



**Upper School Core Course Catalog
2024-2025**



GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Required Credits

Subject	Credits Required	Notes	Requirement Satisfied
English	4		
Math	4		
Science	3-4 ¹	Bio & Chem Required	
Social Science	3-4 ¹	US History Required	
World Language	3-4 ¹	3 years of 1 language or 2 years of 2 languages See note below ²	
Visual & Performing Arts	2		
Physical Education	2	See note below ³	
Electives	4		
Experiential Learning	1	See note below ⁴	
College Prep	1	See note below ⁵	
Community Service	40 hours	See note below ⁶	

¹ Science, Social Science, World Language Fourth Credit Requirement

Students must take a fourth credit in one subject of their choice between science, social science, or world language during their senior year.

² International Student World Languages Policy

International students are exempt from taking a world language during their first year. They will be required to take up to two years of the same world language after that. The Salisbury School reserves the right to make exceptions on a case-by-case basis.

³ Physical Education Requirement

Students may meet the physical education requirement by any combination of the following options:

- Physical Education Course = 1 credit
- Sport Team Member = ½ credit (up to two credits)
- Sport Team Manager = ½ credit (up to two credits)
- Independent Athletic Waiver

⁴ Experiential Learning Requirement

Students must participate in an experiential trip each year of enrollment (with the exception of senior year). Students will earn a Pass/Fail grade and 0.33 credits each year. This Pass/Fail grade is not included in the student's GPA calculation.

⁵ College Prep

Students must participate in College Prep each year of enrollment. Students will earn a Pass/Fail grade and 0.25 credits each year. This Pass/Fail grade is not included in the student's GPA calculation.

⁶ Community Service

Students must complete **40 hours** over the course of their 4-year upper school experience. Service hours may be a combination of school-planned and independent student-initiated projects.

GRADUATION PLANNER

9 th Grade			# of Credits	10 th Grade			# of Credits
English				English			
Math				Math			
Science				Science			
Social Science				Social Science			
World Language				World Language			
Visual & Performing Arts				Visual & Performing Arts			
P.E.				P.E.			
Electives				Electives			
Exp. Learning				Exp. Learning			
College Prep				College Prep			
Community Service				Community Service			
	Total Credits:				Total Credits:		

11 th Grade			# of Credits	12 th Grade			# of Credits
English				English			
Math				Math			
Science				Science			
Social Science				Social Science			
World Language				World Language			
Visual & Performing Arts				Visual & Performing Arts			
P.E.				P.E.			
Electives				Electives			
Exp. Learning				Exp. Learning			
College Prep				College Prep			
Community Service				Community Service			
	Total Credits:				Total Credits:		

Total Credits Required: 28	Total Credits Earned:
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CORE COURSE OFFERINGS

The following list, including prerequisite requirements, is subject to change at the discretion of The Salisbury School faculty based on factors such as teacher availability, student interest, and other extenuating circumstances. Please consult the Head of Upper School with any questions regarding current course availability.

Please note that any course not designated as an Honors or Advanced Placement (AP) is a College Prep (CP) level course, all of which are designed to rigorously prepare students for the expectations of a 4-year University. Courses designated as Honors or AP challenge students further, and require a larger volume of independent coursework than their CP equivalents. AP courses specifically must follow a rigorous course outline as determined by the College Board, and therefore require additional summer assignments as well as required work over extended breaks from school, including our Holiday Break, Winter Break, and Spring Break.

English

INTRODUCTION TO COMPOSITION & LITERATURE

Grade level(s): 9

This 9th-grade English course challenges students to establish an effective process for writing, revising, and editing full-length academic compositions. The course will teach students how to write precisely and express ideas fluently. 9th Grade English also takes students through a survey of and approaches to literature. Class discussions will be employed to engage active participation in a variety of relevant topics.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of 8th Grade English

Credit Awarded: One English credit

WORLD LITERATURE

Grade level(s): 10

This 10th-grade English course challenges students to carefully read, interpret, and appreciate works of literature from around the globe while solidifying their comprehension of the technical aspects of narratives, poetry, and drama. Through in-class discussions, journaling, formal writing assignments, and projects, students will develop their understanding of composition strategies, logical reasoning, and literary analysis.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Composition & Literature

Credit Awarded: One English credit

HONORS WORLD LITERATURE

Grade level(s): 10

This 10th-grade English course challenges students to carefully read, interpret, and appreciate works of literature from around the globe while solidifying their comprehension of the technical aspects of narratives, poetry, and drama. Through in-class discussions, journaling, formal writing assignments, and projects, students will develop their understanding of composition strategies, logical reasoning, and literary analysis. As an honors course, students are expected to complete additional objectives, requirements, and/or assignments to demonstrate a higher level of understanding and proficiency.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Introduction to Composition & Literature, an 88% writing average, and a teacher recommendation

Credit Awarded: One English credit

AMERICAN LITERATURE

Grade level(s): 11

This 11th-grade English course will assist students in enhancing their reading and analytic skills through the examination of rhetoric and American literature. Students will learn how to develop their research and writing abilities through a series of essays and projects. By the end of the year, students should be able to identify various genres and their respective elements, analyze rhetorical constructions of a text, and compose essays for different audiences and situations.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World Literature (CP or Honors)

Credit Awarded: One English credit

HONORS AMERICAN LITERATURE

Grade level(s): 11

This 11th-grade English course will assist students in enhancing their reading and analytic skills through the examination of rhetoric and American literature. Students will learn how to develop their research and writing abilities through a series of essays and projects. By the end of the year, students should be able to identify various genres and their respective elements, analyze rhetorical constructions of a text, and compose essays for different audiences and situations. As an honors course, students are expected to complete additional objectives, requirements, and/or assignments to demonstrate a higher level of understanding and proficiency.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in World Literature and a teacher recommendation or grade of 83% or higher in Honors World Literature and a teacher recommendation.

Credit Awarded: One English credit

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

Grade level(s): 11

This Advanced Placement course is designed to enhance students' reading and analytic skills through the close examination of rhetorical strategies from diction and syntax to repetition and figurative language in a variety of texts from American and international authors. Students will be able to transfer this knowledge to their own compositions to cultivate their own style and ability to communicate clearly and effectively for a variety of purposes and audiences.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors World Literature, a timed-writing sample, and a teacher recommendation.

Credit Awarded: One English credit

COMPOSITION & RESEARCH

Grade level(s): 12

This 12th-grade English course is designed to enhance the reading, writing, and analytic skills of students by exploring classic literature as well as contemporary documents. Thematically driven, this course attempts to come to a greater understanding of our culture and society by exploring a variety of relevant topics including the American Dream, freedom, and equity. By the conclusion of this course, students should be prepared for collegiate writing as they will be familiar with a variety of composition strategies (predominantly argumentative-based) and will be able to research, interpret, and integrate a variety of mediums into their writing.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of American Literature (CP or Honors)

Credit Awarded: One English credit

HONORS COMPOSITION & RESEARCH

Grade level(s): 12

This 12th-grade English course is designed to enhance the reading, writing, and analytic skills of students by exploring classic literature as well as contemporary documents. Thematically driven, this course attempts to come to a greater understanding of our culture and society by exploring a variety of relevant topics including the American Dream, freedom, and equity. By the conclusion of this course, students should be prepared for collegiate writing as they will be familiar with a variety of composition strategies (predominantly argumentative-based) and will be able to research, interpret, and integrate a variety of mediums into their writing. As an honors course, students are expected to complete additional objectives, requirements, and/or assignments to demonstrate a higher level of understanding and proficiency.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in American Literature and a teacher recommendation or a grade of 83% or higher in Honors American

Literature and a teacher recommendation.

Credit Awarded: One English credit

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

Grade level(s): 12

This Advanced Placement course is designed to enhance students' reading and literary analysis skills through the close examination of development strategies in novels, short stories, poems, and prose. Individuals enrolled in this class will be exposed to a variety of texts from several different time periods to develop their understanding of literary movements, literary theory, diction, modes of discourse, figurative language, and narrative strategies as well as enhance their working vocabulary. These analytic skills will be demonstrated through the completion of a series of argumentative and analytical essays. In order to substantiate their writing, students will be expected to find, evaluate, and incorporate primary research in several of their papers as well as properly format and document those inclusions utilizing the Modern Language Association's guidelines.

Prerequisite: A grade of 85% or higher in AP Language & Composition, a timed writing sample, and a teacher recommendation. A grade of 90% or higher in Honors American Literature, a timed writing sample, and a teacher recommendation.

Credit Awarded: One English credit

Math

ALGEBRA I

Grade level(s): 9

This course is designed as an introduction to the techniques and principles of algebra and will reinforce the students knowledge of the real number system. Students are taught the basics of working with variables and solving and graphing equations and inequalities. Students will be introduced to the concept of matrices (along with some of their applications), probability, and statistics. Students will learn to use graphing calculators as problem solving tools. Real-world problems will be used to motivate students to apply the concepts learned. This is a college preparatory course that is a prerequisite for all of the more advanced math courses.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

GEOMETRY

Grade level(s): 9-10

This course will give the student a strong background in the types of mathematical reasoning

and problem solving that will be important in the student's future. It will emphasize visualizing and analyzing geometric relationships in two and three dimensions, develop inductive and deductive reasoning skills, and investigate connections of geometry to algebra, probability, trigonometry, and discrete mathematics. The student will have the opportunity to participate in explorations of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small group and whole-class discussions. The student will be encouraged to use the graphics calculator for investigations.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

HONORS GEOMETRY

Grade level(s): 9-10

This course introduces the student to the rigors of an honors level mathematics course. Logical argument and proof are introduced early and simply. A range of proofs is presented including traditional two-column, paragraph, flow diagrams and coordinate geometry. The student will be encouraged to use the graphics calculator for investigations. Upon completion of the course all students will be able to analyze a problem in order to supply a diagram, set up a proof, and complete it successfully. The student will have the opportunity to participate in explorations of mathematical concepts, cooperative learning activities, and small-group and whole-class discussions.

Prerequisite: A grade of 82% or higher in Algebra I. Under special circumstances, and with teacher recommendations, this course may be taken simultaneously with Honors Algebra II.

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

ALGEBRA II

Grade level(s): 9-11

This course examines advanced topics in Algebra. Problem solving will be emphasized throughout the course. A review of Algebra I is given with many of the topics expanded upon. Such topics as quadratic equations with irrational and complex roots, simultaneous equations, polynomials, logarithmic and exponential functions are covered. Topics involving matrices are also examined.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

HONORS ALGEBRA II

Grade level(s): 9-11

This is a rigorous course examining advanced topics in Algebra. It is taught through a problem solving approach. Such topics as quadratic equations with irrational and complex roots, simultaneous quadratic equations, polynomial functions, logarithmic and exponential functions, and trigonometry are covered extensively. It may be

taken concurrently with Geometry Honors for those who wish to accelerate through Calculus.

Prerequisite: A grade of 85% or higher in Algebra I, a high score on the placement test, and teacher recommendation

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

ADVANCED ALGEBRA/TRIGONOMETRY

Grade level(s): 10-12

This course is for those students who have completed Algebra II. Students who have had difficulty in Algebra II Honors may also select this course. Concepts introduced in Algebra II are continued and strengthened. Also a detailed course in trigonometry is presented. Topics from discrete mathematics and probability and statistics are also included.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

HONORS PRE-CALCULUS

Grade level(s): 10-12

This course will provide a necessary mathematical background for students interested in scientific fields and other mathematically related areas. This course emphasizes the study of functions and the sketching of their graphs. Trigonometry and analytic geometry are reviewed with the emphasis being placed on applications of basic principles. A thorough introduction to Calculus is given with emphasis being placed on limits and the derived function. Vectors and matrices are also studied.

Prerequisite: A grade of 82% or higher in Honors Algebra II and teacher recommendation.

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

HONORS CALCULUS

Grade level(s): 12

This course provides an introduction to Calculus. Throughout the course, students will study limits, derivatives, summations and integrals. Throughout the course, students will develop an understanding of how the concepts of derivatives and integrals are used in real-world applications. Specifically, students will study related rates, optimization, and the applications of calculus concepts in physics.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors PreCalculus

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

AP CALCULUS AB

Grade level(s): 11-12

This is an AP level course in Calculus. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP Calculus AB exam in May of the school year. The concepts of limit, continuity, derivative, anti-derivative and definite integral are developed and applied to

polynomial, rational, trigonometric, inverse trigonometric, exponential and logarithmic functions and their various combinations. Topics treated include the Intermediate Value and Mean Value Theorems, differentiation and integration formulas for the above functions, the product, quotient and chain rules for derivatives, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus and the solution of separable differential equations. Techniques include implicit differentiation, use of differentials for approximation and evaluation of integrals by substitution. Applications include maximum and minimum problems, related rates, areas, volumes, fluid pressure, arc length, work, velocity acceleration, exponential growth and decay, and curve sketching, including tangents, maxima and minima, regions of concavity, inflection points, asymptotes and symmetries. The graphics/programmable calculator is an integral part of the course. The graphics features will be used to enhance for the students the understanding of many of the important concepts. The students will be expected to use built in programs to solve problems and reduce tedious steps.

Prerequisite: A grade of 85% or higher in Honors PreCalculus, a PSAT Math score of 600 or above, and teacher recommendation.

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

AP CALCULUS BC

Grade level(s): 12

This is a second level AP course in Calculus. Students will have the opportunity to take the AP Calculus BC exam in May of the school year. It is a self-paced course that is designed for different learning speeds and yet permits students to achieve a high mastery of content. Differentiation and integration techniques from Calculus I will be reviewed and extended. Parametric, polar and vector functions will be introduced along with their derivatives. Additional applications of the integral and derivative will be examined. The solutions to more difficult differential equations will be presented along with their applications. Polynomial approximations and series will be covered in detail.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Calculus AB

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

STATISTICS

Grade level(s): 11-12

This course will introduce students to many of the important concepts and procedures they will need to evaluate daily inputs such as organizational reports, newspaper and magazine articles and radio and television commentaries, and enable them to make more informed decisions over a wide range of topics. Basic probability concepts, sampling distributions, estimating parameters and testing procedures will be examined.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II and/or Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

AP STATISTICS

Grade level(s): 11-12

This course will prepare the student to take the AP exam in Statistics. The main topics studied will be exploring data, planning a study and deciding what and how to measure, producing models using probability theory and simulation, and statistical inference.

Prerequisite: A grade of 80% or higher in Honors Algebra II and teacher recommendation. This course may be taken in conjunction with Honors PreCalculus or Calculus.

Credit Awarded: One Math credit

Science

CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS

Grade level(s): 9

This course is designed to acquaint students with the ability to explain and predict the outcome of certain interactions which occur between matter and energy. Students will become familiar with the basic concepts of physics and will utilize the scientific method during discovery.

Prerequisite: N/A

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

HONORS PHYSICS

Grade level(s): 9

This course is designed to acquaint students with the ability to explain and predict the outcome of certain interactions which occur between matter and energy. Students will become familiar with the basic concepts of physics and will utilize the scientific method during discovery. This is a Math intensive course with an emphasis on Algebra and Trigonometry.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of or concurrent enrollment in Honors Algebra II

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

CHEMISTRY

Grade level(s): 10

This course is designed to offer an overview of the basic principles of chemistry in an engaging and interactive way. Emphasis will be placed on exploring concepts using the scientific method. Additionally, mathematical approaches will be extensively utilized to understand basic scientific principles. Finally, the primary goal of this class is

to nurture each student's innate interest in the amazing chemical world around them!

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Conceptual Physics (Honors or CP)

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

HONORS CHEMISTRY

Grade level(s): 10

This course is designed to acquaint students with the processes and properties of matter and change. Students will become familiar with the basic concepts of chemistry and will utilize the scientific method during discovery. This course covers the first seven topics of AP Chemistry. This course is math intensive.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors Physics or teacher recommendation from CP Physics

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

BIOLOGY

Grade level(s): 11

This course is designed to offer an overview of the basic principles of biology in an engaging and interactive way. Emphasis will be placed on exploring concepts using the scientific method. Additionally, mathematical approaches will be extensively utilized to understand basic scientific principles. Finally, the primary goal of this class is to nurture each student's innate interest in the amazing world around them! Because this is an honors course, supplemental material will be used throughout the course of the class. Students will be expected to read and understand selected primary research articles and interpret scientific data.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry (Honors or CP)

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

HONORS BIOLOGY

Grade level(s): 11

This course is designed to offer an overview of the basic principles of biology in an engaging and interactive way. Emphasis will be placed on exploring concepts using the scientific method. Additionally, mathematical approaches will be extensively utilized to understand basic scientific principles. Finally, the primary goal of this class is to nurture each student's innate interest in the amazing world around them! Because this is an honors course, supplemental material will be used throughout the course of the class. Students will be expected to read and understand selected primary research articles and interpret scientific data.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors Chemistry or teacher recommendation from CP Chemistry

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

AP BIOLOGY

Grade level(s): 12

Advanced Placement (AP) Biology is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory biology course taken by biology majors during their freshman year of college to perfect their knowledge of advanced scientific concepts. The AP Biology course provides an opportunity for Salisbury School students to pursue and receive credit for college-level coursework completed at the secondary school level. The major focus of the year is to prepare students for the AP Biology exam and to provide the opportunity for them to learn technical/formal laboratory writing. We use Campbell's Biology text and follow the AP Biology Program as provided by the College Board: students are expected to sit for the AP exam. This course requires after-school lab time (weekends) as well as a considerable amount of work outside the classroom.

Prerequisite: Senior status with a grade of 90% or higher in both Honors Chemistry and Honors Biology

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

AP CHEMISTRY

Grade level(s): 11-12

Advanced Placement (AP) Chemistry is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory course for Chemistry majors during their freshman year of college. The AP Chemistry course provides an opportunity for Salisbury School students to pursue and receive credit for college-level coursework completed at the secondary school level. The major focus of the year is to prepare students for the AP Chemistry exam. AP Chemistry covers twice the content of Honors Chemistry. Students must be self motivated learners for many of the topics and are expected to sit for the AP exam.

Prerequisite: Seniors status with a grade of 93% or higher in Honors Chemistry. Juniors by recommendation only

Credit Awarded: One Science credit

SOCIAL SCIENCE

CIVICS

Grade level(s): 9

This ninth grade history course provides an in-depth examination of the American political system. The course is designed around five main questions developed by the Center for Civic education. These include: What are civic life, politics, and government? What are the foundations of the American political system? How does the government established by the Constitution embody the purposes, values, and principles of

American Democracy? What is the relationship of the United States to other nations and to world affairs? What are the roles of the citizens in American democracy? The goal of the course is to enable students to be informed, responsible, active, and enthusiastic participants in our American political system. Emphasis will be placed on critical thinking skills and connections will be made to real issues facing the United States and the world.

Prerequisite: None

Credit Awarded: One Social Science credit

WORLD HISTORY

Grade level(s): 10

This course provides the student with the opportunity to analyze, study and learn about the evolution of the modern world from an assortment of relatively detached regions around 1000 to 1970. The thrust of this course will be analyzing the emergence of the interdependence of among world regions. In our endeavor to understand the interconnectedness of global histories, we will analyze cultural, demographic, ecological, political and social ramifications of history. Class lectures and discussions will center on concerns of diversity, ethnicity, gender, imperialism, nationalism, power balances/imbbalances and social class. Though fundamentally a course in world history, it will touch on other academic fields, such as anthropology, art history, gender studies, literature and political science.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Civics

Credit Awarded: One Social Science credit

HONORS WORLD HISTORY

Grade level(s): 10

This course provides the student with the opportunity to analyze, study and learn about the evolution of the modern world from an assortment of relatively detached regions around 1000 to 1970. The thrust of this course will be analyzing the emergence of the interdependence of among world regions. In our endeavor to understand the interconnectedness of global histories, we will analyze cultural, demographic, ecological, political and social ramifications of history. Class lectures and discussions will center on concerns of diversity, ethnicity, gender, imperialism, nationalism, power balances/imbbalances and social class. Though fundamentally a course in world history, it will touch on other academic fields, such as anthropology, art history, gender studies, literature and political science. Students taking the Honors track of this class will be required to engage in critical thinking exercises and other tasks that necessitate higher-level skills each week. Additionally, they will need to prepare more for our quizzes and tests which have more questions than the College Prep-versions of the assessment materials. Finally, Honors students will be expected to participate in all of our class discussions and debates.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Civics

Credit Awarded: One Social Science credit

AP MODERN WORLD HISTORY

Grade level(s): 10-12

In this Advanced Placement course students will investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation.

Prerequisite: A grade of 93% or higher in Civics and teacher recommendation

Credit Awarded: One Social Science credit

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade level(s): 11

This junior level course examines the history of the United States from a chronological perspective. It begins with Meso-America and continues to the present day. Within this perspective, four specific themes will be emphasized: defining the role of government, expanding economic opportunity, living in a multicultural and multiracial society, and changing relationships in the world. This course requires students to complete a significant amount of reading from the text, primary source documents and current news articles that relate to United States History.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors or CP World History

Credit Awarded: One Social Science credit

HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade level(s): 11

This junior level course examines the history of the United States from a chronological perspective. It begins with Meso-America and continues to the present day. Within this perspective, four specific themes will be emphasized: defining the role of government, expanding economic opportunity, living in a multicultural and multiracial society, and changing relationships in the world. This course requires students to complete a significant amount of reading from the text, primary source documents and current news articles that relate to United States History. An Honors distinction will require additional assignments designed to challenge students to display a greater degree of critical thinking and leadership in the class.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors or CP World History

Credit Awarded: One Social Science credit

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade level(s): 11

This Advanced Placement course is a comprehensive and intense study of the American experience from the period of early exploration to the contemporary era. More than any other course offered in the social studies curriculum, the AP United States History class requires daily preparation and class discussion on the part of the students. Also, the course is attuned to significant study of historiography. This course will be divided into periods of time and focuses on several themes throughout American history. These themes include defining the role of government, national identity and citizenship while living in a multicultural and multiracial society, expanding economic evolution and opportunity, and American foreign policy in an increasingly global environment. Students come into contact with major American historians of the past and present. Furthermore, major attention is placed on research techniques and the production of document based questions, article critiques, outside class annotated essays, and local histories. Thus, students explore a variety of sources including primary, secondary, oral, audio-visual, and technological. The requirements and expectations of this course correspond with a traditional college sophomore or 200 level class in terms of student expectations. The participation of the AP Exam is required.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in World History Honors, teacher recommendation, and successful completion of a sample DBQ assignment

Credit Awarded: One Social Science credit

Visual & Performing Arts

CONCERT BAND

Grade level(s): 9-12

This is a performance-based instrumental music ensemble designed to build a student's musical interest and talent by applying advanced music theory to a wide variety of music we perform as we prepare to enter the collegiate world. The music will include traditional concert band repertoire, jazz, pop, and pep band music for concerts and other school events.

Prerequisite: Previous enrollment in Concert Band or teacher recommendation

Credit Awarded: One Visual & Performing Arts credit

CONCERT CHOIR

Grade level(s): 9-12

In this visual and performing arts elective, students practice singing individually and as a unit, and they examine concepts such as dynamics, harmony, tempo, phrasing, breath support, proper singing diction, choral blending, and artistic expression. Students also expand their knowledge of music theory through classwork assignments and assessments, ear-training exercises, and rhythm and sight-singing drills.

Prerequisite: At least one year of prior choral experience

Credit Awarded: One Visual & Performing Arts credit

WORLD LANGUAGES

MANDARIN I

Grade level(s): 9-12

This course is an introduction to modern spoken and written Mandarin Chinese. Beginners' speaking, listening comprehension and basic principles in grammar along with simple exercises in compositions and reading which include cultural material.

Prerequisite: None

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

MANDARIN II

Grade level(s): 9-12

This is the second level Mandarin course. The student will continue to progress in the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing by learning more characters/vocabulary and broadened sentence patterns. Instruction will continue to include Chinese grammar to establish a solid foundation for the use of the language. Students are expected to apply what they have learned and write short sentences. Additionally, the course will integrate Chinese culture into language learning to enhance the understanding of cultural influence on the language.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Mandarin I with a 73% or higher or successful completion of Mandarin in middle school with teacher recommendation

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

HONORS MANDARIN III

Grade level(s): 10-12

This is an intermediate-level Chinese language course. Besides continuing speaking and listening comprehension, this course also offers students more opportunities to improve their reading ability, to enlarge their vocabulary, and to develop their writing skill. Students may expect to enlarge both

their spoken and written vocabulary on various topics.

Prerequisite: A grade of 73% or higher in Mandarin II

Credit Awarded: One World Languages credit

HONORS MANDARIN IV

Grade level(s): 10-12

This Chinese course is designed for students who already have knowledge of basic Chinese. The purpose of this course is to facilitate oral practice, allow students to communicate in real-life situations, and have the basic translation skills. The course will cover a wide range of materials, in terms of vocabulary, grammar, listening and writing skills. Students will learn to read and write Chinese texts with minimal help and will learn to translate texts (English to Chinese and Chinese to English).

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors Mandarin III

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

HONORS MANDARIN V

Grade level(s): 11-12

This is the advanced Mandarin course. This course continues advanced study of Mandarin. While the course maintains an emphasis on developing students' oral communication ability, it will also introduce more difficult reading and audio-visual materials in class. Through exposure to these authentic materials, students will further build their vocabulary and increase their comprehension of Mandarin. In addition the course will help students to gain insights about Chinese society and culture.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors Mandarin IV

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

SPANISH II

Grade level(s): 9-12

Spanish 2 is one in a series of courses designed for students who wish to achieve proficiency in the Spanish language, specifically grammar, and a heightened awareness of Hispanic culture upon completion of the program. In this course, students continue to further develop and improve listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Emphasis is placed on comprehension of Spanish, as well as, reading and writing practice in the target language using a variety of activities incorporating familiar vocabulary and structures. Supplementary materials are introduced to enhance language use.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I with a 73% or higher or Successful completion of Spanish in middle school with teacher recommendation

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

HONORS SPANISH II

Grade level(s): 9-12

In this course, students continue to further develop and improve listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Emphasis is placed on comprehension of Spanish, as well as, reading and writing practice in the target language using a variety of activities incorporating familiar vocabulary and structures. Supplementary materials are introduced to enhance language use. Aspects of contemporary Spanish culture are introduced through the use of media, games, and adapted readings and in small or large group discussions. In addition to written/oral tests and quizzes, students are assessed using a variety of formats: oral dialogues, presentations, written compositions and other means. Homework assignments are an integral part of this course as they not only reinforce concepts and skills that are introduced in class, but also enable students to participate in class discussions. In an effort to better prepare students for further honor classes and the Advanced Placement Course, it is imperative that students exhibit diligence with regard to attitude and work ethic. Continuous effort to use the target language is essential. Active participation is a must!

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Spanish I or successful completion of Middle School Spanish with teacher recommendation

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

SPANISH III

Grade level(s): 10-12

Students continue to develop and increase their language acquisition in Spanish through the study of language structures in cultural and historical contexts. Students will be engaged in a study of language structures and vocabulary through reading, listening, speaking, and writing activities. Aspects of contemporary Spanish and Hispanic cultures are emphasized in this class. Students will be assessed using a variety of methods including: oral and written tests and quizzes, classroom discussions and interactive activities, oral/aural assignments, presentations, dialogues, short compositions, and other displays.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish II with a 73% or higher

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

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Grade level(s): 10-12

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Aspects of contemporary Spanish and Hispanic cultures are emphasized in this class. Students will be assessed using a variety of methods including: oral and written tests and quizzes, classroom discussions and interactive activities, oral/aural assignments, presentations, dialogues, short compositions, and other displays. As an honors course, students are expected to complete additional objectives, requirements, and/or assignments to demonstrate a higher level of understanding and proficiency.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Spanish II

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

HONORS SPANISH IV

Grade level(s): 11-12

Spanish IV provides students the opportunity to further develop, improve and refine their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Emphasis continues to be placed on aural skills with additional emphasis on reading and writing in the target language. Supplementary materials are implemented to enhance language use. Students experience multiple opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency in Spanish in different contexts. Aspects of contemporary Hispanic culture are emphasized through cultural readings, media, games, and class discussions. Assessment of student performance is identified through oral and written tests, spoken dialogues, presentations, short compositions and other displays. Homework assignments are an integral part of this course. They reinforce concepts/skills introduced and explored in class, which enable students to participate in class discussions and activities in a meaningful way. Completion of homework assignments is essential to being successful in this course. Pre-AP activities will be integrated into the curriculum.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors Spanish III

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

HONORS SPANISH V

Grade level(s): 12

This course will continue to fine-tune students' skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing while exploring Spain and Latin America. This course also enables students to use previously mastered material on a daily basis as they read and speak about a variety of topics and literature. Students will be assessed using a variety of methods including: oral/aural assignments, presentations, dialogues, short compositions, and other displays. Students are expected to participate using the target language.

Prerequisite: A grade of 90% or higher in Honors Spanish IV

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit

SPANISH CULTURE & CONVERSATION

Grade level(s): 11-12

This course will focus on applied Spanish language skills and will focus less on vocabulary and grammar. Students will gain in-depth experiences with Spanish culture and practical language skills.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish II (Honors or CP)

Credit Awarded: One World Language credit