Schoolwide service projects are completed through this Bible course. Students are also required to submit their yearly community service hours proof/records to their Bible teacher.

Bible 9

This course is an introduction to Biblical literature with an emphasis on the canonical New Testament Gospels in their literary, sociological, historical, and religious contexts. In addition to interpreting Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John for narrative meaning, the course will also address the contributions these books make to the historical development of the Christian faith as well as diverse sectarian responses. Through the course, students will analyze the Sermon on the Mount, the parables of Jesus Christ, the Lord's Prayer, and the passion narratives of Jesus Christ as reactions and responses to Roman imperialism and occupation. This course prepares students to engage in interpretative practices with the frameworks and vocabulary necessary for upper level literary, historical, and religious studies. Students will understand and articulate the importance of the canonical New Testament Gospels in historical and modern Christian teachings and practices as well as their cultural contributions to modern history, literature, and politics. Schoolwide service projects are completed through this Bible course. Students are also required to submit their yearly community service hours proof/records to their Bible teacher.

Bible 10

The primary goal of this course is for students to acquire appropriate frameworks for engaging theological questions through the vehicle of literary analysis. Students will examine a variety of organizational structures in composing non-fiction writing and mastering skills of matching purpose and structure. From cause/effect to comparison/contrast, students will collect a variety of organizational tools from which they can draw when composing their own written responses to various writing prompts. Through writing, students will synthesize multiple sources and genre of information to provide historical, biographical, and theological analyses of diverse texts. Students explore the quest for orthodoxy, Christian history and the Eastern church, modernism and orthodoxy, postmodernism and orthodoxy, as well as denominational difference and church unity. Schoolwide service projects are completed through this Bible course. Students are also required to submit their yearly community service hours proof/records to their Bible teacher.

Bible 11

This course focuses on the New Testament of the Christian Bible, as well as foundational and seminal works in Christianity. Students explore Christian philosophy and theology through examining the Euthyphro dilemma, epistemology, philosophical theology, consciousness, determinism, compatibilism, Libertarian free will, determining what is evil, as well as ethics. Throughout the course each student will develop a framework within which to reflect upon his or her own philosophy of life and be better prepared to engage in critical thinking and philosophical discussions with others. Schoolwide service projects are completed through this Bible course. Students are also required to submit their yearly community service hours proof/records to their Bible teacher.

Bible 12/ World Religions

This course is an analysis of major world religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity) from a Christian perspective. Students explore the diversity of ideas stemming from the major theological tenets and practices of religions around the world in order to develop a deeper appreciation for the diversity and commonality of religious life in groups, cultures, and historical time periods. Readings include selections from the Christian Bible, the Tanakh, the Quran, the Baghidavita, historical texts, and seminal theological works. Schoolwide service projects are completed through this Bible course. Students are also required to submit their yearly community service hours proof/records to their Bible teacher.

Department of History and Social Sciences

US History

This course is designed for 11th grade students. Students will review the material from the 17th century to the 20th century with major topics in the beginning. The time period will shift to the decades of the 1920s and onward to present day history. Students will develop critical reading skills and analyze their thoughts with primary and secondary sources.

U.S. Government and Politics

In U.S. Government and Politics, students examine the history, principles, and function of the political system established by the U.S. Constitution. Starting with a basic introduction to the role of government in society and the philosophies at the heart of American democracy, this course provides students with the knowledge needed to be informed and empowered participants in the U.S. political system.

World Geography

World Geography offers a tightly focused and scaffolded curriculum that enables students to explore how geographical features, human relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts have developed and influenced life in countries around the world. Throughout the course students analyze geographic information such as maps, photographs, and demographic statistics. They also describe and evaluate the influence of globalization. To scaffold their analysis, students are given rigorous instruction on how to read and create maps, charts, and graphs.

World History

This course is designed for 9th and 10th grade students to explore the development of the modern countries in Europe, North America, Middle East, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Students will be exposed to the historical context in different periods and are expected to analyze the events related to their lives today.

Geography and World Cultures

Geography and World Cultures offers a tightly focused and scaffolded curriculum that enables students to explore how geographic features, human relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts have developed and influenced life in countries around the world. Along the way, students are given rigorous instruction on how to read maps, charts, and graphs, and how to create them.

Honors U.S. History

U.S. History Honors traces the nation's history from the precolonial period to the present. Students learn about the Native American, European, and African peoples who lived in North America before a large part of it became the United States. They examine the beliefs and philosophies that informed the American Revolution and the subsequent formation of the government and political system. Students investigate the economic, cultural, and social motives for the nation's expansion, as well as the conflicting notions of liberty that eventually resulted in a civil war. The course describes the emergence of the United States as an industrial nation and then focuses on its role in modern world affairs.

Honors U.S. Government and Politics

In U.S. Government and Politics Honors, students examine the history, principles, and function of the political system established by the U.S. Constitution. Starting with a basic introduction to the role of government in society and the philosophies at the heart of American democracy, this course provides students with the knowledge needed to be informed and empowered participants in the U.S. political system.

Honors World History and Geography

In World History Honors, students learn to see the world today as the product of a process that began thousands of years ago, when humans became a speaking, traveling, and trading species. Through historical analysis grounded in primary sources, case studies, and research, students investigate the continuity and change of human culture, governments, economic systems, and social structures.

AP Government and Politics

AP U.S. Government and Politics studies the operations and structure of the U.S. government and the behavior of the electorate and politicians. Students will gain the analytic perspective necessary to critically evaluate political data, hypotheses, concepts, opinions, and processes. Along the way, they'll learn how to gather data about political behavior and develop their own theoretical analysis of American politics. They'll also build the skills they need to examine general propositions about government and politics, and to analyze the specific relationships between political, social, and economic institutions. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. Government and Politics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in political science, law, education, business, and history.

AP World History

This course will prepare students in the college level World History course. Students will have accelerated coverage and handling of the regular World History knowledge. There will be heavy emphasis on critical thinking, speaking, researching and writing. Students should not take this course unless they have already completed the standard or Honors World History first. Students should also be concurrently enrolled in an honors-level English course.

AP Macroeconomics

AP Macroeconomics students learn why and how the world economy can change from month to month, how to identify trends in our economy, and how to use those trends to develop performance measures and predictors of economic growth or decline. They'll also examine how individuals, institutions, and influences affect people, and how those factors can impact everyone's life through employment rates, government spending, inflation, taxes, and production.

AP Microeconomics

AP Microeconomics studies the behavior of individuals and businesses as they exchange goods and services in the marketplace. Students will learn why the same product costs different amounts at different stores, in different cities, at different times. They'll also learn to spot patterns in economic behavior and how to use those patterns to explain buyer and seller behavior under various conditions. Microeconomics studies the economic way of thinking, understanding the nature and function of markets, the role of scarcity and competition, the influence of factors such as interest rates on business decisions, and the role of government in promoting a healthy economy.

AP Psychology

AP Psychology provides an overview of current psychological research methods and theories. Students will explore the therapies used by professional counselors and clinical psychologists and examine the reasons for normal human reactions: how people learn and think, the process of human development and human aggression, altruism, intimacy, and self-reflection. They will study core psychological concepts, such as the brain and sense functions, and learn to gauge human reactions, gather information, and form meaningful syntheses. Along the way, students will also investigate relevant concepts like study skills and information retention.

Department of Mathematics

Algebra I

This course challenges students to develop transitional first year algebra skills and apply them to complex problems. Students will begin to learn at an accelerated pace and think critically in different problem-solving strategies. Students are expected to become proficient in the mechanics of a given topic and, in its application, to word problems.

Algebra II

This course provides a study of second-year algebra with greater breadth, depth, and rigor than Algebra II with Analysis. Topics include polynomial equations and inequalities; functions and their inverses; linear, quadratic, polynomial, and rational functions and their graphs; logarithmic and exponential functions; sequences and series; conics; and systems of equations, including matrix solutions. Graphing calculators are used to reinforce students' understanding of concepts.

Geometry

This course combines the uses of basic algebra skills and applies it to geometry concepts. Topics include congruent triangles, parallel lines, quadrilaterals and other polygons, the Pythagorean theorem, similar figures, circles, area, volume, coordinate geometry, an introduction to right-triangle trigonometry, and constructions. Students develop deductive reasoning skills through the use of proofs. Computer and/or other hands-on laboratory activities may be used to explore and discover geometric concepts.

Precalculus

This course is open to students with exceptional algebra and geometry skills who show creativity in solving problems, enjoy mathematics, and are interested in exploring the subject in depth. Students study polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Other topics include De Moivre's theorem, sequences and series, analytic geometry, conic sections, parametric and polar equations, and matrices and determinants. Graphing calculators help extend each student's ability to explore and to do more interesting and difficult problems.

Statistics and Probability

Probability and Statistics provides a curriculum focused on understanding key data analysis and probabilistic concepts, calculations, and relevance to real-world applications. Students are challenged to work toward mastery of computational skills, apply calculators and other technology in data analysis, deepen their understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and extend their knowledge through a variety of problem-solving applications.

Liberal Art Mathematics 1

Liberal Arts Mathematics 1 addresses the need for an elective course that focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Mathematics 1 starts with a review of problem-solving skills before moving on to a variety of key algebraic, geometric, and statistical concepts. Throughout the course, students hone their computational skills and extend their knowledge through problem solving and real-world applications.

Honors Algebra I

Honors Algebra I builds a deep understanding of linear, quadratic, and exponential relationships. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations. Course topics include an introduction to functions and problem solving, measurement; problem solving with basic equations and formulas, linear equations and systems of linear equations, exponents and exponential functions, sequences and functions, descriptive statistics, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations and functions, and function transformations and inverses.

Honors Algebra II

Honors Algebra II introduces students to advanced functions, with a focus on developing a strong conceptual grasp of the expressions that define them. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations. Course topics include quadratic equations, polynomial functions, rational expressions and equations, radical expressions and equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric identities and functions, modeling with functions, probability and inferential statistics, probability distributions, and sample distributions and confidence intervals.

Honors Geometry

Honors Geometry builds upon students' command of geometric relationships and formulating mathematical arguments. Students learn through discovery and application, developing the skills they need to break down complex challenges and demonstrate their knowledge in new situations.

Honors Precalculus

Precalculus Honors is a comprehensive course that weaves together previous study of algebra, geometry, and functions into a preparatory course for calculus. The course focuses on the mastery of critical skills and exposure to new skills necessary for success in subsequent math courses. The first semester includes linear, quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, radical, polynomial, and rational functions; systems of equations; and conic sections. The second semester covers trigonometric ratios and functions; inverse trigonometric functions; applications of trigonometry, including vectors and laws of cosine and sine; polar functions and notation; and arithmetic of complex numbers.

AP Calculus AB

This course is designed to prepare students for the college level Calculus class. Topics include the algebra of functions and advanced graphing techniques, limits and continuity, the derivative and its applications, techniques of differentiation for the elementary functions, area under a curve, integrals and their applications, and the fundamental theorem of calculus. Concepts are presented on an intuitive level without rigorous proof. A graphing calculator is used throughout the year

AP Calculus BC

This course prepares students with an in-depth understanding of college level Calculus class. Topics include the precise definition of limits and continuity, the derivative, techniques of differentiation for the elementary functions, application of the derivative, area under a curve, integrals and the fundamental theorem, numerical methods of integration, integration techniques and applications, analysis of parametric and polar curves, improper integrals, vector-valued functions, infinite series, and elementary differential equations. Students must know the language of functions and be familiar with the properties, algebra, and graphs of functions.

AP Statistics

This course is designed to prepare students for the college level Statistics course as well as the Advanced Placement in May. Students are introduced to major concepts of statistics and probability. Topics include the representation of data using graphing techniques and numerical summaries; the collection of data including sampling and experimentation; exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation, making statistical inferences. Students will be involved in interpreting real world events using statistical methods and critical skills.

Department of Science

Biology

This course is a laboratory-based overview of the fundamentals of biology. Students will combine their laboratory skills and terminology knowledge as they continue to collect and analyze data. Students gain proficiency with a microscope and are introduced to techniques of dissecting specimens and performing physiological experiments. The course helps students make informed decisions regarding the biological issues that society faces.

Physics

This college prep course includes a study of the fundamental concepts of vectors, motion, force, energy, power, and their measurements. Students will also study optics, electricity, magnetism, and the theories used to explain them. Laws of natural processes are studied and extensive use of mathematical functions, which describe them, are included. Students will develop projects and build them at home to demonstrate major physics concepts.

Physical Science

This introductory course investigates the fundamentals of Physics, Chemistry, Astronomy, and Earth Science. Math skills will be called upon as force, motion, and energy are investigated. The class also incorporates topics concerning the physical processes on earth, and the motions, characteristics, and forces in space.

Physicist in the Universe

Physics of the Universe integrates physics with Earth and space science. Throughout the course, students apply fundamental physics concepts to better understand the impact of human activities on Earth's systems and how forces, energy, and matter interact throughout the universe. Course topics include electricity and magnetism, energy consumption and resources, dynamics, momentum and gravitation, waves, cosmology, and an exploration of Earth's physical systems.

Chemistry

This course is designed for the college prep student. Subject areas to be studied are those outlined by the California State Content Standards for Chemistry. They include atomic and molecular structure, including bonding; properties of matter, including characteristics of gases, acids, bases and solutions; laws of nature; energy; chemical reactions; and the mathematical understanding of chemical processes.

Chemistry in Earth Systems

Chemistry in the Earth System integrates chemistry with biology and Earth science. Throughout the course, students apply fundamental chemistry concepts to better understand how matter and energy interact in the natural and designed world, how human activities impact Earth's systems, and how science can be used to develop new technologies and engineering solutions.

Earth Science

This course provides students with a comprehensive earth science curriculum, focusing on geology, oceanography, astronomy, weather, and climate. The program consists of in-depth online lessons, an associated reference book, collaborative activities, and laboratories students can conduct at home. The course prepares students for further studies in geology, meteorology, oceanography, and astronomy courses, and gives them practical experience in implementing scientific methods.

Environmental Studies

This course surveys key topic areas, including the application of scientific process to environmental analysis; ecology; energy flow; ecological structures; earth systems; and atmospheric, land, and water science. Topics also include the management of natural resources and analysis of private and governmental decisions involving the environment. Students explore actual case studies and conduct five hands-on, unit-long research activities, learning that political and private decisions about the environment and the use of resources require accurate application of scientific processes, including proper data collection and responsible conclusions.

Honors Biology

Biology is an in-depth course that furthers mastery of scientific skills, fosters a deep understanding of key concepts, and promotes the application of the scientific method to biological topics. The course begins with an introduction to the nature of science and biology, including the major themes of structure and function, matter and energy flow, systems, and the interconnectedness of life. Students then apply those themes to the structure and function of the cell, cellular metabolism, and biogeochemical cycles.

Honors Chemistry

Chemistry offers a curriculum that emphasizes students' understanding of fundamental chemistry concepts while helping them acquire tools to be conversant in a society highly influenced by science and technology. The course provides students with opportunities to learn and practice critical scientific skills within the context of relevant scientific questions. Topics include the nature of science, the importance of chemistry to society, atomic structure, bonding in matter, chemical reactions, redox reactions, electrochemistry, phases of matter, equilibrium and kinetics, acids and bases, thermodynamics, quantum mechanics, nuclear reactions, organic chemistry, and alternative energy.

Honors Physics

Physics offers a curriculum that emphasizes students' understanding of fundamental physics concepts while helping them acquire tools to be conversant in a society highly influenced by science and technology. The course provides students with opportunities to learn and practice critical scientific skills within the context of relevant scientific questions. Topics include the nature of science, math for physics, energy, kinematics, force and motion, momentum, gravitation, chemistry for physics, thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, waves, nuclear physics, quantum physics, and cosmology.

Honors Earth Science

Earth Science Honors offers a focused curriculum that explores Earth's composition, structure, processes, and history; its atmosphere, freshwater, and oceans; and its environment in space. Course topics include an exploration of the major cycles that affect every aspect of life, including weather, climate, air movement, tectonics, volcanic eruptions, rocks, minerals, geologic history, Earth's environment, sustainability, and energy resources. Optional teacher-scored labs and projects encourage students to apply the scientific method. Other activities, such as practices and journals, challenge students to explore topics more deeply in order to enhance students' understanding of core concepts.

AP Biology

This course is a rigorous and deep examination of biology to prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Biology exam. Subject matter will focus on biochemistry, cellular biology, cell and molecular genetics, evolution, heredity, diversity of life, ecology and the structure and function of plants and animals. This class is designed to parallel freshman biology courses at the college level in its scope.

AP Chemistry

This course is designed for those students who would like to apply for AP Chemistry following the completion of biology and chemistry. Students will study the topics outlined in regular Chemistry in greater depth and with more extensive use of mathematics. In addition, students will study nomenclature, chemical reaction rates and nuclear chemistry. Labs will be more in depth and require more analysis. Students must have completed AP Biology or Honors Biology before enrolling in this course. It is recommended that students have completed Algebra II or higher before enrolling in this advanced course.

AP Environmental Science

This course is designed to prepare students for the college level Environmental Science course. It provides students with the scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them.

Department of Foreign Languages

Chinese I (Mandarin)

This course is the beginning class for students to learn Chinese. It focuses upon the building of a basic vocabulary and using these words correctly in oral and written expression. Emphasis is placed upon using the language in class in order to develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Simple stories and dialogues are read to reinforce vocabulary and to introduce students to the culture. Students will have an opportunity to travel abroad and participate in the Peking University's Chinese Program.

Chinese II (Mandarin)

This course is the second-year class for students to enhance their Chinese learning. It is designed to develop progressive ability in reading, writing, speaking and understanding the target language. Emphasis will be on fluency in conversation, development of discussion skills, word study, and reading of literary works for meaning and comprehension. Students will have an opportunity to travel abroad and participate in the Peking University's Chinese Program.

French I

This course is the beginning class for students to learn French. It focuses upon the building of a basic vocabulary and using these words correctly in oral and written expression. Emphasis is placed upon using the language in class in order to develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will learn to communicate with each other and carry-on simple conversations.

French II

This course is the second-year class for students to enhance their French learning. It focuses upon increasing usage of the oral and written language, enabling students to understand more complicated aspects of the target language. Emphasis is placed upon using the language in class by both the teacher and the students in order to expand skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing

German I

This course is the beginning class for students to learn German. It focuses upon the building of a basic vocabulary and using these words correctly in oral and written expression. Emphasis is placed upon using the language in class in order to develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will learn to communicate with each other and carry-on simple conversations.

German II

This course is the second-year German class which focuses upon increasing usage of the oral and written language, enabling students to understand more complicated aspects of the target language. Stories, short books and authentic works of literature are read to reinforce vocabulary, grammar and idiomatic expressions and to introduce students to more subtle aspects of the culture.

Students will communicate with each other in longer and more sustained conversations, as well as in making presentations to the class.

Latin I

This course is the beginning class for students to learn Latin. It is an intensive course for students with no previous world-language experience and students who want to start a new language is designed to give a solid introduction to the Latin language and Roman culture.

Latin II

This course is designed to prepare students to improve their reading and analytical skills by progressing toward original Latin texts. Vocabulary skills are improved with emphasis on derivational morphology. Advanced grammatical concepts are covered in detail. Cultural projects cover Roman politics and literature, preparing students to read the texts assigned in more advanced courses.

Spanish I

This course is the beginning class for students to learn Spanish. It focuses upon the building of a basic vocabulary and using these words correctly in oral and written expression. Emphasis is placed upon using the language in class in order to develop skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Students will learn to communicate with each other and carry-on simple conversations.

Spanish II

This course is the second-year Spanish class which focuses upon increasing usage of the oral and written language, enabling students to understand more complicated aspects of the target language. Stories, short books and authentic works of literature are read to reinforce vocabulary, grammar and idiomatic expressions and to introduce students to more subtle aspects of the culture.

Students will communicate with each other in longer and more sustained conversations, as well as in making presentations to the class.

Spanish III

This course is designed for students entering the third level of Spanish learning. It is designed to develop progressive ability in reading, writing, speaking and understanding the target language. Emphasis will be on fluency in conversation, development of discussion skills, word study, and reading of literary works for meaning and comprehension. Works of authors will be read and critically analyzed, and students will learn the culture and customs of the people through reading and class discussions.

AP French Language and Culture

This course prepares students for the AP French Language and Culture exam, it is rigorous and proceeds at a fast pace. Vocabulary and grammar are reviewed, and proficiency in listening, reading, speaking, and writing in French is achieved. Skills are practiced in interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational modes. French cultural events also are review.

AP Spanish Language and Culture

This course prepares students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture exam, it is rigorous and proceeds at a fast pace. Vocabulary and grammar are reviewed, and proficiency in listening, reading, speaking, and writing in Spanish is achieved. Skills are practiced in interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational modes. Spanish cultural events also are

Department of Visual & Performing Arts

Art Appreciation

This course is an art survey course designed to increase knowledge and appreciation of the visual arts. Students focus on interpreting and evaluating works of art within formal, cultural, and historical contexts, as well as exploring a survey view of art history from prehistoric to contemporary, including a deeper look at global artworks. Students will also participate in a variety of art applications to experience and better understand the process of creating art.

Digital Arts 1

This course provides students to learn the elements and principles of design as well as foundational concepts of visual communication. While surveying a variety of media and art, students use image editing, animation, and digital drawing to put into practice the art principles they've learned. Students explore career opportunities in the design, production, display, and presentation of digital artwork. Students will also respond to the artwork of others and learn how to combine artistic elements to create finished pieces that effectively communicate their ideas.

Digital Arts 2

This course is the second-year course for students to continue to build on the skills and concepts they learned in Digital Arts I as they develop their vocabulary of digital design elements. By the end of the course, they have created a collection of digital art projects for their digital design portfolio.

Art History

Art History is a survey of the history of Western visual arts, with a primary focus on painting. Students begin with an introduction to the basic principles of painting and learn how to critique and compare works of art. Students then explore prehistoric and early Greek and Roman art before they move on to the Middle Ages. Emphasis is placed on the Renaissance and the principles and masters that emerged in Italy and northern Europe. Students continue their art tour with the United States during the 20th century, a time of great innovation as abstract art took center stage. While Western art is the course's primary focus, students will finish the course by studying artistic traditions from Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas.

Music Appreciation

Music Appreciation introduces students to the history, theory, and genres of music, from the most primitive surviving examples through the classical to the most contemporary in the world at large. The course is offered in a two-semester format. The first semester covers primitive musical forms and classical music. The second semester presents the rich modern traditions, including American jazz, gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop.

College Preparatory Electives

Explore Computer Science

Exploring Computer Science offers a focused curriculum designed around foundational computer science concepts, including computer systems, programming, networks, and data management. The course also introduces students to foundational computer science skills such as coding, troubleshooting, and being a responsible digital citizen.

College and Career Preparation I

In College and Career Preparation I, students obtain a deeper understanding of what it means to be ready for college. Students are informed about the importance of high school performance in college admissions and how to prepare for college testing. They know the types of schools and degrees they may choose to pursue after high school and gain wide exposure to the financial resources available that make college attainable.

College and Career Preparation II

College and Career Preparation II builds on the lessons and skills in College and Career Preparation I. The course provides a step-by-step guide to choosing a college. It walks students through the process of filling out an application, including opportunities to practice, and takes an in-depth look at the various college-admission tests and assessments, as well financial aid options.

Physical Education

The course promotes a keen understanding of the value of physical fitness and aims to motivate students to participate in physical activities throughout their lives. Specific areas of study include: Cardiovascular exercise and care, safe exercising, building muscle strength and endurance, injury prevention, fitness skills and FITT benchmarks, goal setting, nutrition and diet (vitamins and minerals, food labels, evaluation product claims), and stress management.

Health Education

This course is a class exploring general aspects of the health sciences. Students will develop an understanding of basic knowledge and specific skills upon which to build healthy behaviors. Health instruction provides the students with learning experiences to empower them to engage in and value the importance of healthy lifelong practices. Topics include nutrition, fitness, mental health, communicable diseases, CPR, first aid, alcohol, tobacco, drug.

Financial Algebra

Financial Algebra focuses on real-world financial literacy, personal finance, and business subjects. Students apply what they learned in Algebra 1 and Geometry to topics including personal income, taxes, checking and savings accounts, credit, loans and payments, car leasing and purchasing, home mortgages, stocks, insurance, and retirement planning. Students then extend their investigations using more advanced mathematics, such as systems of equations (when studying cost and profit issues) and exponential functions (when calculating interest problems).

Statistics and Probability

Probability and Statistics provides a curriculum focused on understanding key data analysis and probabilistic concepts, calculations, and relevance to real-world applications. Students are challenged to work toward mastery of computational skills, apply calculators and other technology in data analysis, deepen their understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and extend their knowledge through a variety of problem-solving applications.

Bridge Math

Bridge Math is a fourth-year math course focused on reinforcing core concepts from Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. Bridge Math is intended for students who need to review concepts before continuing their studies. It starts with a review of algebraic concepts before moving on to a variety of key algebraic, geometric, statistical, and probability concepts. Course topics include rational and irrational numbers, systems of linear equations, quadratic functions, exponential functions, triangles, coordinate geometry, solid geometry, conditional probability, independence, data analysis, scatterplots, and linear and non-linear models of data.

Liberal Arts Mathematics 1

Liberal Arts Mathematics 1 addresses the need for an elective course that focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Mathematics 1 starts with a review of problem-solving skills before moving on to a variety of key algebraic, geometric, and statistical concepts. Throughout the course, students hone their computational skills and extend their knowledge through problem solving and real-world applications.

Liberal Arts Mathematics 2

Liberal Arts Mathematics 2 addresses the need for a course that meets graduation requirements and focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Mathematics 2 starts with a review of algebraic concepts before moving on to a variety of key algebraic, geometric, statistical and probability concepts. Throughout the course, students hone their computational skills and extend their knowledge through problem solving and real-world applications.

Creative Writing

Creative Writing is an English elective course that focuses on the exploration of short fiction and poetry, culminating in a written portfolio that includes one revised short story and three to five polished poems. Students draft, revise, and polish fiction and poetry through writing exercises, developing familiarity with literary terms and facility with the writing process as they study elements of creative writing.

Media Literacy

Media Literacy teaches students how to build the critical thinking, writing, and reading skills required in a media-rich and increasingly techno-centric world. In a world saturated with media messages, digital environments, and social networking, concepts of literacy must expand to include all forms of media. Today's students need to be able to read, comprehend, analyze, and respond to non-traditional media with the same skill level they engage with traditional print sources.

Reading

Reading is a course is designed to help the struggling reader develop mastery in the areas of reading comprehension, vocabulary building, study skills, and media literacy, which are the course's primary content strands. Using these strands, the course guides the student through the skills necessary to be successful in the academic world and beyond. The reading comprehension strand focuses on introducing the student to the varied purposes of reading (e.g., for entertainment, for information, to complete a task, or to analyze). In the vocabulary strand, the student learns specific strategies for understanding and remembering new vocabulary.

Writing Skills and Strategies

Writing Skills and Strategies develops key language arts skills necessary for high school graduation and success on high stakes exams through a semester of interactive instruction and guided practice in composition fundamentals. The course is divided into ten mini-units of study. The first two are designed to build early success and confidence, orienting students to the writing process and to sentence and paragraph essentials through a series of low-stress, high-interest hook activities. In subsequent units, students review, practice, compose and submit one piece of writing. Four key learning strands are integrated throughout: composition practice, grammar skill building, diction and style awareness, and media and technology exploration.

Ethnic Studies

Ethnic Studies is a one-semester history and sociology course that examines the multicultural fabric of the United States. The course emphasizes the perspectives of minority groups while allowing students from all backgrounds to better understand and appreciate how race, culture and ethnicity, and identity contribute to their experiences. Major topics in the course include identity, immigration, assimilation and distinctiveness, power and oppression, struggles for rights, regionalism, culture and the media, and the formation of new cultures.

Sociology

Sociology examines why people think and behave as they do in relationships, groups, institutions, and societies. Major course topics include individual and group identity, social structures and institutions, social change, social stratification, social dynamics in recent and current events, the effects of social change on individuals, and the research methods used by social scientists.

Psychology

Psychology provides a solid overview of the field's major domains: methods, biopsychology, cognitive and developmental psychology, and variations in individual and group behavior. By focusing on significant scientific research and on the questions that are most important to psychologists, students see psychology as an evolving science. Each topic clusters around challenge questions, such as “What is happiness?” Students answer these questions before, during, and after they interact with direct instruction.

Financial Literacy

Financial Literacy offers an engaging, scaffolded curriculum that introduces key topics and principles necessary to financial literacy. The one-semester course covers earning and spending; savings and investing; credit and debt; protection of assets; and financial planning and decision-making. Through real-life scenarios and hands-on activities, the course explores choosing among banking and investment options, shopping for an auto loan, choosing among career and college options, financing options for continuing education, planning for retirement, and creating and living within a budget. As a social studies course, Financial Literacy is designed to complement courses in Economics and Mathematics for Personal Finance.

Legal Environment of Business

Legal Environment of Business examines the role of the law on all aspects of business ownership and management. Throughout the course, students focus on legal ethics, court procedures, torts, contracts, consumer law, property law, employment law, environmental law, and international law. Students also explore the impact of laws, regulations, and judicial decisions on society at large.

Accounting I

Accounting I examine how to make decisions about planning, organizing, and allocating resources using accounting procedures. Throughout the course, students focus on double-entry accounting; methods and principles of recording business transactions; the preparation of various documents used in recording revenues, expenses, assets, and liabilities; and the preparation of financial statements.

Accounting II

Accounting II builds on the foundation acquired in Accounting I, allowing students to extend their skills and knowledge in the subject. The course focuses on various managerial, financial, and operational accounting activities that require the formulation, interpretation, and communication of financial information for use in management decision making. Students will use equations, graphical representations, accounting tools, spreadsheet software, and accounting systems in real-world situations to maintain, monitor, control, and plan the use of financial resources.

Business Applications

Business Applications prepares students to succeed in the workplace. Students begin by establishing an awareness of the roles essential to an organization's success, and then work to develop an understanding of professional communications and leadership skills. In doing so, students gain proficiency with word processing, email, and presentation management software.

Computer Applications

Computer Applications introduces software applications that prepares students to succeed in the workplace and beyond. Students will develop an understanding of professional communications and leadership skills while gaining proficiency with word processing, email, and presentation management software. Students will also be able to demonstrate digital literacy through basic study web publishing and design, spreadsheets and database software.

Human Resources Principles

Human Resources Principles examines the main functions of human resources management, including planning, recruitment, selection, training, development, compensation, and evaluation. In so doing, the course provides students with the tools to hire, manage, and fire employees. Students will also explore the unique role of human resources in the larger organization.

Information Technology Application

Information Technology Applications prepares students to work in the field of Information Technology. Students will be able to demonstrate digital literacy through basic study of computer hardware, operating systems, networking, the Internet, web publishing, spreadsheets and database software. Through a series of hand-on activities, students will learn what to expect in the field of Information Technology and begin exploring career options in the field.

Introduction to Business and Technology

Introduction to Business and Technology provides the foundational knowledge and skills students need for careers in business and technology. Throughout the course, students gain a knowledge of business principles and communication skills, an understanding of the impact of financial and marketing decisions, and proficiency in the technologies required by business. Students will also learn the essentials of working in a business environment, managing a business, and owning a business.

Principles of Business, Marketing and Finance

Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance provides the knowledge and skills students need for careers in business and marketing. Students begin exploring roles and functions that business and marketing play in a global society, develop an understanding of the market place, as well as understanding product placement and promotion.

Principles of Health Science

Principles of Health Science provides knowledge and skills students need for careers in health care. Students explore the services, structure, and professions of the health care system and get guidance on choosing a specific career path in health services, including career paths in emergency medicine, nutrition, and alternative medicine.

Principles of Information Technology

Principles of Information Technology prepares students to succeed in the workplace. Students begin by establishing an awareness of the roles essential to an organization's success, and then work to develop an understanding of professional communications and leadership skills. In doing so, students gain proficiency with word processing, email, and presentation management software. Students will also be able to demonstrate digital literacy through basic study of computer hardware, operating systems, networking, the Internet, web publishing, spreadsheets and database software.

