



COURSE OFFERINGS 2011-12

Note: Registration is open for the following courses. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) have a minimum enrollment requirement, and students will be registered when this requirement has been met.

All courses are .5 credits each.

High School Language Arts Courses

English I

Elements of writing are introduced through poetry, short stories, plays, and essays. Grammar skills are enhanced by the study of sentence structure and style and by composing paragraphs and short essays. Topics include narration, exposition, description, argumentation, punctuation, usage, spelling, and sentence and paragraph structure.

English II

Personal experiences, opinions, and interests are used as a foundation for writing. Skills acquired in English I are reinforced and advanced. Literary models are provided to demonstrate paragraph unity and a more sophisticated word choice. A research paper is required for completion of the course. Topics include grammar, sentence and paragraph structure, organizing compositions, and the research paper.

English III/American Literature

English III - American Literature surveys American authors and the historical development of literature in America. The course highlights how the events in history and the cultural heritage of the times influenced the work of authors. The ability to analyze literary works is stressed. Topics include Puritanism, Deism, Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Transcendentalism, Realism, and Naturalism.

English IV/British Literature

British literature is organized by historical time periods and to demonstrate influence of cultural and historical change on the authors' themes. Composition skills are expanded with an emphasis on analyzing literary works. Topics include Chaucer and the Middle Ages, Shakespeare, the Cavalier Poets, and the Romantic, Victorian, and Modern eras. Requires Shakespeare's Henry V.

Structure of Writing

This course focuses on the fundamentals of grammar and usage to strengthen writing skills. Journal assignments and expository and narrative writing are required. Topics include vocabulary; spelling; coordination and subordination; simple, compound, and complex sentences; and the construction of clearly written paragraphs and essays.

High School Language Courses

Mandarin Chinese

The purpose of this course is for students to speak, read, and write Chinese at a basic level. This course focuses on the Chinese Pinyin Romanization system and Chinese simplified characters. This course also covers computer skills to use with Chinese programs when using computers to study Chinese. (offered through MyLanguage360)

Spanish I

This course introduces students to the language and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Students learn how to introduce themselves and others, describe themselves and others, describe likes and dislikes, compare things, and give and receive directions. Grammar topics covered include the Spanish present tense, irregular verbs (ir, tener, ser, and estar), tú imperatives, personal pronouns, adjective agreement, and reflexive verbs. Students also learn about the history, cultures, art, music, and foods of several Spanish-speaking countries.

Spanish II

This course introduces students to the language and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Students learn how to introduce themselves and others, describe themselves and others, describe likes and dislikes, compare things, and give and receive directions. Grammar topics covered include the Spanish present tense, irregular verbs (ir, tener, ser, and estar), tú imperatives, personal pronouns, adjective agreement, and reflexive verbs. Students also learn about the history, cultures, art, music, and foods of several Spanish-speaking countries.

High School Mathematics Courses

Algebra I

Students are introduced to elementary algebra using the Saxon method. Students learn how to add, subtract, multiply and divide monomials. Other areas of discussion include integral equations, factoring, fractions, simultaneous equations, quadratic equations, the theory of exponents, and graphing.

Algebra II

Algebra II extends the algebraic functions learned in Algebra I with the linear, quadratic, and simultaneous equations, laws of exponents, progression, binomial theorems, and logarithms. Prerequisites – Successful completion of Algebra I and at least one semester of Geometry.

Business/Consumer Math

This course focuses on reviewing and applying arithmetic skills utilized at home and in business. Students learn how to budget, spend, invest, and make everyday financial decisions. Topics include budgeting, computing income and property taxes, investing in the stock market, finding interest rates, analyzing statistics, and balancing financial accounts.

Geometry

Introduces the principal concepts of geometric terms and processes, as well as problem solving and logic. Topics discussed are lines, planes, triangles, circles, theorems, constructions, measurement of solid figures, coordinates, and proofs.

Integrated Math

This course provides an introduction to the concepts of Algebra I and Geometry. It covers linear equations, graphing lines, quadratic equations, function notation, rational expressions and equations, mathematical thinking, points, lines and planes, rays and angles, two column proofs, parallel lines, congruent triangles, inequalities, quadrilaterals, similarity, trigonometric relations, polygons and circles, geometric solids, coordinate geometry, graphing equations, counting and probability, and data analysis.

High School Science Courses

Biology

Students are introduced to the five kingdoms of living organisms and their structure, function, classification, and inter-relationships, as well as their relationship to the environment. Additional topics of discussion include cellular reproduction and respiration, energy and metabolism, photosynthesis, human physiology, ecosystems, vertebrates, and invertebrates.

Chemistry

Chemical theory, descriptive chemistry, and states and properties matter are covered. Students learn how to classify the different states of matter as well as how atoms and compounds are structured. Additional areas of discussion include chemical energetics, measurements, bonding, stoichiometry, ionization, hydrocarbons, oxidation, and reduction. Simple lab experiments are required.

Earth Science

Earth Science surveys basic physical sciences such as geology, biology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy, botany, and physics and their impact on the earth and its processes. Students are guided to a better understanding of how the earth and the universe are structured.

Physical Science

This course provides an overview of the physical sciences, such as chemistry and physics, and natural resources, energy use, and the environment. Students are introduced to the standards of

measurement (the SI system) and the natural laws that form the building blocks of all sciences.
**Textbook Required.*

Physics

Students are introduced to the physics of motion, properties of matter, force, heat, vector, light, and sound. Students learn the history of physics from the discoveries of Galileo and Newton to modern-day physicists. The course focuses more on explanation than calculation and will prepare students for introductory quantitative physics at the college level. Additional areas of discussion include gases and liquids, atoms, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear physics.

High School Social Sciences Courses

20th Century Studies

This course reviews major economic, political, and social movements in the twentieth century, helping students better understand the development of Europe and the United States.

American Government

This course provides an overview of the operation and development of federal, state, county and city governments. It examines statute making, diplomacy, labor policies, public finance, and the contrasts between national, state and local levels of government. Topics emphasize the branches of government, the checks and balance system of the national government, the separation of power, and the role of the government in promoting the interests of the people and involving itself in current topics. Other areas of discussion include the Constitution; civil rights and equality; the legislative, judicial and executive branches; the Federal Reserve System, and foreign policy. This one-semester course presents the essentials of government.

Economics

Economics introduces students to how decisions are made in the four areas of production. Topics include saving, spending, borrowing, the law of supply and demand, the Federal Reserve System, sources of money supply, and the government's unique role in an open market economy.

Global Issues

This course engages students in studying major world issues that impact all aspects of life in the twenty-first century. Students use principles learned in this class to analyze and understand current events and news.

US History

This course examines the founding and development of the United States from the start of European exploration and settling of the original colonies to how they grew and became a powerful united nation. Topics covered include the pre-colonial cultures of Indigenous peoples, the arrival and impact of Europeans in North America, the Revolutionary War, Manifest Destiny, the Civil War, the Industrial Revolution, the United States in the 20th Century, and the influence

of immigration on American society and culture. Also incorporated are economics, politics, society, and the culture of America.

World History

Provides a thorough overview of the world's history from pre-historic times to the present. The focus is on major events, including the growth of political powers, social and economic developments, and the rise of civilization. The course identifies the inventions, historical figures, and ideas of the past which influence the present and future. Topics include the ancient world, the development of major religions, the Renaissance and Reformation, and the World Wars.

High School Elective Courses

African American Studies

This course traces the experiences of Africans in the Americas from 1500 to the present day. In this course, students will explore history, politics, and culture through readings, games, and a variety of interactive features.

Art History

Students are introduced to painting, sculpture, and architecture from ancient times to the 20th century. By studying various forms of art from different historical periods, students develop an eye for technique. Topics include Greek and Roman art, Renaissance painting and sculpture, Baroque and Neoclassical art, Impressionism, Expressionism, and abstract art.

Career Explorations

This semester-long course provides students opportunities to set personal and career goals while developing career skills. Students are guided through exercises that teach them about career clusters and paths, educational options after high school, and practical job-seeking strategies such as completing applications, composing effective resumes and cover letters, and navigating the interview process. Students conduct research throughout the course and present their findings in written and oral projects.

Computer Technology: An Introduction

Computer Technology: An Introduction is a semester-long course that emphasizes project-based learning where students will apply what they have studied to create formatted manuscripts, databases, spreadsheets, and other presentations utilizing a variety of computer tools. Additional units on the history of computers and basic technology concepts, proper and effective use of the Internet and the World Wide Web, and emerging technology and careers provide students with a strong foundation in 21st century skills for other STEM coursework. Students will need access to Microsoft Office programs to complete the assignments.

Digital Photography

Students learn principles of photography and practice taking and editing quality photographs to tell a story.

Fine/Performing Arts

Fine arts is the knowledge of the theory and techniques required to compose, produce, and perform works of music, dance, visual arts, drama, and sculpture. Students may earn a % credit through active participation in a fine arts program.

Geography: An Introduction

This course introduces students to basic geographic terms and regions of the world. Within each region, the student will examine various aspects of physical and human geography. Special attention will be paid to understanding how the different regions interact in an increasingly global world. Practice exercises provide opportunities for students to apply these concepts to real life scenarios. **Requires World Atlas.*

Geography: A Comprehensive Study

This course builds upon Geography: An Introduction. The comprehensive study expands the lessons in the introductory course with case studies focusing on specific and current geography issues around the globe.

Native American Studies: Historical Perspectives

This course provides an overview of historical and cultural issues affecting Native American people and tribes today. The primary objective for this course is to enrich students' knowledge and understanding of Native American people from a Native American perspective. For too long, the story of the Native American experience has been told from the viewpoint of the colonizer in American text books. In this course, we confront false images, stereotypes, inaccurate myths, and distortions from a historical perspective. This course is designed for both Native American and non-Native American students so everyone can better understand human similarities and differences as well as recognize the contributions that Native American people and cultures have made to the world.

Native American Studies: Contemporary Perspectives

This course provides an overview of contemporary cultural issues affecting Native American people and tribes today. The primary objective for this course is to enrich students' knowledge and understanding of Native American people from Native American perspective. In this course, we confront issues facing contemporary Native Americans, including world views, spirituality, language, health, socioeconomic factors, art, media images, organizations, veterans, and modern day pow-wows. This course is designed for both Native American and non-Native American students so everyone can better understand human similarities and differences as well as recognize the contributions that Native American people and cultures have made to the world.

Social Issues

This course is designed to help students understand current issues. Students will learn to form opinions on controversial topics in the news since 2006. The social issues described in this course have been around for centuries and will likely continue to present challenges to citizens and lawmakers in the future. Topics include the media, civil liberties, gun control, crime and drugs, poverty, racism, women's rights, immigration, abortion, stem cell research, education, and foreign policy and terrorism.

Service Learning

Service learning is a way that students can provide service in the community on a voluntary basis to public, nonprofit, civic, charitable, and governmental organizations. Students who participate in service learning can earn a ½ credit for 75 hours. Students may elect to earn a full credit for an additional 75 hours in a different experience.

Work Study

Students can earn credit by working on a job site and learning through experience. A student must have taken or currently be enrolled in Career Explorations to be eligible for work experience credit. Students may earn a ½ credit by completing 75 hours in an 18 week period. Students may earn a full credit by continuing their work experience for two semesters.

High School Health/PE

Health

This course teaches human anatomy and physiology and increases student awareness of healthy lifestyle choices and the importance of physical fitness. Topics discussed include nutrition, fitness fundamentals, mental and emotional well-being, the effects of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, the environment, public health and infectious diseases, safety, accident prevention, and first aid.

Physical Education

Students learn how to build lifelong fitness skills and healthy habits through a better understanding of nutrition and exercise.

College Courses

*** Writing 121**

Will develop skills in analytical reading, critical thinking, and expository and persuasive writing. Students compose several essays using a variety of strategies to present evidence in support of a thesis.

*** History 101**

Studies the ancient civilizations of Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, and Rome. Covers development of Judeo-Christian beliefs and early Medieval Europe.

High School Honors Courses

Honors Algebra I

This honors class leads students through elementary algebra using the Saxon method. Students learn how to add, subtract, multiply and divide monomials. Other areas of discussion include integral equations, factoring, fractions, simultaneous equations, quadratic equations, the theory of exponents, and graphing. This course contains a number of enrichment activities that challenge the students to develop higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation to master the course content. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment. **Prerequisite – Students should have strong math skills in order to enroll in Honors Algebra I.*

Honors Algebra II

This course extends the algebraic functions learned in Algebra I by bringing in concepts of linear, quadratic, and simultaneous equations, laws of exponents, progression, binomial theorems, and logarithms. This course also challenges the students to develop higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation to master the lesson content. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors Biology

The Biology honors class parallels the regular curriculum but may cover topics within the course, as well as additional topics, in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors Chemistry

The Chemistry honors class parallels the regular curriculum but may cover topics within the course and additional topics, in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors Earth Science

The Earth Science honors class parallels the regular curriculum but may cover topics within the course and additional topics in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors Economics

Economics introduces students to how decisions are made in the four areas of production. Topics include saving, spending, borrowing, the law of supply and demand, the Federal Reserve System, sources of money supply, and the government's unique role in an open market economy. This

course contains a number of enrichment activities that challenge honors students to develop higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation to master the course content. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors English I

Elements of writing are introduced through poetry, short stories, plays, and essays. Grammar skills are enhanced by the study of sentence structure and style and by composing paragraphs and short essays. Topics include narration, exposition, description, argumentation, punctuation, usage, spelling, and sentence and paragraph structure. This honors course parallels the regular English I curriculum, but covers topics in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors English II

Personal experiences, opinions, and interests are used as a foundation for writing. Skills acquired in English I are reinforced and advanced. Literary models are provided to demonstrate paragraph unity and a more sophisticated word choice. A research paper is required for completion of the course. Topics include grammar, sentence and paragraph structure, organizing compositions, and the research paper. This honors course parallels the regular English II curriculum, but covers topics in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors English III/American Literature

American Literature/English III surveys American authors and the historical development of literature in America. The course highlights how the events in history and the cultural heritage of the times influenced the work of authors. The ability to analyze literary works is stressed. Topics include Puritanism, Deism, Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Transcendentalism, Realism, and Naturalism. This honors course parallels the regular American Literature/English III curriculum, but covers topics in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors English IV/British Literature

British literature is organized by historical time periods and to demonstrate influence of cultural and historical change on the authors' themes. Composition skills are expanded with an emphasis on analyzing literary works. Topics include Chaucer and the Middle Ages, Shakespeare, the Cavalier Poets, and the Romantic, Victorian and Modern eras. This honors course parallels the regular British Literature/English IV curriculum, but covers topics in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply

what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors Geometry

This course extends the algebraic functions learned in Algebra I by bringing in concepts of linear, quadratic, and simultaneous equations, laws of exponents, progression, binomial theorems, and logarithms. This course also challenges the students to develop higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation to master the lesson content. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

*Prerequisite – Strong math skills and successful completion and full understanding of Algebra I.

Honors Physics

Students are introduced to the physics of motion, properties of matter, force, heat, vector, light, and sound. Students learn the history of physics from the discoveries of Galileo and Newton to modern-day physicists. The course focuses more on explanation than calculation and will prepare students for introductory quantitative physics at the college level. Additional areas of discussion include gases and liquids, atoms, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear physics. This course contains a number of enrichment activities that challenge honors students to develop higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation to master the course content. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors Pre-Calculus

This course builds on algebraic concepts to prepare students for calculus. It begins with a review of basic algebraic concepts and moves into operations with functions. Students will manipulate functions and their graphs. Pre-Calculus also provides a detailed look at trigonometric functions, their graphs, the trigonometric identities, and the unit circle. Students will be introduced to polar coordinates, parametric equations, and limits. Higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, and evaluation are recommended. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment. *Prerequisite – successful completion and full understanding of Algebra II or Algebra II honors.

Honors World History Before 1815

This honors class parallels the regular World History Before 1815, but covers additional topics and topics in greater depth. In addition to the historical content, students read a novel independently and complete additional rigorous assignments and essays. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Honors World History After 1815

This is an overview of world history from the end of the French revolution to the present day. The focus is on major events, including growth of imperialism and nationalism, the advancement of political powers, social and economic developments, and global growth and crisis. The course identifies the inventions, historical figures, and ideas of the past that continue to impact the present and future. Topics include the Industrial Revolution, the African and Asian colonial

experience, the rise of European nationalism, World Wars I & II, the Cold War, and the rise of Asian economies, post-colonial Africa, and the global war on terror. This honors course parallels the regular World History After 1815 curriculum, but covers topics in greater depth. With the incorporation of extra papers and projects, students utilize higher-level thinking skills and apply what they learn through more rigorous assignments. Honors classes are more challenging, have more assignments, and require a greater time commitment.

Middle School Language Arts Courses

English 6

This course provides a foundation for the study of English throughout middle school and high school with emphasis on the elements of literature, the writing process, basic grammar, and building vocabulary. Students will experiment with a variety of writing styles: the expository essay, narratives, poetry, persuasive writing, and the research paper. Grammar and vocabulary instruction is integrated throughout the course and designed to emphasize practical usage.

English 7

This course integrates the study of writing and literature through the examination of a variety of genres. Students will identify the elements of composition in the reading selections to understand their function and effect on the reader. Practice is provided in narrative and expository writing. Topics include comparison and contrast, persuasive and cause-and-effect essays, as well as descriptive and figurative language. Lessons are supplemented with vocabulary development, grammar, and syntax exercises, along with an introduction to verbal phrases and research tools.

English 8

English 8 extends the skills developed in English 7 through detailed study of parts of sentences and paragraphs to understand their importance to good writing. Students will also acquire study skills such as time management and test-taking strategies. Other topics include punctuation, word choice, syntax, varying sentence structure, subordination and coordination, detail and elaboration, effective use of reference materials, and proofreading.

Middle School Math Courses

Math 6

This course explores basic math concepts and their applications. Students will increase their skills with decimals, fractions, percentages, and ratios. The course provides tools for problem solving and includes an introduction to algebra and geometry. Among the topics studied are discrete math and probability, surface area, equations, statistics, and data analysis.

Math 7

Math 7 builds on material learned in earlier grades, including fractions, decimals, and percentages and introduces students to concepts they will continue to use throughout their study of mathematics. Among these are surface area, volume, and probability.

Math 8/Pre-Algebra

This course sharpens students' arithmetic skills and illustrates abstract concepts by introducing linear equations, number patterns, the order of operations, linear inequalities, fractions, exponents, and factoring. Some basic components of geometry are discussed.

Middle School Science Courses

Middle School Biology

This course provides a detailed introduction to life sciences, including ecology and the environment, the basics of the cell, the theory of evolution, kingdoms of life and viruses, and the human body systems.

Middle School Earth Science

This course combines clearly stated, comprehensive text and exciting interactive elements to keep students engaged and facilitate their mastery of required concepts and skills in the four areas of geology, meteorology, oceanography, and astronomy. Within each of these units will be lessons on environmental science as well, to help students understand how living and non-living systems interact. Students will find the course structure easy to navigate, as lesson topics are labeled with essential questions for which students will discover answers as they go through the readings and complete various activities. "Think About It" and "Making Connections" sections ask students to reflect on the lesson material and examine how it relates to their personal experiences. "A Closer Look" sections offer interesting side topics, such as correcting a common misconception about the topic, provide interesting trivia, or using science to explain mythology.

Middle School World History Courses

Middle School Civics

This course introduces the middle school student to the principles, functions, and organization of government; the origins of the American political system; the roles, rights, responsibilities of United States citizens; and methods of active participation in our political system.

Middle School Geography

This course introduces the middle school students to basic geographic terms and regions of the world. Within each region, the student will examine various aspects of physical and human geography. *Requires World Atlas*

Middle School United States History

This course introduces the middle school student the history of the United States from the colonial period through the Civil War. Topics include Colonial America, the revolutionary time period, foundations of the American Government and political system, antebellum America, the Civil War and restoration, the rise of American power, World War I and II and the Cold War time periods.

Middle School World History

This course provides an in-depth, but easily understood, view of the human experience from the earliest civilizations through the Age of Enlightenment. Interactive features allow students to apply their concept mastery through such activities as customizing maps and designing feudal villages. An audio pronunciation guide will help students pronounce and remember the names of unfamiliar people and places and extended-writing opportunities encourage students to reflect on new knowledge and to expand their critical thinking skills.