



The Oaks Private School
SERVING STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD WHO STUDY AT HOME

Apex/Gradpoint Courses with High School Course Descriptions

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High School Core Course Descriptions **Pages 2-21**

Gradpoint does not have honors or AP courses

Apex Elective Course Descriptions **Pages 17-22**

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Apex students may take 1 course per semester for an extra charge

The Oaks Private School offers college-preparatory curriculum from two leading online vendors. Both have received prestigious awards, are well received by colleges and universities across the U.S, and are recognized by AdvancED: Apex Learning and Pearson's Gradpoint. These two curricula provide the foundation of The Oaks Private School digital curriculum, including core classes – Math, English, Science and History, and electives .

- Gradpoint provides middle-school and high-school core and elective classes, with a wide selection of electives. Gradpoint has open-enrollment and offers access to classes year-round.
- Apex provides high-school core and elective classes, with choices of Honors, AP and Dual Enrollment courses. Apex enrollment follows a traditional school calendar with classes starting in August or September and ending in May or June, with a summer break.

The Oaks Private School augments Apex and Gradpoint with the following curricula:

- Rosetta Stone provides a wide range of World Languages, including German, French, Russian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese and Arabic among others. We use Rosetta Stone to augment our Spanish and French offerings in Apex, and as our World Language provider for Gradpoint students.
- We offer Apologia Christian Science courses in place of Apex honor science courses.
- We offer book-based and online Bible studies.

In order to better fit our curriculum to the faith basis of many of our families, we have made the following adjustments:

- We have carefully revised reading selections in English to what we believe is age-appropriate for our students.
- As a private school, we can make substitutions in individual lessons and assignments (AP courses excluded) in order to accommodate the beliefs of our students and their families. This is done as requested on a case-by-case basis.
- We allow and encourage students to answer according to their faith.



ENGLISH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Students must have a minimum of 4 credits in English to Graduate.

Apex English 9 **Reading and Writing Strategies (Credit: 1.00)**

Reading Skills and Strategies is a course designed to help the struggling reader develop mastery in the areas of reading comprehension, vocabulary building, study skills, and media literacy, which are the courses 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. In the study skills strand, the student learns effective study and test-taking strategies. In the media literacy strand, the student learns to recognize and evaluate persuasive techniques, purposes, design choices, and effects of media. The course encourages personal enjoyment in reading with 10 interviews featuring the book choices and reading adventures of students and members of the community. Florida Writing for College Success provides an English curriculum focused on developing the mastery of skills identified as critical to postsecondary readiness in writing. This single semester elective aligns to Florida's Postsecondary Readiness Competencies in writing and targets students required to complete additional instruction based on their performance on the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT). Course topics include grammar and usage; essential writing skills; persuasive, informative and narrative writing; and research. Process guides and graphic organizers help reluctant writers internalize strategies and develop composition skills. Select activities target text-handling skills and promote improved performance on commonly assessed analysis and response standards. Study sheets support engagement with direct instruction and develop note-taking and study skills.

English 10: **Critical Reading and Effective Writing (Credit: 1.00)**

Critical Reading and Effective Writing is a course that develops both academic and life skills. Concepts are presented in creative and lively ways that reinforce learning goals and engage students. Literary selections include short fiction and poetry from around the globe, modern drama works, and a contemporary novel. Nonfiction selections feature historical correspondence, diaries, logs, and famous courtroom arguments. Life reading skills target forms, applications, and work-related communication. Grammar review and vocabulary development are included in every unit. Summaries and annotations support fluency and comprehension of all reading material. Robust scaffolding in the form of process guides and graphic organizers helps reluctant writers to internalize strategies and develop composition skills. Select activities target text-handling skills and promote improved performance on commonly assessed literary analysis and response standards. Study sheets support engagement with direct instruction and develop note-taking skills. The writing program builds confidence in young writers by targeting control of organization, effective sentences, and word choice.

English 11: **American Literature (Credit: 1.00)**

American Literature is a literature and composition course offering organized as a survey of American literature. It can stand alone as a complete year of general study in English without a specific prerequisite, but its modular design allows flexibility in how the program is used in the classroom; teachers may use a single unit, lesson, or a activity to supplement regular class content. The course builds literary and communication skills, including reading, writing, language appreciation and aesthetics, listening and speaking, viewing and representing, and research. Within these general topic areas, special emphasis is placed on writing expository, research, and creative compositions; honing critical and analytic skills through close readings of literary, historical, expository, and functional documents; using context strategies and an understanding of etymology to build vocabulary; and practicing communication skills. Reading selections cover a variety of genres and voices in literature and expository prose. Students read a survey of American literature from colonial to contemporary eras. They learn and practice workplace communication skills in special activities. Finally, students practice gathering, evaluating, synthesizing, presenting, and documenting information in a unit dedicated to writing research reports. Summaries and annotations support fluency and comprehension of all reading material. Robust scaffolding in the form of process guides and graphic organizers helps reluctant writers to internalize strategies and develop composition skills. Select activities target text-handling skills and promote improved performance on commonly assessed literary analysis and response standards. Study sheets support engagement with direct instruction and develop note-taking and study skills.

English 12: British and World Literature (Credit: 1.00)

British and World Literature is a streamlined survey of British literature that illustrates the origins of English-language literature and reflects its reach beyond the British Isles. The course is standards-based. Each activity correlates to state standards in six core areas: reading, writing, language (appreciation and aesthetics), listening and speaking, viewing and representing (including media literacy), and research. The course gives students meaningful practice in fundamental literacy skills while introducing them to classics of British and world literature. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to think and respond independently, critically, and creatively to the subject matter, whether it's a work of literature, a piece of nonfiction writing, or a media work. The course emboldens students to approach these works both on their own terms and within a larger context while providing them with the tools and encouragement they need in order to do so. Summaries and annotations support fluency and comprehension of all reading material. Robust scaffolding in the form of process guides and graphic organizers helps reluctant writers to internalize strategies and develop composition skills. Select activities target text-handling skills and promote improved performance on commonly assessed literary analysis and response standards. Study sheets support engagement with direct instruction and develop note-taking and study skills.

English Elective: Media Literacy (Credit: 0.50)

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. A major topic in Media Literacy is non-traditional media reading skills, including how to approach, analyze, and respond to advertisements, blogs, websites, social media, news media, and wikis. Students also engage in a variety of writing activities in non-traditional media genres, such as blogging and podcast scripting. Students consider their own positions as consumers of media and explore ways to use non-traditional media to become more active and thoughtful citizens. Students learn how to ask critical questions about the intended audience and underlying purpose of media messages, and study factors which can contribute to bias and affect credibility.

English Elective Creative Writing (Credit: 0.50)

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. Elements of fiction writing explored in this course include attention to specific detail, observation, character development, setting, plot, and point of view. In the poetry units, students learn about the use of sensory details and imagery, figurative language, and sound devices including rhyme, rhythm and alliteration. They also explore poetic forms ranging from found poems and slam poetry to traditional sonnets and villanelles. In addition to applying literary craft elements in guided creative writing exercises, students engage in critical reading activities designed to emphasize the writing craft of a diverse group of authors. Students study short stories by authors such as Edgar Allan Poe, learning how to create believable characters and develop setting and plot. Likewise, students read poetry by canonical greats such as W. B. Yeats and Emily Dickinson as well as contemporary writers such as Pablo Neruda, Sherman Alexie, and Alice Notley. Studying the writing technique of a range of authors provides students with models and inspiration as they develop their own voices and refine their understanding of the literary craft. By taking a Creative Writing course, students find new approaches to reading and writing that can affect them on a personal level, as the skills they gain in each lesson directly benefit their own creative goals. Students who are already actively engaged writers and readers learn additional tools and insight into the craft of writing to help them further hone their skills and encourage their creative as well as academic growth.

Honors: English 9: Introduction to Literature and Composition (Credit: 1.00)

Introduction to Literature and Composition covers literature study, reading, writing, and language. Students explore literature from around the world, including the following genres: short story, poetry, memoir, autobiography, drama, and epic. They read examples of informational writing, such as a letter, Web site, magazine article, newspaper article, speech, editorial, and movie or book review. Along the way, they acquire and practice reading skills and strategies that are directly applicable to these literary and informational reading materials. In addition, students develop and practice writing and language skills. They employ the writing process to create narrative, expository, and persuasive compositions. They also learn to create and evaluate media presentations and oral presentations and to fine-tune their listening skills.

Honors: English 10: Critical Reading and Effective Writing (Credit: 1.00)

Critical Reading and Effective Writing offers a balanced curriculum that develops both academic and life skills. Concepts are presented in creative and lively ways that reinforce learning goals and engage students. Literary selections include short fiction and poetry from around the globe, Shakespearean and modern drama, and contemporary novels. Nonfiction selections feature historical correspondence, diaries, logs, and famous courtroom arguments. Life reading skills target forms, applications, and work-related communication. Throughout both semesters, students build active reading strategies as they question, predict, clarify, and evaluate events and ideas presented in text. The writing program builds confidence in young writers by targeting control of organization, effective sentences, and word choice. Students compose using the writing process. Grammar review and vocabulary development are included in every unit.

Honors: English 11: American Literature (Credit: 1.00)

American Literature is a general studies program in literature and composition, organized as a survey of American literature. It can stand alone as a complete year of general study in English without a specific prerequisite, but its modular design allows flexibility in how the program is used in the classroom; teachers may use a single unit, lesson, or a activity to supplement regular class content. American Literature expands upon and deepens understanding of literary and communication skills covered in Critical Reading and Effective Writing, including reading, writing, language appreciation and aesthetics, listening and speaking, viewing and representing, and research. Within these general topic areas, special emphasis is placed on writing expository, research, and creative compositions; honing critical and analytic skills through close readings of literary, historical, expository, and functional documents; using context strategies and an understanding of etymology to build vocabulary; and practicing communication skills in online discussions. Reading selections cover a variety of genres and voices in literature and expository prose. Students read a survey of American literature from colonial to contemporary eras. They are encouraged to respond critically and personally to these works and to use them as a context for thinking about the unique and universal aspects of culture. They learn and practice skills for workplace communication in special activities. Finally, students practice gathering, evaluating, synthesizing, presenting, and documenting information in a unit dedicated to writing research reports.

Honors: English 12: British and World Literature (Credit: 1.00)

British and World Literature offers a survey of British literature that illustrates the origins of English-language literature and reflects its reach beyond the British Isles. The course is standards-based. Each activity correlates to state standards in six core areas: reading, writing, language (appreciation and aesthetics), listening and speaking, viewing and representing (including media literacy), and research. The course gives students meaningful practice in fundamental literacy skills while introducing them to classics of British and world literature. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to think and respond independently, critically, and creatively to the subject matter, whether it's a work of literature, a piece of nonfiction writing, or a media work. The course emboldens students to approach these works - both on their own terms and within a larger context - while providing them with the tools and encouragement they need in order to do so.



Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment courses are designed by the college board and textbooks must be purchased in addition to the online class work. Students must register and take the collegeboard AP exam to earn AP credit. These courses are very difficult, and require college level performance by students.

Advanced Placement: English Language and Composition

In AP* English Language and Composition, students learn to understand and analyze complex styles of writing by reading works from a variety of authors. They'll explore the richness of language, including syntax, imitation, word choice, and tone. They'll also learn about their own composition style and process, starting with exploration, planning, and writing, and continuing through editing, peer review, re-writing, polishing, and applying what they learn to a breadth of academic, personal, and professional contexts. The equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in communications, creative writing, journalism, literature, and composition. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board. *** Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.**

Advanced Placement: English Literature & Composition

AP* English Literature and Composition immerses students in novels, plays, poems, and short stories from various periods. Students will read and write daily, using a variety of multimedia and interactive activities, interpretive writing assignments, and class discussions to assess and improve their skills and knowledge. The course places special emphasis on reading comprehension, structural and critical analysis of written works, literary vocabulary, and recognizing and understanding literary devices. The equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in creative writing, communications, journalism, literature, and composition. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board. *** Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.**



MATH COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Students must earn 4 credits in math to graduate:

Colleges recommend: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, college readiness math or Pre-Calculus

Introductory Algebra (Credit: 1.00)

This course is good for 8th grade students, or 9th grade students who are not fully prepared for the full Algebra I course. Introductory Algebra provides a curriculum focused on beginning algebraic concepts that prepare students for success in Algebra I. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice" based exploration of basic algebraic concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include integers; the language of algebra; solving equations with addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; fractions and decimals; measurement; exponents; solving equations with roots and powers; multi-step equations; and linear equations. Within each Introductory Algebra lesson, students are supplied with a scaffolded note-taking guide, called a "Study Sheet," as well as a post-study "Checkup" activity, providing them the opportunity to hone their computational skills by working through a low-stakes, 10-question problem set before starting a formal assessment.

Core: Liberal Arts Math (Credit: 1.00)

Liberal Arts Math addresses the need for a math elective course which focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Math 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. Course topics include problem solving; real numbers and operations; functions and graphing; systems of linear equations; polynomials and factoring; geometric concepts such as coordinate geometry and properties of geometric shapes; and descriptive statistics. Students will have the opportunity to formulate and justify conclusions as they extend and apply concepts through printable exercises and "in-your-words" interactive activities. ***Students in Florida cannot take this course if they are interested in Bright Futures Scholarships.**

Mathematics of Personal Finance (Credit: 1.00)

Mathematics of Personal Finance focuses on real-world financial literacy, personal finance, and business subjects. Students apply what they learned in Algebra I 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. They 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. To assist students for whom language presents a barrier to learning or who are not reading at grade level, Mathematics of Personal Finance includes audio resources in both Spanish and English.

Pre-calculus (Credit: 1.00)

Pre-calculus is a course that combines reviews 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. Within each Pre-calculus lesson, students are supplied with a post-study "Checkup" activity, providing them the opportunity to hone their computational skills by working through a low-stakes problem set before moving on to a formal assessment.

Probability and Statistics (Credit: 1.00)

Probability and Statistics provides a curriculum focused on understanding key data analysis and probabilistic concepts, calculations, and relevance to real-world applications. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice"-based exploration of each concept, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies,

and extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. This course covers topics such as types of data; common methods used to collect data; and the various representations of data, including histograms, bar graphs, box plots, and scatter-plots. Students learn to work with data by analyzing and employing methods of prediction, specifically involving samples and populations, distributions, summary statistics, regression analysis, transformations, simulations, and inference. Ideas involving probability including sample space, empirical and theoretical probability, expected value, and independent and compound events are covered as students explore the relationship between probability and data analysis. The connection between geometry and probability is explored through basic geometric probability.

Algebra I (Credit: 1.00)

Algebra I is specifically aligned to College standard Algebra I Standards and Benchmarks. The Algebra I curriculum focuses on the mastery of critical skills and the understanding of key algebraic concepts, preparing students to recognize and work with these concepts. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice" based exploration of algebraic concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include a review of the language of algebra, formulating equations from word problems, and solving basic equations from Introductory Algebra; measurement; an introduction to functions and domain and range; problem solving with functions; graphing; linear equations and systems of linear equations; polynomials and factoring; and data analysis and probability. Algebra I features ample opportunity for students to hone their computational skills by working through practice problem sets before moving on to formal assessment.

Algebra II (Credit: 1.00)

Algebra II is specifically aligned to a accreditation Algebra II Standards and Benchmarks. The Algebra II curriculum builds on the algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice" based exploration of intermediate algebra concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include conic sections; functions, relations, and their graphs; quadratic functions; parent functions, domain and range, inverse functions, and function transformations; and advanced polynomial functions. Students also cover topics relating to rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions and transformations; sequences and series; and data analysis and probability. Algebra II features ample opportunity for students to hone their computational skills by working through practice problem sets before moving on to formal assessment.

Geometry (Credit: 1.00)

Geometry is specifically aligned to college standard Standards and Benchmarks. Geometry provides a curriculum focused on the mastery of critical skills and the understanding of key geometric concepts. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice" based exploration of geometric concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include reasoning, proof, and the creation of a sound mathematical argument; points, lines, and angles; triangles; quadrilaterals and other polygons; circles; coordinate geometry; and three-dimensional solids. The course concludes with a look at special topics in geometry, such as constructions, symmetry, tessellations, fractals, and non-Euclidean geometry. Geometry features ample opportunity for students to hone their computational skills by working through practice problem sets before moving on to formal assessment.

Florida Math for College Readiness (Credit: 1.00)

Florida Math for College Readiness provides a fourth-year math curriculum focused on developing the mastery of skills identified as critical to postsecondary readiness in math. This full-year course aligns to Florida's Postsecondary Readiness Competencies in mathematics and targets students required to complete additional instruction based on their performance on the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT). Course topics include solving equations with addition, subtraction, multiplication and division; fractions and decimals; inequalities; functions and sequences; systems of equations; polynomials; factoring quadratic equations; rational expressions; and data analysis. Throughout the course, students are supplied with scaffolded note-taking guides, called "Study Sheets," as well as post-study "Checkup" activities that provide them the opportunity to hone their computational skills by working through a low-stakes, 10-question problem set before moving on to a formal assessment. Formative assessments help students to understand areas of weakness and improve performance, while summative assessments chart progress and skill development. The content is specifically aligned to the Florida Postsecondary Readiness Competencies.

Honors: Algebra I (Credit: 1.00)

Algebra I is a comprehensive course that provides an in-depth exploration of key algebraic concepts. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice" based exploration of algebraic concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include an Introductory Algebra review; measurement; an introduction to functions; problem solving with functions; graphing; linear equations and systems of linear equations; polynomials and factoring; and data analysis and probability. Within each Algebra I lesson, students are supplied with a post-study "Checkup" activity, providing them the opportunity to hone their computational skills in a low-stakes, 10-question problem set before moving on to a formal assessment. Additionally, many Algebra I lessons include interactive-tool-based exercises and/or math explorations to further connect lesson concepts. The content is based on the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) standards and is aligned to state standards.

Honors: Algebra II (Credit: 1.00)

Algebra II is a comprehensive course that builds on the algebraic concepts covered in Algebra I and prepares students for advanced-level courses. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice" based exploration of intermediate algebra concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include conic sections; functions, relations, and their graphs; quadratic functions; inverse functions; and advanced polynomial functions. Students also cover topics relating to rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions; sequences and series; and data analysis and probability. Within each Algebra II lesson, students are supplied with a post-study "Checkup" activity, providing them the opportunity to hone their computational skills in a low-stakes, 10-question problem set before moving on to a formal assessment. Additionally, many Algebra II lessons include interactive -tool-based exercises and/or math explorations to further connect lesson concepts to a variety of real-world contexts.

Honors: Geometry (Credit: 1.00)

Geometry is a comprehensive course that provides an in-depth exploration of geometric concepts. Through a "Discovery-Confirmation-Practice" based exploration of geometric concepts, students are challenged to work toward a mastery of computational skills, to deepen their conceptual understanding of key ideas and solution strategies, and to extend their knowledge in a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include reasoning, proof, and the creation of a sound mathematical argument; points, lines, and angles; triangles; quadrilaterals and other polygons; circles; coordinate geometry; and three-dimensional solids. The course concludes with a look at special topics in geometry, such as constructions, symmetry, tessellations, fractals, and non-Euclidean geometry. Within each Geometry lesson, students are supplied with a post-study "Checkup" activity, providing them the opportunity to hone their computational skills in a low-stakes, 10-question problem set before moving on to a formal assessment. Many Geometry lessons include interactive -tool-based exercises and/or math explorations to further connect lesson concepts to a variety of real-world contexts.

Honors: Pre-calculus (Credit: 1.00)

Pre-calculus 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. Within each Pre-calculus lesson, students are supplied with a post-study "Checkup" activity, providing them the opportunity to hone their computational skills in a low-stakes problem set before moving on to a formal assessment. Additionally, connections are made throughout the Pre-calculus course to calculus, art, history, and a variety of other fields related to mathematics.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment courses are designed by the college board and textbooks must be purchased in addition to the online class work. Students must register and take the collegeboard AP exam to earn AP credit.

These courses are very difficult, and require college level performance by students.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment: Calculus AB

In AP* Calculus AB, students learn to understand change geometrically and visually (by studying graphs of curves), analytically (by studying and working with mathematical formulas), numerically (by seeing patterns in sets of numbers), and verbally. Instead of simply getting the right answer, students learn to evaluate the soundness of proposed solutions and to apply mathematical reasoning to real-world models. Calculus helps scientists, engineers, and financial analysts understand the complex relationships behind real-world phenomena. The equivalent of an introductory college-level calculus course, AP Calculus AB prepares students for the AP exam and further studies in science, engineering, and mathematics. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board. *** Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.**

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment: Statistics

AP* Statistics gives students hands-on experience collecting, analyzing, graphing, and interpreting real-world data. They will learn to effectively design and analyze research studies by reviewing and evaluating real research examples taken from daily life. The next time they hear the results from another poll or study, they will know whether the results are valid. As the art of drawing conclusions from imperfect data and the science of real world uncertainties, statistics plays an important role in many fields. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP Statistics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, sociology, medicine, engineering, political science, geography, and business. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board. *** Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.**



SCIENCE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All Students must earn 3 credits to graduate. Biology and Chemistry, with lab components are required for Diploma choice 1 and 2.

Science Foundations

Science Foundations provides students with opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills, and strategies necessary for success in rigorous high school science courses. Science Foundations is a two-semester course, with each semester containing 10 mini-units. Each mini-unit is composed of three lessons. The first lesson focuses on key concepts found in earth science, physical science, and life science. The second lesson reinforces reading and math skills students need to be successful with the content introduced in the first lesson. The third lesson introduces scientific inquiry and critical thinking skills that will help students thrive in science as well as other disciplines. Carefully paced, guided instruction is accompanied by engaging and accessible interactive practice. No labs are required.

Biology (Credit: 1.00)

Biology aligned to college standard standards in methodology only. We encourage students to share Christian beliefs and "creationism", however; as a college preparatory course, we must explain theories expected to be known in college. Biology focuses on the mastery of basic biological concepts and models while building scientific inquiry skills and exploring the connections between living things and their environment. 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 interconnectedness of life. Students then apply those themes to the structure and function of the cell, cellular metabolism, and biogeochemical cycles. Building on this foundation, students explore the connections and interactions between living things by studying genetics, ecosystems and natural selection, and evolution. The course ends with an applied look at human biology. Scientific inquiry skills are embedded in the direct instruction, wherein students learn to ask scientific questions, form and test hypotheses, and use logic and evidence to draw conclusions about the concepts. Lab activities reinforce critical thinking, writing, and communication skills and help develop a deeper understanding of the nature of science. **Labs and journals are required in this course.**

Chemistry (Credit: 1.00)

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. Scientific inquiry skills are embedded in the direct instruction, wherein students learn to ask scientific questions, form and test hypotheses, and use logic and evidence to draw conclusions about concepts. Lab activities reinforce critical thinking, writing, and communication skills and help students develop a deeper understanding of the nature of science. Throughout this course, students are given an opportunity to understand how chemistry concepts are applied in technology and engineering. Journal and Practice activities provide additional opportunities for students to apply concepts learned in the Studies and practice their writing skills. **Labs and journals are required in this course.**

Earth Science (Credit: 1.00)

Earth Science offers a focused curriculum that explores Earth's composition, structure, processes, and history; its atmosphere, freshwater, and oceans; and its environment in space. 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-graded labs encourage students to apply the scientific method. Minimal labs are required.

Physical Science (Credit: 1.00)

Physical Science offers a focused curriculum designed around the understanding of critical physical science concepts, including the nature and structure of matter, the characteristics of energy, and the mastery of critical scientific skills. Topics include an introduction to kinematics, including gravity and two-dimensional motion; force; momentum; waves; electricity; atoms; the Periodic Table of Elements; molecular bonding; chemical reactivity; gases; and an introduction to nuclear energy. Teacher-graded labs encourage students to apply the scientific method. Minimal labs are required.

Physics (Credit: 1.00)

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. Scientific inquiry skills are embedded in the direct instruction, wherein students learn to ask scientific questions, form and test hypotheses, and use logic and evidence to draw conclusions about the concepts. Lab activities reinforce critical thinking, writing, and communication skills and help students develop a deeper understanding of the nature of science. Throughout this course, students are given an opportunity to understand how physics concepts are applied in technology and engineering. Journal and Practice activities provide additional opportunities for students to apply concepts learned in Studies and practice their writing skills.

Honors Physical Science (Credit: 1.00)

Physical Science is a thorough course that provides students with an understanding of the nature and structure of matter, the characteristics of energy, and the societal implications of physical science concepts. Using the scientific method — observation, data collection, analysis, hypothesis, and conclusion — students are encouraged to extend their knowledge through the development of scientific explanations, hypotheses, and conclusions. Topics include an introduction to kinematics, including gravity and two-dimensional motion; force; momentum; waves; electricity; atoms; the Periodic Table of Elements; molecular bonding; chemical reactivity; gases; and an introduction to nuclear energy. Minimal labs are required.

Honors Biology (Credit: 1.00)

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 interconnectedness of life. Students then apply those themes to the structure and function of the cell, cellular metabolism, and biogeochemical cycles. Building on this foundation, students explore the connections and interactions between living things by studying genetics, ecosystems and natural selection, and evolution. The course ends with an applied look at human biology. Lab activities reinforce critical thinking, writing, and communication skills and help develop a deeper understanding of the nature of science. Biology students are frequently asked to respond to scientific problems and issues via written assignments. Moreover, Exploration activities challenge Honors students to deconstruct scientific claims, analyze scientific articles, and suggest follow-up experiments or topics for further research. **Students will also be required to complete 18 virtual Biology labs.**

Honors Chemistry (Credit: 1.00)

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. Scientific inquiry skills are embedded in the direct instruction, wherein students learn to ask scientific questions, form and test hypotheses, and use logic and evidence to draw conclusions about the concepts. Lab activities reinforce critical thinking, writing, and communication skills and help students develop a deeper understanding of the nature of science. Throughout this course, students are given an opportunity to understand how chemistry concepts are applied in technology and engineering. **Journal and Labs are required for this course.**

Honors Physics (Credit: 1.00)

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. Scientific inquiry skills are embedded in the direct instruction, wherein students learn to ask scientific questions, form and test hypotheses, and use logic and evidence to draw conclusions about the concepts. Lab activities reinforce critical thinking, writing, and communication skills and help students develop a deeper understanding of the nature of science. Throughout this course, students are given an opportunity to understand how physics concepts are applied in technology and engineering. Journal and Practice activities provide additional opportunities to apply concepts learned in the Studies and practice their writing skills. Exploration activities challenge students to deconstruct scientific claims, analyze scientific articles, and suggest follow-up experiments or topics for further research. Labs and Journals are required in this advanced course.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment courses are designed by the college board and textbooks must be purchased in addition to the online class work. Students must register and take the collegeboard AP exam to earn AP credit. These courses are very difficult, and require college level performance by students.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment Chemistry

AP* Chemistry builds students' understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying the structure of atoms, molecules, and ions, students move on to solve quantitative chemical problems and explore how molecular structure relates to chemical and physical properties. Students will examine the molecular composition of common substances and learn to predictably transform them through chemical reactions. The equivalent of an introductory college-level chemistry course, AP Chemistry prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, health sciences, or engineering. Labs are required in this course. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board. * Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment Chemistry (DL)

AP* Chemistry (DL) builds students' understanding of the nature and reactivity of matter. After studying the structure of atoms, molecules, and ions, students move on to solve quantitative chemical problems and explore how molecular structure relates to chemical and physical properties. Students will examine the molecular composition of common substances and learn to predictably transform them through chemical reactions. The equivalent of an introductory college-level chemistry course, AP Chemistry (DL) prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, health sciences, or engineering. This course includes "dry lab" activities and is intended for students in a distance learning (DL) setting who do not have access to supervised laboratory facilities. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board. * Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment Biology

AP* Biology builds students' understanding of biology on both the micro and macro scales. After studying cell biology, students move on to understand how evolution drives the diversity and unity of life. Students will examine how living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information and how organisms utilize free energy. The equivalent of an introductory college-level biology course, AP Biology prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in science, health sciences, or engineering. The AP Biology course provides a learning experience focused on allowing students to develop their critical thinking skills and cognitive strategies. Frequent low-stakes assessments allow students to measure their comprehension and improve their performance as they progress through each activity. Students regularly engage with primary sources, allowing them to practice the critical reading and analysis skills that they will need in order to pass the AP exam and succeed in a college biology course. Students perform hands-on labs that give them insight into the nature of science and help them understand biological concepts, as well as how evidence can be obtained to support those concepts. Students also complete several virtual lab studies in which they form hypotheses; collect, analyze, and manipulate data; and report their findings and conclusions. During both virtual and traditional lab investigations and research opportunities, students summarize their findings and analyze others' findings in summaries, using statistical and mathematical calculations when appropriate. Summative tests are offered at the end of each unit as well as at the end of each semester, and contain objective and constructed response items. * Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.

As a Christian School, we allow students to take Honors Apologia Science on CD. Please contact the office for more details. CD, student workbook and tests are supplied by TOPS.





Social Studies/History

Students are required to take a minimum of 3 credits to graduate: World History, American History, Government and Economics.

World Geography and Cultures (Credit 1.00)

World Geography offers a tightly focused 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. Throughout the course students analyze geographic information such as maps, photographs, and demographic statistics. They also describe and evaluate the influence of globalization. Students are given rigorous instruction on how to read and create maps, charts, and graphs. To structure knowledge in a manner that allows students to think as geographers, the course is organized around the geographic themes of location, place, religion, migration, and human environment interaction. These themes are addressed through the lenses of physical geography, cultural geography, political geography, globalization and economics. Students are supported in applying their new geography skills through a variety of assignments such as Practices, Journals, and Discussions as they examine issues near to home and worldwide. The multi-cultural studies section of 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. Students reflect critically on their own experiences as well as those of others. Interactive multimedia activities include personal and historical accounts to which students can respond using methods of inquiry from history, sociology, and psychology. Written assignments and Journals provide opportunities for students to practice and develop skills for thinking and communicating about race, culture, ethnicity, and identity.

World History (Credit: 1.00)

World History offers a tightly focused curriculum that uses multiple perspectives to trace the development of civilizations around the world from prehistory to the present. The course covers major events in world history, including the development and influence of human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts. Students investigate the major religions and belief systems throughout history and learn about the importance of trade and cultural exchange. Other topics include the development of agriculture, the spread of democracy, the rise of nation-states, the industrial era, the spread of imperialism, and the issues and conflicts of the 20th century. Students learn to use primary historical documents as evidence as they learn about past events. World History is designed as the second course in the social studies sequence. Primary documents are embedded in the instruction to encourage students to make frequent connections to evidence from the past. **For a more in-depth world history course, we recommend World History to the Renaissance and since the Renaissance, both full credit courses.**

World History to the Renaissance (Credit: 1.00)

World History to the Renaissance traces the development of civilizations around the world from prehistory to the Renaissance. The course covers major themes in world history, including the development and influence of human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economic systems, major religions and belief systems, science and technology, and the arts. Topics covered in this course include the birth of civilizations; the classical civilizations of India, China, Greece, and Rome; the rise of new empires such as the Byzantine; and an examination of civilizations in Africa and North and South America. From there, students journey to the Middle Ages and into the Renaissance. Primary source documents, which appear frequently, encourage students to make connections to evidence from the past. Writing skills are honed through a spiraled sequence of short analytic pieces.

World History Since the Renaissance (Credit: 1.00)

World History since the Renaissance covers the development of civilizations around the world from the Renaissance to the present. The course covers major themes in world history, including the development and influence of human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economic systems, major religions and belief systems, the effects of science and technology, the vital role of the arts, and the importance of trade and cultural exchange. Topics covered in this course include the Reformation and its legacy, the Scientific Revolution, European exploration, the Enlightenment, political revolutions, the rise of nation-states, the industrial era, the spread of imperialism, and the issues and conflicts of the 20th and 21st centuries. Primary source documents, which appear frequently, encourage students to make connections to evidence from the past. Writing skills are honed through a spiraled sequence of short analytic pieces.

U.S. History (Credit: 1.00)

This course is aligned to the college standard standards in methodology only. U.S. History traces the nation's history from the pre-colonial period to the present. Students learn about the Native American, European, and African people who lived in America before it became the United States. There is a strong emphasis on the "founding fathers" documents, as students 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 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. Moving into the 20th and 21st centuries, students probe the economic and diplomatic interactions between the United States and other world players while investigating how the world wars, the Cold War, and the information revolution affected the lives of ordinary Americans. Woven through this chronological sequence is a strong focus on the changing conditions of women, African Americans, and other minority groups. The course emphasizes the development of historical analysis skills such as comparing and contrasting, differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships. These skills are applied to text interpretation and in written assignments that guide learners step-by-step through problem-solving activities. **For a more in-depth study, TOPS recommends taking 2 full years, including US History to and after the Civil War.**

U.S. History to the Civil War (Credit: 1.00)

This course traces the nation's history from the pre-colonial period to the end of the American Civil War. It emphasizes the colonial period and the creation of a new nation and examines the beliefs and philosophies that informed the American Revolution and the subsequent formation of the government and political system. Students first explore the earliest points of contact between individuals from Europe, Africa, and North America. They then probe the economic, cultural, and social motives for the nation's expansion, as well as the conflicting notions of liberty that eventually resulted in the Civil War. Woven throughout this narrative history is a strong focus on the changing conditions of women, African Americans, and other minority groups. The ways in which Americans lived, ate, dressed, and interacted are also highlighted. The course emphasizes the development of historical analysis skills such as comparing and contrasting, differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships. These skills are applied to text interpretation and in written assignments that guide learners step-by-step through problem-solving activities. The content is based on standards from the National Council for History Education (1997), the National Center for History in the Schools (1996), and the National Council for Social Studies (1994) and is aligned to state standards.

U.S. History Since the Civil War (Credit: 1.00)

This course traces the nation's history from the end of the Civil War to the present. It describes the emergence of the United States as an industrial nation, highlighting social policy as well as its role in modern world affairs. Students evaluate the attempts to bind the nation together during Reconstruction while also exploring the growth of an industrial economy. Moving into the 20th and 21st centuries, students probe the economic and diplomatic interactions between the United States and other world players while investigating how the world wars, the Cold War, and the "information revolution" affected the lives of ordinary Americans. Woven through this chronological sequence is a strong focus on the changing conditions of women, African Americans, and other minority groups. The course emphasizes the development of historical analysis skills such as comparing and contrasting, differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships. These skills are applied to text interpretation and in written assignments that guide learners step-by-step through problem-solving activities. The content is based on standards from the National Council for History Education (1997), the National Center for History in the Schools (1996), and the National Council for Social Studies (1994) and is aligned to state standards.

U.S. Government and Politics (Credit: .5)

U.S. Government and Politics offers a tightly focused curriculum that uses the perspective of political institutions to explore the history, organization, and functions of the U.S. government. Beginning with basic theories of government, moving to the Declaration of Independence, and continuing to the present day, the course explores the relationship between individual Americans and the governing bodies. It covers the political culture of the country and gains insight into the challenges faced by presidents, congressional representatives, and other political activists. It also covers the roles of political parties, interest groups, the media, and the Supreme Court. U.S. Government and Politics is designed to fall in the fourth year of social studies instruction. Students perfect their analytic writing through a series of analytic assignments and written lesson tests. Students read annotated primary documents and apply those documents to the course content. **This course encourages students to examine, and present their political views in a discussion atmosphere. Usually, this course is reserved for 12th grade students.**

U.S. and Global Economics (Credit: .5)

U.S. and Global Economics offers a tightly focused curriculum that provides an introduction to key economic principles. The course covers fundamental properties of economics, including an examination of markets from both historical and current perspectives; the basics of supply and demand; the theories of early economic philosophers such as Adam Smith and David Ricardo; theories of value; the concept of money and how it evolved; the role of banks, investment houses, and the Federal Reserve; Keynesian economics; the productivity, wages, investment, and growth involved in capitalism; unemployment, inflations, and the national debt; and a survey of markets in areas such as China, Europe, and the Middle East. U.S. and Global Economics is designed to fall in the fourth year of social studies instruction. They apply basic mathematics to economic concepts. Students read selections from annotated primary documents and apply those readings to the course content. **Usually, this course is reserved for 12th grade students.**

Sociology (Credit: .5)

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. In online discussions and polls, students reflect critically on their own experiences and ideas, as well as on the ideas of sociologists. Interactive multimedia activities include personal and historical accounts to which students can respond, using methods of inquiry from sociology. Written assignments provide opportunities to practice and develop skills in thinking and communicating about human relationships, individual and group identity, and all other major course topics. The course content is based on the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) Expectations of Excellence: Curriculum Standards for Social Studies.

Psychology (Credit: .5)

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. The content is based on the American Psychological Association's National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula. The teaching methods draw from the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) teaching standards.

Honors: Geography/World Cultures (Credit: .5)

Geography and World Cultures is a robust, one-semester course that explores 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. At the intersection of culture and geography, students learn about art, science, individuals and communities, and history and current events. Students discover how a mountain in the distance can inspire a Sufi poet, how a river blocking a passage occupies a civil engineer and a ship builder alike, and how the sound of a busy Cairo street inspires a musician. Human history is all about cultures meeting — how they influence and inspire each other; what sets one apart from the next; and how they battle each other for land, natural resources, religious dominance, and more. Geography and World Cultures is designed as the first course in the social studies sequence. It develops note-taking skills, teaches analytic writing, and introduces students to the close examination of primary documents. The multi-cultural studies section of 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. Students reflect critically on their own experiences as well as those of others. Interactive multimedia activities include personal and historical accounts to which students can respond using methods of inquiry from history, sociology, and psychology. Written assignments and Journals provide opportunities for students to practice and develop skills for thinking and communicating about race, culture, ethnicity, and identity.

Honors: World History (Credit 1.00)

World History is a robust, writing-intensive course that uses multiple perspectives to trace the development of civilizations around the world from prehistory to the present. Students are encouraged to use their knowledge of critical points in history to develop their points of view and apply what they have learned to the promotion of civic action in a rapidly globalizing world. The course explores how human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economics, science and technology, and the arts have developed and influenced life in these civilizations. Students investigate the major religions and belief systems throughout history and learn about the importance of trade and cultural exchange. Other topics include the development of agriculture, the spread of democracy, the rise of nation-states, the industrial era, the spread of imperialism, and the issues and conflicts of the 20th century. World History is designed as the second course in the social studies sequence. Students continue to improve their analytic writing and develop confidence by writing multiple short analytic pieces and longer essays, including document-based questions. Primary documents are embedded in the instruction to encourage students to make frequent connections to evidence from the past.

Honors: World History to Renaissance (Credit: 1.00)

World History to the Renaissance traces the development of civilizations around the world from prehistory to the Renaissance. The course covers major themes in world history, including the development and influence of human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economic systems, major religions and belief systems, science and technology, and the arts. Topics covered in this course include the birth of civilizations; the classical civilizations of India, China, Greece, and Rome; the rise of new empires such as the Byzantine; and an examination of civilizations in Africa and North and South America. From there, students journey to the Middle Ages and into the Renaissance. Primary source documents, which appear frequently, encourage students to make connections to evidence from the past. Students master historical research and writing techniques and develop confidence in their analytic writing through a sequence of five-paragraph essays and analytic pieces, including document-based questions. Additionally, in a series of web explorations, students use carefully selected Internet resources to gather information for creative writing assignments. The content is based on standards from the National Council for History Education (1997), the National Center for History in the Schools (1996), and the National Council for Social Studies (1994) and is aligned to state standards.

Honors: World History after Renaissance (Credit: 1.00)

World History since the Renaissance covers the development of civilizations around the world from the Renaissance to the present. The course covers major themes in world history, including the development and influence of human-geographic relationships, political and social structures, economic systems, major religions and belief systems, the effects of science and technology, the vital role of the arts, and the importance of trade and cultural exchange. Topics covered in this course include the Reformation and its legacy, the Scientific Revolution, European exploration, the Enlightenment, political revolutions, the rise of nation-states, the industrial era, the spread of imperialism, and the issues and conflicts of the 20th and 21st centuries. Primary source documents, which appear frequently, encourage students to make connections to evidence from the past. A significant focus of this course is student writing. Students develop confidence in their analytic writing through a sequence of five-paragraph essays and analytic pieces, including document-based questions. Additionally, in a series of web explorations, students use the Internet to gather information for creative writing assignments.

Honors: U.S. History (Credit: 1.00)

U.S. History traces the nation's history from the pre-colonial period to the present. Students learn about the Native American, European, and African people who lived in America before 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 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. Moving into the 20th and 21st centuries, students probe the economic and diplomatic interactions between the United States and other world players while investigating how the world wars, the Cold War, and the "information revolution" affected the lives of ordinary Americans. Woven through this chronological sequence is a strong focus on the changing conditions of women, African Americans, and other minority groups. The course emphasizes the development of historical analysis skills such as comparing and contrasting, differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships. These skills are applied to text interpretation and in written assignments that guide learners step-by-step through problem-solving activities. Students perfect their ability to use logic and evidence to create persuasive written arguments in five-paragraph essays and document-based questions.

Honors: U.S. History to the Civil War (Credit: 1.00)

This course traces the nation's history from the pre-colonial period to the end of the American Civil War. It emphasizes the colonial period and the creation of a new nation and examines the beliefs and philosophies that informed the American Revolution and the subsequent formation of the government and political system. Students first explore the earliest points of contact between individuals from Europe, Africa, and North America. They then probe the economic, cultural, and social motives for the nation's expansion, as well as the conflicting notions of liberty that eventually resulted in the Civil War. Woven throughout this narrative history is a strong focus on the changing conditions of women, African Americans, and other minority groups. The ways in which Americans lived, ate, dressed, and interacted are also highlighted. The course emphasizes the development of historical analysis skills such as comparing and contrasting, differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships. These skills are applied to text interpretation and in written assignments that guide learners step-by-step through problem-solving activities. Students perfect their ability to use logic and evidence to create persuasive written arguments in five-paragraph essays and in shorter exercises such as document-based questions and analytic discussions.

Honors: U.S. History since Civil War (Credit: 1.00)

This course traces the nation's history from the end of the Civil War to the present. It describes the emergence of the United States as an industrial nation, highlighting social policy as well as its role in modern world affairs. Students evaluate the attempts to bind the nation together during Reconstruction while also exploring the growth of an industrial economy. Moving into the 20th and 21st centuries, students probe the economic and diplomatic interactions between the United States and other world players while investigating how the world wars, the Cold War, and the "information revolution" affected the lives of ordinary Americans. Woven through this chronological sequence is a strong focus on the changing conditions of women, African Americans, and other minority groups. The course emphasizes the development of historical analysis skills such as comparing and contrasting, differentiating between facts and interpretations, considering multiple perspectives, and analyzing cause-and-effect relationships. These skills are applied to text interpretation and in written assignments that guide learners step-by-step through problem-solving activities. Students perfect their ability to use logic and evidence to create persuasive written arguments in five-paragraph essays and in shorter exercises such as document-based questions and analytic discussions.

Honors: U.S. Government and Politics (Credit: .5)

U.S. Government and Politics is a vigorous, writing-intensive course that uses the perspective of political institutions to explore the history, organization, and functions of the U.S. government. Students are encouraged to use their knowledge of the structures and processes of governing to develop their own views on current political issues and apply what they have learned to the promotion of civic action. Beginning with basic theories of government, moving to the Declaration of Independence, and continuing to the present day, the course explores the relationship between individual Americans and the governing bodies. It looks closely at the political culture of the country and gains insight into the challenges faced by presidents, congressional representatives, and other political activists. It also covers the roles of political parties, interest groups, the media, and the Supreme Court. U.S. Government and Politics is designed to fall in the fourth year of social studies instruction. Students perfect their analytic writing through a series of analytic assignments and written lesson tests. Students perform frequent close readings of primary documents and apply those documents to the course content.

Honors: U.S. and Global Economics (Credit: .5)

U.S. and Global Economics is a wide-ranging course that provides an introduction to key economic principles. Students gain an understanding of choices they must make as producers, consumers, investors, and taxpayers. Topics include an examination of markets from both historical and current perspectives; the basics of supply and demand; the theories of early economic philosophers such as Adam Smith and David Ricardo; theories of value; the concept of money and how it evolved; the role of banks, investment houses, and the Federal Reserve; Keynesian economics; the productivity, wages, investment, and growth involved in capitalism; unemployment, inflation, and the national debt; and a survey of markets in areas such as China, Europe, and the Middle East. U.S. and Global Economics is designed to fall in the fourth year of social studies instruction. Students perfect their analytic writing through a series of analytic assignments and written lesson tests. They also apply basic mathematics to economic concepts.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment courses are designed by the college board and textbooks must be purchased in addition to the online class work. Students must register and take the collegeboard AP exam to earn AP credit. These courses are very difficult, and require college level performance by students.

*** Additional reading materials are required, and must be purchased by the student.**

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment 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. The equivalent of a 100-level college-level class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, political science and history. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment 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. The equivalent of a 100-level college course, AP Microeconomics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, history, and political science. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment U.S. 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. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation. *AP is a registered trademark of the College Board.

Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment Advanced Placement U.S. History

AP* U.S. History analyzes and explores the economic, political, and social changes in America since Columbus. Students master historical knowledge and critical analysis, build reading, writing, and communication skills, and discover how historical events have contributed to American culture. In the process, they'll learn how decisions and events of the past continue to have profound effects on the world today and how knowledge of the causes behind past events can influence future decisions. By the end of the course, students will be ready to put their factual knowledge to work by weighing evidence and interpreting problems presented by historians. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in history, political science, economics, sociology, and law. This course has been authorized by the College Board to use the AP designation.

Advanced Placement Advanced Placement 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'll 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. The equivalent of a 100-level college survey course, AP Psychology prepares students for the AP exam and for further studies in psychology and life sciences.

Apex Electives

Two or three years of the same World Language recommended. All students must take health, physical education, college and career prep I, and a performing or practical art credit. TOPS require all students to have two full credits in Religious studies, or ethics.

French I (Credit: 1.00)

French I teaches students to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as sports, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms to describe school subjects, parts of the body, and people, as well as idiomatic phrases. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes the verb system, adjective agreement, formal and informal address, reflexive verbs, and past tense. Students also gain an understanding of the cultures of French-speaking countries and regions within and outside Europe, as well as insight into Francophone culture and people.

French II (Credit: 1.00)

French II teaches students to communicate more confidently about themselves, as well as about topics beyond their own lives - both in formal and informal address. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms in cooking, geography, and architecture. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes present- and past-tense verb forms and uses, negation, and direct and indirect objects. Students deepen their knowledge of French-speaking regions and cultures by learning about history, literature, culture, and contemporary issues. The material in this course is presented at a moderate pace. The content is based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) standards.

Spanish I (Credit: 1.00)

Spanish I teaches students to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as home life, occupations, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms to describe school subjects, parts of the body, and people, as well as idiomatic phrases. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes the structures and uses of present-tense verb forms, imperatives, adjective agreement, impersonal constructions, formal and informal address, and reflexive verbs. Students explore words used in different Spanish-speaking regions and learn about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and regions within and outside Europe. The material in this course is presented at a moderate pace.

Spanish II (Credit: 1.00)

Building on Spanish I concepts, Spanish II students learn to communicate more confidently about themselves, as well as about topics beyond their own lives - both in formal and informal situations. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Students expand their vocabulary in topics such as cooking, ecology, geography, and architecture. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes a review of present-tense verb forms, an introduction to the past tense, the conditional mood, imperatives, impersonal constructions, and reported speech. Students deepen their knowledge of Spanish-speaking regions and cultures by learning about history, literature, culture, and contemporary issues.

Spanish III (Credit: 1.00)

In Spanish III, students build upon the skills and knowledge they acquired in Spanish I and II. The course presents new vocabulary and grammatical concepts in context while providing students with ample opportunities to review and expand upon the material they have learned previously. Students read and listen to authentic materials from newspapers, magazines, and television. The content is focused on contemporary and relevant topics such as urbanization and population growth in Latin American countries, global health concerns, jobs of the future, and scientific advancements. Students review the formation and use of regular and irregular verbs in the present and future tenses, as well as the use of reflexive particles and infinitives. They also expand their understanding of noun and adjective agreement, the comparative and superlative degree of adjectives, and the placement and use of direct and indirect objects and pronouns. Students expand their vocabulary through exposure to word roots and families, popular slang, the correct use of words that are often confused for one another, and review of concepts such as proper placement of accents and stress. Presentation of new materials is always followed by several interactive, online exercises, allowing students to master the material as they learn it.

Honors French I Credit: 1.00)

Balanced between the thematic and communicative approaches to learning language, French I teaches students to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as sports, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms to describe school subjects, parts of the body, and people, as well as idiomatic phrases. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes the verb system, adjective agreement, formal and informal address, reflexive verbs, and past tense. Students also gain an understanding of the cultures of French-speaking countries and regions within and outside Europe, as well as insight into Francophone culture and people.

Honors: French II (Credit: 1.00)

Building on French I concepts, French II students learn to communicate more confidently about themselves, as well as about topics beyond their own lives — both in formal and informal address. Balanced between the thematic and communicative approaches to learning language, each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms in cooking, geography, and architecture. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes verb conjugations and uses in the present tense, past tense, and imperative and conditional moods, as well as direct and indirect objects and personal, possessive, and relative pronouns. Students deepen their knowledge of French-speaking regions and cultures by learning about history, literature, culture, and contemporary issues. To further connect to French culture and people, students are encouraged to view supplementary materials on the Web or to consult community resources or other media.

Honors: Spanish I (Credit: 1.00)

Spanish I covers the five Cs of the ACTFL standard: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. The instruction is balanced between the thematic and communicative approaches to learning language. Spanish I students learn to greet people, describe family and friends, talk about hobbies, and communicate about other topics, such as ecology, travel, and medicine. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Vocabulary includes terms to describe school subjects, parts of the body, and people, as well as idiomatic phrases. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes the verb system, adjective agreement, formal and informal address, reflexive verbs, and past tense. Students explore words used in different Spanish-speaking regions, and they learn about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries and regions within and outside Europe. Web explorations give students further insight into the culture and people of the Spanish-speaking world, including the United States. Spanish I is balanced between the thematic and communicative approaches to learning language.

Honors: Spanish II (Credit: 1.00)

Spanish II covers the five Cs of the ACTFL standard: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. The instruction is balanced between the thematic and communicative approaches to learning language. Leveraging Spanish I concepts, Spanish II students learn to communicate more confidently about themselves and their hopes and fears, as well as about topics beyond their own lives — both in formal and informal situations. Each lesson presents vocabulary, grammar, and culture in context, followed by explanations and exercises. Students expand their vocabulary in cooking, geography, and architecture. Instruction in language structure and grammar includes verb forms, tenses, moods and uses, impersonal constructions, and reported speech. Students deepen their knowledge of Spanish-speaking regions and cultures by learning about history, literature, culture, and contemporary issues. Students also are encouraged to consult materials outside the course, such as Web links, community resources, or other media, to better understand Spanish-speaking culture and people. Spanish II is balanced between the thematic and communicative approaches to learning language.

SAT Prep Course (Credit: 0.50)

SAT Preparation: 12 week intensive CD and workbook. \$100.00. We highly recommend collegeprepgenius.com. Please check out their website for more information on this great SAT course. When you purchase with them, help and support are available.

College and Career Prep I (Credit: 0.50)

High school students have many questions about the college application process, what it takes to be a successful college student, and how to begin thinking about their careers. 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. Career readiness is also a focus. Students connect the link between interests, college majors, and future careers by analyzing career clusters. Students come away from this course understanding how smart preparation and skill development in high school can lead into expansive career opportunities after they have completed their education and are ready for the working world. Students who complete College and Career Preparation I have the basic skills and foundation of knowledge to progress into College and Career Preparation II, the capstone course that provides hands-on information about the transition from high school to college and career. Students are required to write a 500 page college entrance paper.

College and Career Prep II (Credit: 0.50)

High school students have many questions about the college application process, what it takes to be a successful college student, and how to begin thinking about their careers. 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 as financial aid options.

College and Career Preparation II also instructs students in interviewing techniques and provides career guidance. Students explore valuable opportunities such as job shadowing and internships when preparing for a career. Students who complete this course obtain a deeper understanding of college and career readiness through informative, interactive critical thinking and analysis activities while sharpening their time management, organization, and learning skills that they learned in College and Career Preparation I. College and Career Preparation II prepares students with the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and beyond. Students are required to write a 500 page college entrance paper.

Art Appreciation (Credit: 0.50)

Art Appreciation 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. Coverage of each artistic movement highlights historical context and introduces students to key artists that represent a variety of geographic locations. Throughout the course, students apply what they have learned about art critique to analyze and evaluate both individual artists and individual works of art. Art Appreciation is based on national standards developed by the Consortium of National Arts Education Associations, as well as key state standards. It encompasses a variety of skills to enable students to critique, compare, and perhaps influence their own works of art.

Music Appreciation (Credit: 0.50)

Music Appreciation is a streamlined course that introduces student 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, classical music, and American jazz. The second semester presents the rich modern traditions, including: gospel, folk, soul, blues, Latin rhythms, rock and roll, and hip-hop. The course explores the interface of music and social movements and examines how the emergent global society and the Internet is bringing musical forms together in new ways from all around the world.

HONORS Christian-Based Health-TEXTBOOK COURSE (Credit: 0.50)

The Health course is designed to encourage students to take an active role in personal health. Students will learn about a variety of health topics including, health risks, types of illnesses, functions of the major systems of the body, and health career options. Objectives from elective courses are not tested on national or state achievement tests. As a result, there are no course and adaptive assessments developed for our elective course titles. This course meets national standards yet gives students a Christian perspective, including a section on Abstinence.

Skills for Health (Credit: 0.50) Apex course, modified to meet Christian standards

Skills for Health is a valuable, skills-based health education course designed for general education in grades 9 through 12. Skills for Health helps students develop knowledge, attitudes, and essential skills in a variety of health-related subjects, including mental and emotional health; nutrition; physical activity; substance use and abuse; injury prevention and safety; and personal health, environmental conservation, and community health resources. Through use of accessible information and real-life simulations, students apply the seven health skills. These include access to valid health information; self-management; analysis of internal and external influences; interpersonal communication; decision-making; goal setting; and advocacy.

HOPE (Credit: 1.0)

Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE) combines instruction in health and physical education in a full-year, integrated course. It focuses on developing skills, habits and attitudes to maintain a healthy lifestyle and applying lessons learned to physical fitness. Through active participation and real-world simulations, the course aims to demonstrate firsthand the value of conscientious lifestyle management. HOPE lays a foundation for making healthy decisions by building seven skills: accessing valid health information; analyzing internal and external influences; self-management; interpersonal communication; decision-making; goal setting; and advocacy. Students apply these skills to a variety of topics throughout the course, including mental and social health; physical activity; nutrition; substance prevention; disease and disorders; injury prevention and safety; and personal health. HOPE requires routine participation in a dult-supervised physical activities.

Sociology (Credit: 0.50)

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. In online discussions and polls, students reflect critically on their own experiences and ideas, as well as on the ideas of sociologists. Interactive multimedia activities include personal and historical accounts to which students can respond, using methods of inquiry from sociology. Written assignments provide opportunities to practice and develop skills in thinking and communicating about human relationships, individual and group identity, and all other major course topics.

Psychology (Credit: 0.50)

Psychology provides a solid overview of the fields 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. Students learn about all the domains the American Psychological Association (APA) emphasizes: methods, biopsychology, cognitive and developmental psychology, and variations in individual and group behavior.

Physical Education (Credit: 1.00)

Physical Education combines the best of online instruction with actual student participation in weekly cardiovascular, aerobic, and muscle toning activities. 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. The course requires routine participation in adult-supervised physical activities. Successful completion of this course will require parent/legal guardian sign-off on student-selected physical activities and on weekly participation reports to verify the student is meeting his or her requirements and responsibilities. Physical Education is aligned to national and state standards and the Presidential Council on Physical Fitness and Sports

Organized Team and Organized Sports

Any Organized sport or personal sport with coach, trainer, etc... can count toward Physical Education. We list personalized sports as a separate entity on the transcript, including Tennis, Golf, Competitive Cycling, and Olympic Skating. Please contact the director for more information.

Lifestyle, Personal Fitness

Lifetime Fitness is a lifelong pursuit. This course is designed to teach students basic concepts of lifetime physical fitness as well as give them experience with self-designed exercise programs. This course will allow students to investigate public resources that are available for understanding fitness and accessing activities from walking and hiking to kayaking.

Business Applications (Credit: 0.50)

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. This course allows students to explore careers in business while learning skills applicable to any professional setting. Through a series of hands-on activities, students will create, analyze, and critique reports, letters, project plans, presentations, and other professional communications. Regular engagement in active learning ensures students can continually refine the skills necessary to prepare them for work. In addition, students will evaluate the qualifications required for specific careers so they can identify opportunities that are of interest to them. Business Applications is an introductory level Career and Technical Education course applicable to programs of study in business, management, and administration; information technology; and other career clusters. This course is aligned with state and national standards. Students who successfully complete the course can go on to obtain the Microsoft® Office Specialist: Microsoft® Office Word certification. * Required: Word processing software and presentation management software.

Financial Literacy Credit: 0.50)

Financial Literacy helps students recognize and develop vital skills that connect life and career goals with personalized strategies and milestone-based action plans. Students explore concepts and work toward a mastery of personal finance skills, deepening their understanding of key ideas and extending their knowledge through a variety of problem-solving applications. Course topics include career planning; income, taxation, and budgeting; savings accounts, checking accounts, and electronic banking; interest, investments, and stocks; cash, debit, credit, and credit scores; insurance; and consumer advice on how to buy, rent, or lease a car or house. These topics are solidly supported by writing and discussion activities. Journal activities provide opportunities for students to both apply concepts on a personal scale and analyze scenarios from a third-party perspective. Discussions help students network with one another by sharing personal strategies and goals and recognizing the diversity of life and career plans within a group.

Liberal Arts Math Credit: 1.00)

Liberal Arts Math addresses the need for an elective course that focuses on reinforcing, deepening, and extending a student's mathematical understanding. Liberal Arts Math 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. Course topics include problem solving; real numbers and operations; functions and graphing; systems of linear equations; polynomials and factoring; geometric concepts such as coordinate geometry and properties of geometric shapes; and descriptive statistics.

Honors Nursing I (Credit: 0.50)

Introduction to Health Science provides the foundational knowledge and skills students need for careers in health care. Students begin by exploring the services, structure, and professions of the health care system. The remainder of the course focuses on day-to-day skills and expectations for health professionals, which include promoting wellness, maintaining a safe environment, creating medical records, and practicing good communication, collaboration, and leadership. Using real-life scenarios and application-driven activities, students learn the responsibilities and challenges of being health care professionals. In addition to building their understanding of technical concepts and skills, students evaluate the qualifications required for specific careers and develop personal career plans to pursue work in the health care industry. Introduction to Health Science is an introductory-level Career and Technical Education course for programs of study in health sciences. This course is aligned with state and national standards.

Honors Nursing II (.5 credits)

Intermediate Health Science extends the foundations of the Introduction to Health Science course and covers basic medical science, terminology, procedures, and regulations. This course will help guide students toward choosing a specific career path in health services, including career paths in emergency medicine, nutrition, and alternative medicine. Using real-life scenarios and application-driven activities, students will extend their knowledge of oral and written communication in health science. Students will have an overview of physiology and medical measurements. Students will also synthesize learning from the Introduction to Health Science course by engaging in an analysis of real-life scenarios and deepen their knowledge of various career options. In addition, students will expand their understanding of health and safety systems, how to address emergency situations, and deal with infection control issues.

HONORS Business Applications (.5 credits)

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. This course allows students to explore careers in business while learning skills applicable to any professional setting. Through a series of hands-on activities, students will create, analyze, and critique reports, letters, project plans, presentations, and other professional communications. Regular engagement in active learning ensures students can continually refine the skills necessary to prepare them for work. In addition, students will evaluate the qualifications required for specific careers so they can identify opportunities that are of interest to them. Business Applications is an introductory level Career and Technical Education course applicable to programs of study in business, management, and administration; information technology; and other career clusters. This course is aligned with state and national standards. Required Word processing software and presentation management software.

HONORS Information Technology Applications (.5 credits)

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 hands-on activities, students will learn what to expect in the field of Information Technology and begin exploring career options in the field. Information Technology Applications is an introductory level Career and Technical Education course applicable to programs of study in information technology as well as other career clusters. This course is aligned with state and national standards. Students who successfully complete the course will be prepared to pursue the Microsoft® Office Specialist certifications in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Access, as well as IC3 certification.

Coming Soon!

Mandarin Chinese I**
Mandarin Chinese II**
German I**
German II**
Latin I**
Latin II**

Religious Studies Courses - 1 credits required to graduate, we highly recommend 2 credits

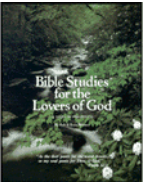
In grades **8th-12th**, students must take a minimum of two full personal Bible study classes using Bob Wiener's popular series: Bible Study for a Firm Foundation, The Overcoming Life, Life of Excellence or a study on The Song of Solomon. All Bible courses require workbooks and essays.



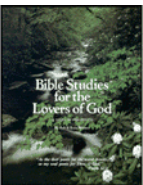
1 CREDIT, Text: Bible Study for a Firm Foundation. Customized, journal with course outline and essays provided by Christian Educators Private Schools. In one workbook is contained a great course for disciples, new members and even seekers. *Bible Studies for a Firm Foundation* is actually a set of 23 Bible studies that can be used by a group or individuals. Basic Christian doctrines are covered in depth with at least four pages of questions and Scripture verses for each topic.



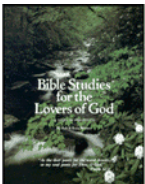
1 CREDIT, Text: The Overcoming Life. Customized, journal with course outline and essays provided by Christian Educators Private Schools. 20 Bible studies divided into 4 stages to being wholly led by the Spirit: brokenness, righteousness, practical Christian living, and the work of the ministry. Each section includes a brief commentary, clarifying questions with answers included in the back of the book. Discover precious truths from God's Word which will help you to be a victorious overcomer.



.5 CREDITS, Text: Study of Philippians. Customized, journal with course outline and essays provided by Christian Educators Private Schools. Anyone seeking deeper faith, the peace of Christ or the courage to face hard times with Christian conviction will benefit by this study of how Paul overcame difficult circumstances by faith. Final Exam is a 500 personal essay.



.5 CREDITS, Text: Study of Book of James. Customized, journal with course outline and essays provided by Christian Educators Private Schools. Believers of all ages will benefit from this Bible study based on the book of James. Using three main headings: It is full of faith, It is full of love, It is full of hope, the Weiner's have developed an interactive 12-study workbook, with answer sheets provided. Final Exam is a 500 personal essay.



1 CREDIT, Text: Study of THE Song of Solomon. Customized, journal with course outline and essays provided by Christian Educators Private Schools. Bob and Rose Wiener present a series of studies on the symbolism and imagery of the Song of Solomon, reflecting a position that the book portrays Christ and his love for his bride, the Church. This is an excellent study for mothers to complete with their daughters. (Advanced study)

GRADPOINT Elective Courses

Elective courses are for high school only. Student must take required electives prior to enrolling in these additional electives (health, PE, Fine Arts, and Religious studies). Gradpoint students take these electives without any additional charge.



Apex students may take ONE course per semester at a cost of \$100 per course additional fee.

Social Problems I and II

The Social Problems course continues to examine timely social issues affecting individuals and societies around the globe. Students learn about the overall structure of the social problem as well as how it impacts their lives. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem, including racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels. For each issue, students examine the connections in the global arena involving societies, governments and the individual.

Sociology II

Sociology is the study of people, social life and society. By developing a sociological imagination, students will be able to examine how society itself shapes human action and beliefs and how in turn these factors re-shape society itself! Fascinating online videos journeys will not only inform students, but motivate them to still seek more knowledge on their own. Prerequisite – sociology I

Veterinary Science

As animals play an increasingly important role in our lives, scientists have sought to learn more about their health and well-being. Taking a look at the pets that live in our homes, on our farms, and in zoos and wildlife sanctuaries, this course will examine some of the common diseases and treatments for domestic animals. Toxins, parasites, and infectious diseases impact not only the animals around us, but at times we humans as well! Through veterinary medicine and science, the prevention and treatment of diseases and health issues is studied and applied. Prerequisite – Biology

World Religions

Throughout the ages, religions from around the world have shaped the political, social, and cultural aspects of societies. This course focuses on the major religions that have played a role in human history, including Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Shintoism, and Taoism. Students will trace the major developments in these religions and explore their relationships with social institutions and culture. The course will also discuss some of the similarities and differences among the major religions and examine the connections and influences they have. Prerequisite – Bible for a Firm Foundation textbook

Hospitality & Tourism

With greater disposable income and more opportunities for business travel, people are traversing the globe in growing numbers. As a result, hospitality and tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. This course will introduce students to the hospitality and tourism industry, including hotel and restaurant management, cruise ships, spas, resorts, theme parks, and other areas. Student will learn about key hospitality issues, the development and management of tourist locations, event planning, marketing, and environmental issues related to leisure and travel. The course also examines some current and future trends in the field.

International Business

From geography to culture Global Business is an exciting topic in the business community today. This course is designed to help students develop the appreciation, knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to live and work in a global marketplace. It takes a global view on business, investigating why and how companies go international and are more interconnected. The course further provides students a conceptual tool by which to understand how economic, social, cultural, political and legal factors influence both domestic and cross-border business. Business structures, global entrepreneurship, business management, marketing, and the challenges of managing international organizations will all be explored in this course. Students will cultivate a mindfulness of how history, geography, language, cultural studies, research skills, and continuing education are important in both business activities and the 21st century.

Law & Order

Every society has laws that its citizens must follow. From traffic laws to regulations on how the government operates, laws help provide society with order and structure. Our lives are guided and regulated by our society's legal expectations. Consumer laws help protect us from faulty goods; criminal laws help to protect society from individuals who harm others; and family law handles the arrangements and issues that arise in areas like divorce and child custody. This course focuses on the creation and application of laws in various areas of society. By understanding the workings of our court system, as well as how laws are actually carried out, we become more informed and responsible citizens in our communities and of our nation.

Philosophy

This course will take you on an exciting adventure that covers more than 2,500 years of history! Along the way, you'll run into some very strange characters. For example, you'll read about a man who hung out on street corners, barefoot and dirty, pestering everyone he met with questions. You'll learn about another eccentric who climbed inside a stove to think about whether he existed. Despite their odd behavior, these and other philosophers of the Western world are among the most brilliant and influential thinkers of all time. As you learn about these great thinkers, you'll come to see how and where many of the most fundamental ideas of Western Civilization originated. You'll also get a chance to ask yourself some of the same questions these great thinkers pondered. By the time you've closed the book on this course, you will better understand yourself and the world around you from atoms to outer space and everything in between.

Prerequisite – sociology I and psychology

Real World Parenting

What is the best way to care for children and teach them self-confidence and a sense of responsibility? Parenting involves more than having a child and providing food and shelter. Learn what to prepare for, what to expect, and what vital steps parents can take to create the best environment for their children. Parenting roles and responsibilities, nurturing and protective environments for children, positive parenting strategies, and effective communication in parent/child relationships are some of the topics covered in this course.

Anthropology I

The aim of anthropology is to use a broad approach to gain an understanding of our past, present and future, and in addition address the problems humans face in biological, social and cultural life. This course will explore the evolution, similarity and diversity of humankind through time. It will look at how we have evolved from a biologically and culturally weak species to one that has the ability to cause catastrophic change. Exciting online video journeys to different areas of the anthropological world are just one of the powerful learning tools utilized in this course.

Anthropology II

Anthropology has helped us better understand cultures around the world and through different time periods. This course continues the study of global cultures and the ways that humans have made sense of their world. We will examine some of the ways that cultures have understood and gave meaning to different stages of life and death. The course will also examine the creation of art within cultures and examine how cultures evolve and change over time. Finally, we will apply the concepts and insights learned from the study of anthropology to several cultures found in the world today. Prerequisite – Anthropology I

Archeology

George Santayana once said, those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. The field of archeology helps us to better understand the events and societies of the past that have helped to shape our modern world. This course focuses on this techniques, methods, and theories that guide the study of the past. Students will learn how archaeological research is conducted and interpreted, as well as how artifacts are located and preserved. Finally, students will learn about the relationship of material items to culture and what we can learn about past societies from these items.

Criminology

In today's world, crime and deviant behavior rank at or near the top of many people's concerns. In this course, we will study the field of Criminology - the study of crime. We will look at possible explanations for crime from the standpoint of psychological, biological and sociological perspectives, explore the categories and social consequences of crime, and investigate how the criminal justice system handles not only criminals, but also their misdeeds. Why do some individuals commit crimes why others do not? What aspects in our culture and society promote crime and deviance? Why are different punishments given for the same crime? What factors from arrest to punishment help shape the criminal case process?

Digital Photography I

Have you ever wondered how photographers take such great pictures? Have you tried to take photographs and wondered why they didn't seem to capture that moment that you saw with your eyes? The Digital Photography I course focuses on the basics of photography, including building an understanding of aperture, shutter speed, lighting, and composition. Students will be introduced to the history of photography and basic camera functions. Students will use the basic techniques of composition and camera functions to build a portfolio of images, capturing people, landscapes, close-up, and action photographs.

Digital Photography II

In today's world, photographs are all around us, including in advertisements, on websites, and hung on our walls as art. Many of the images that we see, have been created by professional photographers. In this course, we will examine various aspects of professional photography, including the ethics of the profession, and examine some of the areas that professional photographers may choose to specialize in, such as wedding photography and product photography. We will also learn more about some of the most respected professional photographers in history and we will learn how to critique photographs in order to better understand what creates an eye catching photograph. Prerequisite – Digital Photography I

Forensic Science I

Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student will follow evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

Forensic Science II

Although the crime scene represents the first step in solving crimes through forensic science, the crime laboratory plays a critical role in the analysis of evidence. This course focuses on the analysis of evidence and testing that takes place within this setting. We will examine some of the basic scientific principles and knowledge that guides forensic laboratory processes, such as those testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, odontology, entomology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy will be examined. Prerequisite – Forensic Science I

Health Science

Will we ever find a cure for cancer? What treatments are best for conditions like diabetes and asthma? How are illnesses like meningitis, tuberculosis, and the measles identified and diagnosed? Health sciences provide the answers to questions such as these. In this course, students will be introduced to the various disciplines within the health sciences, including toxicology, clinical medicine, and biotechnology. They will explore the importance of diagnostics and research in the identification and treatment of diseases. The course presents information and terminology for the health sciences and examines the contributions of different health science areas.

History of the Holocaust

Holocaust education requires a comprehensive study of not only times, dates, and places, but also the motivation and ideology that allowed these events. In this course, students will study the history of anti-Semitism; the rise of the Nazi party; and the Holocaust, from its beginnings through liberation and the aftermath of the tragedy. The study of the Holocaust is a multi-disciplinary one, integrating world history, geography, American history, and civics. Through this in-depth, semester-long study of the Holocaust, high school students will gain an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice and indifference, the potential for government-supported terror, and they will get glimpses of kindness and humanity in the worst of times. Prerequisite – world history

Fashion and Interior Design

Do you have a flair for fashion? Are you constantly redecorating your room? If so, the design industry might just be for you! In this course, you'll explore what it is like to work in the industry by exploring career possibilities and the background that you need to pursue them. Get ready to try your hand at designing as you learn the basics of color and design then test your skills through hands-on projects. In addition, you'll develop the essential communication skills that build success in any business. By the end of the course, you'll be well on your way to developing the portfolio you need to get your stylishly clad foot in the door of this exciting field.

Sports and Entertainment Marketing

Ever wished you could play sports professionally? Have you dreamed of one day becoming an agent for a celebrity entertainer? If you answered yes to either question, then believe it or not, you've been fantasizing about entering the exciting world of sports and entertainment marketing. Although this particular form of marketing bears some resemblance to traditional marketing, there are many differences as well-including a lot more glitz and glamour! In this course, you'll have the opportunity to explore basic marketing principles and delve deeper into the multi-billion dollar sports and entertainment marketing industry. You'll learn about how professional athletes, sports teams, and well known entertainers are marketed as commodities and how some of them become billionaires as a result. If you've ever wondered about how things work behind the scenes of a major sporting event such as the Super Bowl or even entertained the idea of playing a role in such an event, then this course will introduce you to the fundamentals of such a career.

A TOPS Guidance Counselor will provide an Academic Projection to high school students according to their choice of one of our three diploma options. We highly recommend ALL students earn a college preparatory or honors diploma if they plan to attend college.