



High School Course Catalog

2023-2024

ELECTIVES

BUSINESS LAW

This semester-long high school course is designed to provide students with the knowledge of some of the vital legal concepts that affect commerce and trade, after first gaining some familiarity with how laws are created and interpreted. Students are then introduced to the types of businesses that can be created as well as the contractual and liability considerations that can impact a business. Laws that affect how a business is regulated are reviewed, particularly the impact of administrative rules and regulations on a business. Global commerce and international agreements, treaties, organizations, and courts are discussed to get a better sense of what it means to “go global” with a business. Dispute resolution strategies are also addressed.

CAREER PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Introducing high school students to the working world, this year-long course provides the knowledge and insight necessary to compete in today’s challenging job market. This relevant and timely course helps students investigate careers as they apply to personal interests and abilities, develop the skills and job search documents needed to enter the workforce, explore the rights of workers and traits of effective employees, and address the importance of professionalism and responsibility as careers change and evolve. This one-semester course includes lessons in which students create a self-assessment profile, a cover letter, and a résumé that can be used in their educational or career portfolio.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS: OFFICE® 2019

This full-year course introduces students to the features and functionality of the most widely used productivity software in the world: Microsoft® Office®. Through video instruction, interactive skill demonstrations, and numerous hands-on practice assignments, students learn to develop, edit and share Office 2019 documents for both personal and professional use. By the end of this course, students will have developed basic proficiency in the most common tools and features of the Microsoft Office suite of applications: Word®, Excel®, PowerPoint®, and Outlook®.

CONTEMPORARY HEALTH

Available as either a semester or year-long course, this high-school health offering examines and analyzes various health topics. It places alcohol use, drug use, physical fitness, healthy relationships, disease prevention, relationships, and mental health in the context of the importance of creating a healthy lifestyle. Throughout the course, students examine practices and plans they can implement to carry out a healthy lifestyle, and the consequences they can face if they do not follow safe practices. In addition, students conduct in-depth studies to create mentally and emotionally healthy relationships with peers and family, as well as nutrition, sleeping, and physical fitness plans. Students also examine and analyze harassment and bullying laws. **This course takes covers issues of sex and gender identity, same-sex relationships, contraception, and other sensitive topics.**

ELECTIVES

ENGINEERING AND DESIGN

This semester-long course focuses on building real-world problem-solving and critical thinking skills as students learn how to innovate and design new products and improve existing products. Students are introduced to the engineering design process to build new products and to the reverse engineering process, which enables engineers to adjust any existing product. Students identify how engineering and design have a direct impact on the sustainability of our environment and the greening of our economy. Finally, students incorporate the engineering design process, environmental life cycle, and green engineering principles to create a decision matrix to learn how to solve environmental issues.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Emergency and fire-management services are essential infrastructure components of a community. Fire and Emergency Services is a semester-long course that provides students with the basic structure of these organizations as well as the rules and guidelines that govern pre-employment education requirements. The vehicles, equipment, and emergency-mitigations strategies that are commonly used in the emergency- and fire-management field are also explored. Students gain an understanding of the goals of an emergency-management service and how they are implemented and managed, including personnel, budget, and labor-management challenges in the organization. Various preparedness plans are discussed as students explore typical characteristics and frameworks of modern emergency- and fire-management organizations.

FOOD SAFETY AND SANITATION

This comprehensive semester-long course covers the principles and practices of food safety and sanitation that are essential in the hospitality industry for the protection and well-being of staff, guests, and customers. The course provides a systems approach to sanitation risk management and the prevention of food contamination by emphasizing the key components of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) food safety system. After successful completion of this course, students are prepared to meet the requirements of state and national certification exams.

FORENSICS

Forensics is a semester-long high school course that overviews modern-day forensic science careers at work using science concepts to collect and analyze evidence and link evidence to the crime and suspects to present admissible evidence in courts of law. Projects in this course include simulated crime-scene investigation, actual DNA separation, development of a cybersecurity plan, and the identification of specific forensic skills used during the course of a very large murder case. The focus of this course is to assist students in making career choices. The overview of careers includes job descriptions and availability, educational and training requirements, licensing and certification, and typical annual salaries. Students who take this class will become equipped to make more informed career choices regarding the forensic, computer science and medical science fields. At the same time, students will survey the history and scope of present-day forensic science work.

ELECTIVES

FUNDAMENTALS OF DIGITAL MEDIA

Fundamentals of Digital Media is a semester-long course that presents high school students an overview of the different types of digital media and how they are used in the world today. This course examines the impact that digital media has on culture and lifestyle. The course reviews the basic concepts for creating effective digital media and introduces several different career paths related to digital media. Students learn about the tools used as well as best practices employed for creating digital media. In the course, students explore topics such as the use of social media, digital media in advertising, digital media on the World Wide Web, digital media in business, gaming and simulations, e-commerce, and digital music and movies. Students also review the ethics and laws that impact digital media use or creation.

FUNDAMENTALS OF PROGRAMMING AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT

This semester-long course provides students with an understanding of basic software development concepts and practices, issues affecting the software industry, careers within the software industry, and the skills necessary to perform well in these occupations. Students learn details about core concepts in programming using Java, writing and debugging code, proper syntax, flow of control, order of operations, comparison operators, and program logic tools and models. Students learn the function of key program techniques including if statements, looping, and arrays, as well as web development using HTML and drag-and-drop development of user interfaces in an integrated development environment. Students explore the software development life cycle and different variations used to create software.

Required Materials:

- **Activities in this course require that the Java Software Development Kit (SDK) and the NetBeans Integrated Development Environment (IDE) is installed on students' computers. Instructions are included in the Unit 1 lesson titled "Introduction to Java Programming."**

HEALTH SCIENCE & MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

This high school course introduces students to a variety of healthcare careers as they develop the basic skills required in all health and medical sciences. In addition to learning the key elements of the U.S. healthcare system, students will learn terminology, anatomy and physiology, pathologies, diagnostic and clinical procedures, therapeutic interventions, and the fundamentals of medical emergency care. Throughout the course, instructional activities emphasize safety, professionalism, accountability, and efficiency for workers within the healthcare field.

INTRODUCTION TO AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES

This semester-length high school course introduces students to the basic scientific principles of agriculture and natural resources. Students recognize and research plant systems, animal systems, government policy, "green" technologies, agribusiness principles, and sustainability systems. In this course, students apply understanding of ecosystems and systems thinking to the management of

ELECTIVES

natural resources to maximize the health and productivity of the environment, agriculture, and communities. Students also analyze community practice or policy development related to sustainability in agriculture, food, and natural resources. Finally, students apply adaptive ecosystem management to a common pool resource problem in a manner that addresses ecological, socioeconomic, and institutional contexts.

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

In this two-semester introductory course, students learn the principles of business using real-world examples – learning what it takes to plan and launch a product or service in today's fast-paced business environment. This course covers an introduction to economics, costs and profit, and different business types. Students are introduced to techniques for managing money, personally and as a business, and taxes and credit; the basics of financing a business; how a business relates to society both locally and globally; how to identify a business opportunity; and techniques for planning, executing, and marketing a business to respond to that opportunity.

INTRODUCTION TO CAREERS IN ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

The goal of this semester-long high school course is to provide students with an overview of careers in architecture and construction in order to assist with informed career decisions. This dynamic, rapidly evolving career cluster is comprised of three pathways (fields): Design and Pre-Construction (Architecture and Engineering); Construction (Construction and Extraction); and Maintenance and Operations (Installation, Maintenance, and Repair). The Architecture and Construction career cluster is defined as careers in building, designing, managing, maintaining, and planning the built environment. The built environment encompasses all zones of human activity—from natural conservation areas with minimal human intervention to highly dense areas with tall skyscrapers and intricate highway systems to suburban cul-de-sacs. The interrelated components that make up the built environment are as varied and unique as the professionals who help shape it.

INTRODUCTION TO CAREERS IN TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND LOGISTICS

This semester-long course introduces students to the complicated world of commercial transportation. Students undertake an overview of the fields of transportation, distribution, and logistics, learning the differences between the fields and the primary services provided in each. Students learn how warehousing, inventory, and other associated businesses impact the economy, which includes the advantages and disadvantages of automation on employment. Students learn about the history of transportation including. Students examine the fields that serve to support and manage transportation systems. Lastly, the role of technology and technological development on transportation-related businesses is addressed.

ELECTIVES

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATIONS AND SPEECH

Beginning with an introduction that builds student understanding of the elements, principles, and characteristics of human communication, this course offers fascinating insight into verbal and nonverbal messages and cultural and gender differences in the areas of listening and responding. High school students enrolled in this one-semester course will be guided through engaging lectures and interactive activities, exploring themes of self-awareness and perception in communication. The course concludes with units on informative and persuasive speeches, and students are given the opportunity to critique and analyze speeches.

INTRODUCTION TO CONSUMER SERVICES

In this semester-long course, students analyze various career paths in terms of employment opportunities and educational requirements, such as hard and soft skills, certifications, and licensures for different pathways. Developing research, analytical, and presentations skills are key components. This course is designed as an overview to prepare students for a consumer service-related career and to introduce them to specialty areas. Emphasis is placed on the human services aspect (vs. corporate concerns) of consumer services. Social issues and advocacy, as well as ethics and legalities, are a recurring theme. Students gain knowledge of current issues affecting various consumer services professions, and the impact of local, state, national and global issues on consumer services.

INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

This semester-long course focuses on human growth and development over the lifespan, as well as careers that help people deal with various physical, intellectual, and socioemotional issues, such as physicians, nurses, nutritionists, substance abuse counselors, clergy, teachers, career counselors, psychologists, and psychiatrists. The course provides a background in human growth and development from before birth, through childhood, into adulthood, and through death and grief. It gives the student perspective and highlights where people in the caring professions are most needed. Students who take this course will come away with a broad understanding of all the careers that help people from birth to death.

INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN SERVICES

This semester-long course introduces high school students to the possibilities for careers in the human services professions. Through anecdotes, lessons, and a variety of assignments and projects, students learn about the broad variety of jobs available in the human services. These begin with entry-level positions, such as associate social workers, that require a two-year Associate of Arts degree. Students also learn ethics and philosophies of the helping professions. The history of the profession, as well as the impact of the cultural, social, and economic environment on individual people, especially those who need social services assistance, is also explored.

ELECTIVES

INTRODUCTION TO LAW, PUBLIC SAFETY, CORRECTIONS, AND SECURITY

In this semester-long course, students learn about the many careers that exist within the fields of law, law enforcement, public safety, corrections, and security. In addition to learning about the training and educational requirements for these careers, students explore the history of these fields and how they developed to their current state. Students also learn how these careers are affected by and affect local, state, and federal laws. Finally, students examine the relationships between professionals in these fields and how collaborations between professionals in these careers help to create a safer, more stable society.

INTRODUCTION TO NETWORK SYSTEMS

This semester-long course introduces students to the fundamental technology and concepts that make networking systems possible. The most important concept introduced is that of the OSI reference model and its bottom four layers, which are most directly concerned with networking instead of computing. The course explores the software and hardware supporting LANs, WANs, and Wi-Fi networks. Students are introduced to the protocols in the TCP/IP stack that are used to communicate across a network, and to networking hardware, including hubs, switches, bridges, routers, and transmission media. Students explore questions of security, network management, and network operating systems.

INTRODUCTION TO STEM

This semester-long course introduces students to the four areas of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics through an interdisciplinary approach that will increase awareness, build knowledge, develop problem solving skills, and potentially awaken an interest in pursuing a career in STEM. Students are introduced to the history, fundamental principles, applications, processes, and concepts of STEM. Students are exposed to several computer applications used to analyze and present technical or scientific information. Finally, students explore the kinds of strategies frequently used to solve problems in these disciplines. Throughout the course, students discover their strengths through practical applications and awareness of the various STEM careers.

MARKETING AND SALES FOR TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

This semester-long course is designed as an introduction to the study of tourism and hospitality marketing and sales. Students are introduced to marketing theory and application of the basic principles of marketing as applied in hospitality and tourism. The relationship between marketing and other functions such as advertising, sales techniques, and public relations to maximize profits in a hospitality organization is addressed. Students have an opportunity to explore this multi-faceted world, identifying multiple career paths and opportunities.

MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY

This full-year course introduces students to the structure of medical terms, plus medical abbreviations, and acronyms. The course allows students to achieve comprehension of medical

ELECTIVES

vocabulary appropriate to health care settings, medical procedures, pharmacology, human anatomy and physiology, and pathology. The knowledge and skills gained in this course provide students entering the health care field with a deeper understanding of the application of the language of health and medicine. Students are introduced to these skills through direct instruction, interactive tasks, practice assignments, and unit-level assessments.

NURSING ASSISTANT

This two-semester course prepares students to provide and assist with all aspects of activities of daily living and medical care for the adult patient in hospital, long-term care, and home settings. Through direct instruction, interactive skills demonstrations, and practice assignments, students are taught the basics of nurse assisting, including interpersonal skills, medical terminology and procedures, legal and ethical responsibilities, safe and efficient work, gerontology, nutrition, emergency skills, and employability skills. Successful completion of this course from an approved program prepares the student for state certification for employment as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA).

ONLINE LEARNING AND DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

This one-semester course provides students with a comprehensive introduction to online learning, including how to work independently, stay safe, and develop effective study habits in virtual learning environments. Featuring direct-instruction videos, interactive tasks, authentic projects, and rigorous assessments, the course prepares students for high school by providing in-depth instruction and practice in important study skills such as time management, effective notetaking, test preparation, and collaborating effectively online. By the end of the course, students will understand what it takes to be successful online learners and responsible digital citizens.

PERSONAL FINANCE

This introductory finance course teaches what it takes to understand the world of finance and make informed decisions about managing finances. Students learn more about economics and become more confident in setting and researching financial goals as they develop the core skills needed to be successful. In this one-semester course, students learn how to open bank accounts, invest money, apply for loans, apply for insurance, explore careers, manage business finances, make decisions about major purchases, and more. Students will be inspired by stories from finance professionals and individuals who have reached their financial goals.

SMALL BUSINESS ENTREPRENEURSHIP

This full-year course is designed to provide the skills needed to effectively organize, develop, create, manage, and own a business, while exposing students to the challenges, problems, and issues faced by entrepreneurs. Throughout this course, students explore what kinds of opportunities exist for small

ELECTIVES

business entrepreneurs and become aware of the necessary skills for running a business. Students become familiar with the traits and characteristics that are found in successful entrepreneurs, and see how research, planning, operations, and regulations can affect small businesses. Students also learn how to develop plans for having effective business management, financing, and marketing strategies.

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

This semester-long course introduces students to the variety of careers related to programming and software development. Students gather and analyze customer software needs and requirements, learn core principles of programming, develop software specifications, and use appropriate reference tools to evaluate new and emerging software. Students apply IT-based strategies and develop a project plan to solve specific problems and define and analyze system and software requirements.

STRATEGIES FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Offering a comprehensive analysis of different types of motivation, study habits, and learning styles, this one- semester course encourages high school and middle school students to take control of their learning by exploring varying strategies for success. Providing engaging lessons that will help students identify what works best for them individually, this one-semester course covers important study skills, such as strategies for taking high-quality notes, memorization techniques, test-taking strategies, benefits of visual aids, and reading techniques.

SUSTAINABLE SERVICE MANAGEMENT FOR HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

This comprehensive semester-long course covers the principles and practices of sustainable service management. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an understanding of socially, environmentally, and financially sustainable hospitality management. The course provides a sustainable approach to service management, incorporating the role of the customer, employee, leaders, and the environment. After successful completion of this course, students understand and are able to explain the fundamentals of sustainability in the hospitality industry.

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

Designed to introduce students to the study of geography, this course helps students master important concepts in physical and human geography. Students analyze population and settlement patterns and evaluate the ways that human activities modify the physical environment. While studying humans around the hemisphere students compare development, standards of living, systems of government, and economic factors. In addition, students gain a rich understanding of global cultures and the historical factors that have shaped the world around them. All units in the course are parallel and include studies in physical and human geography, ancient cultures, regional studies, and modern issues.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 9

This freshman-year English course engages students in literary analysis and inferential evaluation of great texts both classic and contemporary. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction, students will master comprehension and literary-analysis strategies. Interwoven in the lessons across two semesters are activities that encourage students to strengthen their oral language skills and produce clear, coherent writing. Students will read a range of classic texts including Homer's *The Odyssey*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Richard Connell's "The Most Dangerous Game." They will also study short but complex texts, including influential speeches by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Ronald Reagan. Contemporary texts by Richard Preston, Julia Alvarez, and Maya Angelou round out the course.

ENGLISH 9 HONORS

This freshman honors English course invites students to explore a variety of diverse and complex texts organized into thematic units. Students will engage in literary analysis and inferential evaluation of great texts, both classic and contemporary. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction, honors students will master comprehension, use evidence to conduct in-depth literary analysis, and examine and critique how authors develop ideas in a variety of genres. Interwoven throughout the lessons are activities that encourage students to strengthen their oral language skills, research and critically analyze sources of information, and produce clear, coherent writing. In addition to activities offered to students in core courses, honors students are given additional opportunities to create and to participate in project-based learning activities, including writing a Shakespearian sonnet and creating an original interpretation of a Shakespearian play. Honors students will read a range of classic texts, including Homer's *The Odyssey*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, Jack London's "To Build a Fire" and Richard Connell's "The Most Dangerous Game." Students will also read Sue Macy's full length nonfiction work *Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom (With a Few Flat Tires Along the Way)* and will study a variety of short but complex texts, including influential speeches by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Ronald Reagan. Contemporary texts by Richard Preston, Julia Alvarez, and Maya Angelou round out the course.

ENGLISH 10

Focused on application, this sophomore English course reinforces literary analysis and twenty-first century skills with superb pieces of literature and literary nonfiction, application e-resources, and educational interactives. Each thematic unit focuses on specific literary analysis skills and allows students to apply them to a range of genres and text structures. As these unit's meld modeling and application, they also expand on training in media literacy, twenty-first century career skills, and the essentials of grammar and vocabulary. Under the guidance of the Writing software, students also compose descriptive, persuasive, expository, literary analysis, research, narrative, and compare-contrast essays.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH 10 HONORS

This sophomore-year honors English course provides engaging and rigorous lessons with a focus on academic inquiry to strengthen knowledge of language arts. Honors reading lessons require analyzing complex texts, while concise mini-lessons advance writing and research skills to craft strong, compelling essays and projects. Students will write argumentative and analytical essays based on literary texts, as well as an informative research paper using MLA style. Throughout the course, students read a range of classic and contemporary literary texts including Henrik Ibsen's *A Doll's House*, George Orwell's *Animal Farm*, and Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*. In addition to reading a wide range of literary texts, students read and analyze complex informational and argumentative texts including Sonia Sotomayor's "A Latina Judge's Voice," Niccolò Machiavelli's *The Prince*, and the contemporary informational text *Sugar Changed the World: A Story of Magic, Spice, Slavery, Freedom, and Science*.

ENGLISH 11

This junior-year English course invites students to delve into American literature from early American Indian voices through contemporary works. Students engage in literary analysis and inferential evaluation of great texts as the centerpieces of this course. While critically reading fiction, poetry, drama, and expository nonfiction, students master comprehension and literary analysis strategies. Interwoven in the lessons across two semesters are tasks that encourage students to strengthen their oral language skills and produce creative, coherent writing. Students read a range of short but complex texts, including works by Ralph Waldo Emerson, Emily Dickinson, Herman Melville, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Martin Luther King, Jr., F. Scott Fitzgerald, Sandra Cisneros, Amy Tan, and Dave Eggers.

ENGLISH 12

This senior-level English course offers fascinating insight into British literary traditions spanning from Anglo-Saxon writing to the modern period. With interactive introductions and historical contexts, this full-year course connects philosophical, political, religious, ethical, and social influences of each time period to the works of many notable authors, including Chaucer, William Shakespeare, Queen Elizabeth I, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, and Virginia Woolf. Adding an extra dimension to the British literary experience, this course also exposes students to world literature, including works from India, Europe, China, and Spain.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

In this introductory college-level course designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement exam, students advance their understanding of rhetoric and writing through the reading, analyzing, and writing of rhetorical texts. Throughout the course, students explore the basic tenets of writing and argumentation, such as rhetorical situation, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and style. Students will read and analyze a variety of nonfiction genres, including essays, journalism articles, political writings, science writings, nature writings, autobiographies, biographies, diaries, speeches, history writings, and criticisms from multiple perspectives and backgrounds. The primary focus is on writing evidence-based analytical, synthesis, and argumentative essays and analyzing the rhetorical choices of a wide range of nonfiction writers. In addition to explicit instruction and a variety of independent and collaborative learning opportunities, the course offers specific exam preparation lessons and practice.

ENGLISH

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

In this introductory college-level course designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement exam, students develop the fundamentals of literary analysis and introductory college compositions. The course focuses on analyzing, evaluating, and interpreting literary fiction, poetry, and drama from a range of literary periods, authors, and perspectives. The diverse canon allows students to explore the function of character, setting, structure, narrator, and figurative language. Through a wide range of instruction and collaborative writing activities, students articulate their interpretation of literature through writing. The course includes exam preparation and practice that anticipates common student misconceptions.

FINE ARTS

VISUAL ARTS

This course introduces students to the Design Thinking Process using artistic tools to create original works of art. Students review basic elements and principles of design. These design principles are used to create drawings, paintings, collages, narrative art, and simple sculpture. Students learn to observe and write about art in the world around them through the use of basic design concepts.

SOCIAL SCIENCE/HISTORY

WORLD HISTORY

This yearlong course examines the major events and turning points of world history from the Enlightenment to the present. Students investigate the foundational ideas that shaped the modern world in the Middle East, Africa, Europe, Asia, and the Americas, and then explore the economic, political, and social revolutions that have transformed human history. This rigorous study of modern history examines recurring themes, such as social history, democratic government, and the relationship between history and the arts, allowing students to draw connections between the past and the present, across cultures, and among multiple perspectives. Students use a variety of primary and secondary sources, including legal documents, essays, historical writings, and political cartoons to evaluate the reliability of historical evidence and to draw conclusions about historical events. Students also sharpen their writing skills in shorter tasks and assignments, and practice outlining and drafting skills by writing full informative and argumentative essays.

U.S. HISTORY

This one-year high school course presents a cohesive and comprehensive overview of the history of the United States, surveying the major events and turning points of U.S. history as it moves from the Era of Exploration through modern times. As students examine each era of history, they will analyze primary sources and carefully research events to gain a clearer understanding of the factors that have shaped U.S. history. In early units, students will assess the foundations of U.S. democracy while examining crucial documents. In later units, students will examine the effects of territorial expansion, the Civil War, and the rise of industrialization. They will also assess the outcomes of economic trends and the connections between culture and government. As the course draws to a close, students will focus their studies on the causes of cultural and political change in the modern age. Throughout the course, students will learn the importance of cultural diversity while examining history from different perspectives.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

This semester-long course provides students with a practical understanding of the principles and procedures of government. The course begins by establishing the origins and founding principles of American government. After a rigorous review of the Constitution and its amendments, students investigate the development and extension of civil rights and liberties. Lessons also introduce influential Supreme Court decisions to demonstrate the impact and importance of constitutional rights. The course builds on this foundation by guiding students through the function of government today and the role of citizens in the civic process and culminates in an examination of public policy and the roles of citizens and organizations in promoting policy changes. Throughout the course, students examine primary and secondary sources, including political cartoons, essays, and judicial opinions. Students also sharpen their writing skills in shorter tasks and assignments and practice outlining and drafting skills by writing full informative and argumentative essays.

SOCIAL SCIENCE/HISTORY

ECONOMICS

Available as either a semester or a full year, this course invites students to broaden their understanding of how economic concepts apply to their everyday lives—including microeconomic and macroeconomic theory and the characteristics of mixed-market economies, the role of government in a free-enterprise system and the global economy, and personal finance strategies. Throughout the course, students apply critical-thinking skills while making practical economic choices. Students also master literacy skills through rigorous reading and writing activities. Students analyze data displays and write routinely and responsively in tasks and assignments that are based on scenarios, texts, activities, and examples. In more extensive, process-based writing lessons, students write full-length essays in informative and argumentative formats.

ECONOMICS HONORS

From creating graphs to reach equilibrium to learning to manage a bank account, students will take part in a more rigorous semester long study of the principles and processes of economics in the American system. Students begin with an introduction of basic economic concepts then move on to an in-depth study of microeconomic principles. Students showcase their understanding of supply, demand, and economic choices by completing a case study on starting a business. Students then turn to macroeconomic concepts, government policies, and entrepreneurship. With this foundation, students create a proposal for public policies and programs in a small developing nation. Students continue their study of Economics by examining global economic concepts such as trade barriers and agreements. This Honors course concludes with a unit on personal finance. Students will learn more about topics such as taxation, financial institutions, credit, and money management. Students extend their knowledge of personal financial planning by creating a successful budget. Throughout the course, economic theory is introduced, demonstrated, and reinforced through real-life scenarios and examples. In assignments and project-based lessons, students learn to apply critical thinking skills while making practical economic choices.

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS*

This one-semester college-level course is designed to prepare students for the AP United States Government and Politics exam. Students will study the Constitutional underpinnings and structure of the United States government, issues of politics and political parties, and topics in civil rights and public policy, demonstrating their understanding and acquisition of skills through written work, project-based activities, and practice exams.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

This course surveys the history of the United States from the settlement of the New World to modern times and prepares students for the AP United States History Exam. The course emphasizes themes such as national identity, economic transformation, immigration, politics, international relations, geography, and social and cultural change. Students learn to assess historical materials, weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship, and analyze and express historical understanding in writing.

SOCIAL SCIENCE/HISTORY

AP WORLD HISTORY

This advanced study of world history explores historical themes common to societies around the world and across time periods, from 1200 to the present day. Emphasis is placed on document analysis, historical thinking skills, reasoning processes, and essay writing. Students will demonstrate their understanding and acquisition of skills through written work, document-based questions, project-based activities, and practice exams.

AP PSYCHOLOGY

Psychology will introduce students to the systematic study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with the major fields within psychology. Students also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. The major aim of this course is to provide each student with a learning experience equivalent to that obtained in most introductory college psychology courses. In addition, this course has been designed to help students successfully achieve a passing score on the AP Psychology exam.

MATHEMATICS

PRE-ALGEBRA

This full-year course is designed for high school students who have completed a middle school mathematics sequence but are not yet algebra-ready. This course reviews key algebra readiness skills from the middle grades and introduces basic Algebra I work with appropriate support. Students revisit concepts in numbers and operations, expressions and equations, ratios and proportions, and basic functions. By the end of the course, students are ready to begin a more formal high school Algebra I study.

ALGEBRA I

This full-year course focuses on five critical areas: relationships between quantities and reasoning with equations, linear and exponential relationships, descriptive statistics, expressions and equations, and quadratic functions and modeling. This course builds on the foundation set in middle grades by deepening students' understanding of linear and exponential functions and developing fluency in writing and solving one-variable equations and inequalities. Students will interpret, analyze, compare, and contrast functions that are represented numerically, tabularly, graphically, and algebraically. Quantitative reasoning is a common thread throughout the course as students use algebra to represent quantities and the relationships among those quantities in a variety of ways. Standards of mathematical practice and process are embedded throughout the course, as students make sense of problem situations, solve novel problems, reason abstractly, and think critically.

GEOMETRY

This course formalizes what students learned about geometry in the middle grades with a focus on reasoning and making mathematical arguments. Mathematical reasoning is introduced with a study of triangle congruency, including exposure to formal proofs and geometric constructions. Then students extend what they have learned to other essential triangle concepts, including similarity, right-triangle trigonometry, and the laws of sines and cosines. Moving on to other shapes, students justify and derive various formulas for circumference, area, and volume, as well as cross-sections of solids and rotations of two-dimensional objects. Students then make important connections between geometry and algebra, including special triangles, slopes of parallel and perpendicular lines, and parabolas in the coordinate plane, before delving into an in-depth investigation of the geometry of circles. The course closes with a study of set theory and probability, as students apply theoretical and experimental probability to make decisions informed by data analysis.

ALGEBRA II

This course focuses on functions, polynomials, periodic phenomena, and collecting and analyzing data. The course begins with a review of linear and quadratic functions to solidify a foundation for learning these new functions. Students make connections between verbal, numeric, algebraic, and graphical representations of functions and apply this knowledge as they create equations and inequalities that can be used to model and solve mathematical

MATHEMATICS

and real-world problems. As students refine and expand their algebraic skills, they will draw analogies among the operations and field properties of real numbers and those of complex numbers and algebraic expressions. Mathematical practices and habits of mind are embedded throughout the course, as students solve novel problems, reason abstractly, and think critically.

PRE-CALCULUS

With an emphasis on function families and their representations, Precalculus is a thoughtful introduction to advanced studies leading to calculus. The course briefly reviews linear equations, inequalities, and systems and moves purposefully into the study of functions. Students then discover the nature of graphs and deepen their understanding of polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Scaffolding rigorous content with clear instruction, the course leads students through an advanced study of trigonometric functions, matrices, and vectors. The course concludes with a short study of probability and statistics.

AP CALCULUS AB

This college-level, yearlong course prepares students for the Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB Exam. Major topics of study in this full-year course include a review of pre-calculus, limits, derivatives, definite integrals, mathematical modeling of differential equations, and the applications of these concepts. Emphasis is placed on the use of technology to solve problems and draw conclusions. The course utilizes a multi-representative approach to calculus with concepts and problems expressed numerically, graphically, verbally, and analytically.

AP STATISTICS

This yearlong, college-level course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement (AP) Statistics exam. Major topics of study include exploring one-and two-variable data, sampling, experimentation, probability, sampling distributions, and statistical inference. These topics are organized into three big ideas: variation and distribution, patterns and uncertainty, data-based predictions, decisions, and conclusions.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PE CORE

In this course, students will explore concepts involving personal fitness, team sports, dual sports, and individual and lifetime sports. Students will focus on health-related fitness as they set goals and develop a program to improve their fitness level through cardio, strength, and flexibility training. In addition, they will learn about biomechanics and movement concepts as they enhance their level of skill-related fitness. Students will learn about game play concepts and specifically investigate the rules, guidelines, and skills pertaining to soccer, softball, volleyball, tennis, walking and running, dance, and yoga. Students take a pre- and post-fitness assessment. Throughout this course, students also participate in a weekly fitness program involving elements of cardio, strength, and flexibility, as well as participating in a variety of dual, individual, and group sport activities.

PE ADVANCED

This two-semester course guides students through an in- depth examination of the effects of exercise on the body. Students learn how to exercise efficiently and properly. Basic anatomy, biomechanics, and physiology will serve as a foundation for students to build effective exercise programs. The study of nutrition and human behavior is also an integral part of the course. Students conduct fitness assessments and participate in weekly physical activity.

FOUNDATIONS OF PERSONAL WELLNESS

Exploring a combination of health and fitness concepts, this comprehensive and cohesive course explores all aspects of wellness. Offered as a two-semester course designed for high school students, coursework uses pedagogical planning to ensure that students explore fitness and physical health and encourages students to learn about the nature of social interactions and how to plan a healthy lifestyle.

LIFETIME FITNESS

Exploring fitness topics such as safe exercise and injury prevention, nutrition and weight management, consumer product evaluation, and stress management, this course equips high school students with the skills they need to achieve lifetime fitness. Available as either a semester or year-long course, Lifetime Fitness encourages students to assess individual fitness levels according to the five components of physical fitness: cardiovascular health, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, and body composition. Personal fitness assessments encourage students to design a fitness program to meet their individual fitness goals.

SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

This compelling two-semester course engages students in the study of life and living organisms and examines biology and biochemistry in the real world. This is a yearlong course that encompasses traditional concepts in biology and encourages exploration of new discoveries in this field of science. The components include biochemistry, cell biology, cell processes, heredity and reproduction, the evolution of life, taxonomy, human body systems, and ecology. This course includes both hands-on wet labs and virtual lab options.

BIOLOGY HONORS

This compelling full-year course engages students in a rigorous honors-level curriculum that emphasizes the study of life and its real-world applications. This course examines biological concepts in more depth than general biology and provides a solid foundation for collegiate-level coursework. Course components include biochemistry, cellular structures and functions, genetics and heredity, bioengineering, evolution, structures and functions of the human body, and ecology. Throughout the course, students participate in a variety of interactive and hands-on laboratory activities that enhance concept knowledge and develop scientific process skills, including scientific research and technical writing.

CHEMISTRY

This rigorous, full-year course engages students in the study of the composition, properties, changes, and interactions of matter. The course covers the basic concepts of chemistry and includes eighteen virtual laboratory experiments that encourage higher order thinking applications, with wet lab options if preferred. The components of this course include chemistry and its methods, the composition and properties of matter, changes and interactions of matter, factors affecting the interactions of matter, electrochemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, nuclear chemistry, mathematical applications, and applications of chemistry in the real world.

CHEMISTRY HONORS

This rigorous full-year course provides students with an engaging honors-level curriculum that emphasizes mathematical problem solving and practical applications of chemistry. Topics are examined in greater detail than general chemistry in order to prepare students for college-level coursework. Course components include atomic theory and structure, chemical bonding, states and changes of matter, chemical and redox reactions, stoichiometry, the gas laws, solutions, acids and bases, and nuclear and organic chemistry. Throughout the course, students participate in a variety of interactive and hands-on laboratory activities that enhance concept knowledge and develop scientific process skills, including scientific research and technical writing.

PHYSICS

This full-year course acquaints students with topics in classical and modern physics. The course emphasizes conceptual understanding of basic physics principles, including Newtonian mechanics,

SCIENCE

energy, thermodynamics, waves, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear and modern physics. Throughout the course, students solve mathematical problems, reason abstractly, and learn to think critically about the physical world. The course also includes interactive virtual labs and hands-on lab options, in which students ask questions and create hypotheses.

PHYSICS HONORS

This rigorous full-year course provides students with an engaging honors-level curriculum that emphasizes abstract reasoning and applications of physics concepts to real-world scenarios. Topics are examined in greater detail than general physics and provide a solid foundation for collegiate-level coursework. Course components include one- and two-dimensional motion, momentum, energy and thermodynamics, harmonic motion, waves, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear and modern physics. Throughout the course, students participate in a variety of interactive and hands-on laboratory activities that enhance concept knowledge and develop scientific process skills, including scientific research and technical writing.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Environmental Science is a laboratory- and field-based course designed to provide students with the content and skills needed to understand the various interrelationships in the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems, and to propose and examine solutions to these problems. Since this is an online course, the laboratory- and field-based activities will be completed virtually and via experiments that students can easily perform at home with common materials.

WORLD LANGUAGE

SPANISH I

Students begin their introduction to high school Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.

SPANISH II

High school students continue their introduction to Spanish with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas, and assessments.

SPANISH III

In this expanding engagement with Spanish, high school students deepen their focus on four key skills in foreign language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition, students read significant works of literature in Spanish and respond orally or in writing to these works. Continuing the pattern and building on what students encountered in the first two years, each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major Spanish-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.

AP® SPANISH LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Spanish Language and Culture is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiencies that expand their cognitive, analytical, and communication skills. The course prepares students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the Twenty-First Century. The course is designed as an immersion experience and is conducted almost exclusively in Spanish. In addition, all student work, practices, projects, participation, and assessments are in Spanish. The course teaches language structures in context and focuses on the development of fluency to convey meaning. Students explore culture in both contemporary and historical contexts to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural products, practices, and perspectives. In addition, students participate in a forum where they are able to share their opinions and comments about various topics and comment on other students' posts. The course also makes great use of the Internet for updated and current material.

WORLD LANGUAGE

FRENCH I

Students in high school begin their introduction to French with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major French-speaking areas in Europe and across the globe.

FRENCH II

Students continue their introduction to French in this second-year, high school language course with review of fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, cultural presentations covering major French-speaking areas across the globe, and assessments.

FRENCH III

In this expanding engagement with French, high school students deepen their focus on four key skills in foreign language acquisition: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. In addition, students read significant works of literature in French and respond orally or in writing to these works. Continuing the pattern and building on what students encountered in the first two years, each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, and multimedia cultural presentations covering major French-speaking areas in Europe and the Americas.

AP® FRENCH LANGUAGE & CULTURE

French Language and Culture is an advanced language course in which students acquire proficiencies that expand their cognitive, analytical, and communicative skills. The course prepares students for the AP French Language and Culture Exam. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) as defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the Twenty-First Century. The course is designed as an immersion experience requiring the use of French exclusively. The online learning coach only uses French to communicate with students. In addition, all the reading, listening, speaking, and writing is in French. The course teaches language structures in context and focuses on the development of fluency to convey meaning. Students explore culture in both contemporary and historical contexts to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural products, practices, and perspectives. The course contains a forum where students share their opinions and comments about various topics and comment on other students' posts. The course makes great use of the Internet for updated and current material.

WORLD LANGUAGE

GERMAN I

High school students begin their introduction to German with fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, and cultural presentations covering major German-speaking areas in Europe.

GERMAN II

Students continue their introduction to high school German in this second-year course with review of fundamental building blocks in four key areas of foreign language study: listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Each unit consists of an ongoing adventure story, a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, numerous interactive games reinforcing vocabulary and grammar, reading, and listening comprehension activities, speaking, and writing activities, and cultural presentations covering major German-speaking areas in Europe.