

FAIRFIELD COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

2018-2019 Course Catalog

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Course offerings are subject to cancellation for insufficient enrollment.
2. Consult Section II of the Student Handbook for academic requirements for graduation.

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

Guidance Seminar Program

Guidance Seminars offer counselors the opportunity to present essential topics in small group settings to students once in each academic cycle. Topics are selected and presentations are developed to meet the needs of students as they progress in their personal development through their academic years at Prep. In these interactive sessions, students are challenged with presentations on issues of academic, social and personal importance. The small group setting offers an environment in which students can interact with counselors and classmates and one in which students can come to know their counselor. This structure initiates the counseling process, offering counselors the opportunity to become familiar with their students and opening the door to individual counseling situations and strong student-counselor relationship. Prep's Safe School Plan is also reviewed with all students each year.

Seminar topics by class year:

FRESHMAN YEAR

Topics Include:
Introduction to the Guidance Department and review of guidance procedures, transitioning to high school, academic success skills, time management, transcript review, goal setting, pillars of character, accepting responsibility, preparing for mid-term & final exams, course registration, substance abuse, stress management, peer interactions, establishing and maintaining healthy relationships, end of year reflection and evaluation.

SOPHOMORE YEAR

Topics Include:
Goal setting, preparation for PSAT, PSAT score report review, practice ACT exercise, first quarter self-evaluation, substance abuse, mid-term preparation, personality inventory, career/major exploration, preliminary college search resume building through Naviance. Sophomores also discuss course registration,

establishing and maintaining healthy relationships, substance abuse, sexual responsibility and final exam preparation.

JUNIOR YEAR

Topics Include:
PSAT preparation, review of PSAT, developing SAT/ACT strategy, review of factors essential in college admissions, exploring college majors and careers, college search through Naviance, preparation for the college application process, the campus visit, the admissions interview, the college essay, senior course selection, the junior interview and developing a college list, finalizing an activities resume and review of junior/senior summer activities to prepare for application procedures of the Fall.

SENIOR YEAR

Topics Include:
College application procedures, finalizing college lists, determining application strategy in regard to Early Action, Early Decision, rolling and regular admissions options, the college application essay(s), teacher evaluations, counselor recommendations, application filing procedures and orientation to the personal, academic and social challenges of college. Seniors meet in groups to begin the year and then proceed in the application process through individual meetings with their college advisor. The year concludes with a *transition to college* program.

ARTS

Note: One credit of Visual or Performing Arts is required of all freshmen. Students may elect either Visual Arts, Introduction to Speech and Theatre, or any music course to fulfill this requirement.

ART

VISUAL ARTS

(Freshman Elective)

Visual Arts is an introductory art course that provides for the study of the history and appreciation of art combined with studio exercises. This one credit course presents a core of visual and aesthetic activities essential to understanding the visual arts discipline. Students in this course will study the elements and principles of art and design, composition and various drawing and painting techniques.

Assessments will include written critiques, reports, presentations, tests and quizzes as well as art projects. A midterm and final exam are given in class. Participation in Fairfield Prep's art exhibitions is required.

STUDIO ART

(Sophomores, Juniors, Seniors)

Prerequisite: Visual Arts and Instructor permission.

Studio Art will provide students with the opportunity to continue developing their skills in the methods and techniques of drawing and painting in a studio environment, and to develop their original and creative expression in visual, plastic and graphic arts. The class structure will be student oriented including a process of "contract" assignments. The first semester will be devoted to the preparation of a portfolio; an emphasis will be given to particular drawing and painting skill, paralleling the investigation of the "Masters." Students will experiment with a variety of painting styles and techniques in their own work. In the second semester, students will explore the basics of graphic design and the computer software that is currently used in the field to produce ads, posters, business, brochures, cards and letterhead. Assessments will include formal critiques, PowerPoint presentations, quarterly reports and quizzes. Grades are based on timely completion of all assignments and are judged on an individual bases with consideration given to the variety of style and artistic ability.

THEATRE

INTRODUCTION TO SPEECH AND THEATRE

(Freshman Elective)

This course is invaluable to all students as public speaking will be an integral part of their academic and professional future. The skills taught in this course will give students an edge in class presentations, groups work, and writing skills. The goal is to use theatre and public speaking to help students work on skills that they will use in all classes in the future. In the first semester, students will study various types of speeches, working on their writing and presence in front of an audience. This will include creative writing opportunities, as well as practice in physical and vocal presentation techniques. In the second semester, students will reinforce these skills through a study of theatrical performance. Students will examine the various elements of the theatre—design, directing and acting—experimenting with each and exploring how they work together. Through participation in workshops, students put their knowledge into action, designing sets, creating costumes, working with improvisation, and writing short plays. With this background, students will analyze dramatic texts, and create a final scene study project.

MUSIC

Admission to any of the music courses requires teacher approval. Participation in all concerts and special rehearsals is an absolute requirement of these courses.

SYMPHONIC BAND

Symphonic Band is an advanced level performance group that includes all brass, woodwind, and chamber percussion instruments (piano included). Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions, and are expected to perform at the two annual concerts during the school year. They are also encouraged (but not required) to take private lessons. This ensemble performs medium to advanced-level music. **Acceptance into this ensemble is by audition only.**

SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA

Symphonic Orchestra is an advanced level performance group that includes all classical string instruments (violin, viola, cello, upright bass). Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions, and are expected to perform at the two annual concerts during the school year. They are also required to take private lessons. This ensemble performs medium to advanced level music. **Acceptance into this ensemble is by audition only.**

WIND ENSEMBLE

Wind Ensemble is a beginner intermediate level performance group that includes all brass, woodwind, and chamber percussion instruments (piano *not* included). In this ensemble, students solidify their understanding of the basic performing rudiments and playing techniques. Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions, and are expected to perform at the two annual concerts during the school year. They are also encouraged (but not required) to take private lessons. This ensemble performs easy- to medium-level difficulty music. **Acceptance into this ensemble is by audition only.**

SELECT CHOIR

This is an advanced level performance chorus. Students are encouraged to participate in Western Regional and All-State competitions, and are expected to perform at the two annual concerts during the school year. They are also encouraged (but not required) to take private lessons. This ensemble performs easy-to advanced level difficulty music. **Acceptance into this ensemble is by audition only.**

GENERAL MUSIC

This freshman level course offers a non-performance-based approach to learning about music. Students enrolled in this course will explore music theory, music appreciation, and music history. They will participate in nonperformance aspects of the concerts, and are responsible for both mid-year and final exams.

ENGLISH

HONORS ENGLISH PROGRAM

(Department Approval Required)

This integrated course of studies begins in sophomore year and concludes with advanced placement or humanities courses in junior and senior year. Beginning with ancient mythology and following through centuries of English and American playwrights, novelists, and poets, students learn to read and think critically and appreciate the complexity of the human experience as expressed through literature. Writing requirements are accelerated and close textual and stylistic analysis is emphasized as well as expressive and poetic writing. Vocabulary development and SAT work are included in the curriculum throughout the program. Placement in honors/AP classes is based on a student's overall GPA and English class grades.

REQUIRED COURSES

ENGLISH I: THE STUDY OF THE TRADITIONAL HERO AND FOUNDATIONS OF COMPOSITION

(Required for freshmen)

Understanding and appreciating literary genre and technique are objectives of the freshman literature curriculum. Students read and write about a wide variety of novels, short stories, plays, and poems throughout the year. Frequent creative and expository responses are required and student skills in correct usage, punctuation, and grammatical concepts are refined during this year. Vocabulary skills, analogies, and word building skills are integrated throughout the program. In addition, the use of the web as it relates to producing papers with MLA format is examined. Students will be assigned on-line research projects to examine the quality and reliability of web sources.

ENGLISH II: THE STUDY OF THE MODERN HERO IN MORAL CONFLICT AND INTERMEDIATE COMPOSITION

(Sophomores)

English II aims at refining a broad range of skills in students. In addition to continuing the study of grammatical principles covering sentence structure, variety, and paragraph unity begun in freshman year, students further develop vocabulary skills from PSAT-SAT lists and words gleaned from the literature studies. A focus on writing includes experiences in expository, fiction, and poetry, as well as free-response writing. Students are required to respond, edit, rewrite, and refine his work. Students must also keep a writing notebook and a portfolio of his finished work for review.

Students are also required to use technology for research and investigation culminating in a research term paper.

During the course of the year, students will read classic literature spanning from Shakespearian drama to modern contemporary novels, plays, and poems. As students read and discuss the novels, the focus will be on the continued development of critical reading and thinking skills as well as the ongoing instruction in literary analysis. Along with this, students will contrast the view of the traditional hero, studied in English I, with that of the more modern hero who faces moral dilemmas and must choose which path they will take. Students explore both the positive and negative outcomes of those decisions.

HONORS ENGLISH II: THE STUDY OF THE MODERN HERO IN MORAL CONFLICT AND INTERMEDIATE COMPOSITION:

(Department Approval Required)

Honors English II aims at refining a broad range of skills in students. In addition to continuing the study of grammatical principles covering sentence structure, variety, and paragraph unity begun in freshman year, students further develop vocabulary skills from PSAT-SAT lists and words gleaned from the literature studies. A focus on writing includes experiences in expository, fiction, and poetry, as well as free-response writing. Students are required to respond, edit, rewrite, and refine his work. Students must also keep a writing notebook and a portfolio of his finished work for review. Students will be asked to read challenging texts and maintain a greater level of individual responsibility. Students are also required to use technology for research and investigation culminating in a research term paper. The sophomore literature component includes analysis of selections from the classic Greek tragedies to 20th century contemporary novelists and poets. Its focus is on the development of skills that will enable the student to read and think critically.

AP ENGLISH: AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (JR)

(Department Approval based on GPA and English class grades)

This college-level course is organized chronologically around the theme of the American Identity, highlighting major American authors from the eighteenth through twentieth centuries. It trains students to become skilled readers of prose and poetry written in a variety of periods and rhetorical contexts, and sophisticated writers of expository, analytical and argumentative essays. All students are required to take the AP Literature Exam in May.

ENGLISH III: SURVEY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COLLEGE COMPOSITION

(Juniors)

Prep's third year course is a study of the distinctive character of American literature. Students read and analyze selections from colonial America to the present and become familiar with the ideas, themes and characters who define the American Literary tradition. Portfolio assessment continues this year with

expository, fiction, and poetry, often modeled on the literature. While vocabulary and SAT work continue on this level, extensive instruction in literary criticism begins.

SENIOR ENGLISH COURSES

Seniors can elect one of the following five courses. Placement in the AP course requires department approval.

AP ENGLISH: LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (SR)

(Department Approval based on GPA and English class grades) This course is a college-level seminar leading to possible college credit for one year of English based on the student's score on the AP English exam. The course introduces students to the literary history of the English language, and provides him with a variety of critical modes with which to analyze literature. Strong emphasis is placed on the student's ability to do close reading and to communicate his ideas in writing. The first semester focuses on the epic and the picaresque novel. The second semester focuses on shorter poetry, drama, and the modern novel. Students will read authors ranging from Sophocles to Shakespeare and modern writers as well.

ENGLISH IV: AMERICAN DRAMA AND FILM

Plays were never meant to be read by someone sitting alone in a chair; they were meant to be watched. American playwrights like Arthur Miller, August Wilson, and Tennessee Williams show us a great deal about human nature and the American experience. This class will be a great chance to put together an interest in history, literature, art, and film as it will take a look at how directors bring these iconic works to life. Along with traditional essay writing, assessments will include film making, design projects and criticisms.

ENGLISH IV: BRITISH WRITERS

Beginning with the ancient epic *Beowulf* and ending with Huxley's *A Brave New World*, the British Writers course explores major literary movements and the creation and development of modern literature as we know it. The course concentrates on a core of literary classics and non-fiction models to explore great themes in literature and how that literature exposes the struggles of a modern people. Over the course of the year, students will be exposed to foundational pieces of literature, but also the contemporary with a focus on the monster stories of *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Frankenstein*. Classwork will include the traditional literary analysis and writing assignments, but also oral presentations and debates. Students will also have an opportunity to view and analyze clips of various film adaptations looking for differences between the author and the screenwriters' vision.

ENGLISH IV: THE LITERATURE OF INDUSTRY

American capitalism provides us with prosperity, the opportunity to create limitless wealth irrespective of one's background or education, and unparalleled technological advances. It also imperils our society with a vast chasm between

the rich and the poor, corporate malfeasance, and wrenching moral and ethical dilemmas. This course will examine these issues as presented in literary works including novels, plays, essays and poetry. Students will focus on two primary areas of concentration: the conflict between labor and management in the context of the Jesuit quest for social justice and the moral and ethical challenges that occur regularly in business and which conflict with principles of Ignatian spirituality. Secondary topics include economic and social mobility and technological innovation.

ENGLISH IV: THE LITERATURE OF POLITICAL THOUGHT

Through the reading of the Hebrew Bible, Shakespeare, Machiavelli, Greek philosophers, and Lincoln's speeches, this class will explore what it takes to maintain political dominance. Students will consider what we must do in order to govern well. Even more important, students will consider what they must know in order to do so. In other words, what knowledge must be acquired and what societal concerns must be addressed to govern well? Moreover, does great political leadership in democratic times differ in any important way from that seen in the great nations of the past? In addition to introducing students to such political themes, this course also seeks to demonstrate that through the careful reading of diverse genres selected among the great works of the Western canon – a political treatise, a play, a dialogue, a political speech, an historical novel, and portions of the Hebrew Bible – students will come to understand that such foundational texts matter, that seriously thinking through the ideas found in them and considering how they relate to us, aid us in our understanding of the human condition and, therefore, also ourselves.

ELECTIVE COURSES

CREATIVE WRITING

This course will guide students toward the development of a creative voice. Formal course work will center on writing short-stories, but students can expect to delve into poetry, screenplays, drama, film and creative non-fiction. Students will also gain valuable informal experience editing, in the publishing process, in portfolio development and peer constructive criticism.

The work produced in this course will be instrumental in supporting the publication of the Bellarmine Review Literary Magazine.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The foreign language program reflects the vision and philosophy of the Standards for Foreign Language Learning, developed by the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Our goal is to develop proficiency in listening,

reading, writing, and speaking within the framework of Fairfield Prep's three-year foreign language requirement.

Any foreign language course beyond the third year is considered an elective. Placement in Honors/AP courses is based on overall academic ability (GPA) and performance in previous foreign language courses.

INTRODUCTORY FRENCH

The key objective in Basic French is to form a base for acquisition and proficiency, the attainment of which requires a focus on communication with accuracy in a cultural context. The four language skills - speaking, listening, reading and writing - are developed throughout the course. The class is conducted primarily in French with frequent opportunities for students to communicate in French. In addition to the student text, various forms of technology are integrated into the curriculum.

INTERMEDIATE FRENCH

This course continues to emphasize proficiency acquisition. The course works to improve the student's ability to speak, read, listen and write in French. Students are expected to communicate in French and can expect that the class is taught in French as well. There is a stronger emphasis on grammar within a cultural context. In addition to the student text, various forms of technology are integrated into the curriculum.

FRENCH 3

In this course, the students will refine their knowledge of grammar with more developed, longer creative writing assignments. Oral and listening proficiency will continue to be developed. Literature will be introduced, i.e. short stories and contemporary poetry from the Francophone World. Students will develop an understanding and appreciation of the Francophone world through a variety of cultural activities. The class is taught in French and students are expected to communicate in French. In addition to the student text, various forms of technology are integrated into the curriculum.

HONORS FRENCH 3: ADVANCED FRENCH GRAMMAR AND INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LITERATURE

Honors French 3 is an advanced language course. Students will develop a deeper understanding of advanced grammar. This course works to enrich a student's vocabulary and increase their ability to comprehend both spoken and written French. Students in the honors section will begin to evaluative writing in response to classical as well as contemporary literature. In addition to the study of advanced grammar and composition, students read *L'Étranger* (Camus) and other literature and write papers in response. In most cases, students in this course are preparing for the AP French course in the following year.

HONORS FRENCH 4: FRENCH CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION / HONORS FRENCH 5: ADVANCED CULTURE AND FRANCOPHONE LITERATURE

This is an elective course for those students who have completed either Honors French 3 or AP French. It is designed for advanced language students who wish to continue their study of French. The course will work to build proficiency through the exploration of culture, current events, and Francophone literature. Students are expected to be motivated, independent learners as the course will include some project based learning. Students are expected to communicate in French.

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The French program offers the Advanced Placement language course as prescribed by the College Board. The AP French Language course is an advanced course designed to prepare students for the College Board AP Exam by expanding the student's oral, listening, speaking, and writing proficiency. Students build proficiency in various modes of communication including two-way interactions in writing and speaking, interpretation of audio, audiovisual, and print materials and an oral and written presentation of information and ideas. Proficiency in French language will be developed through the exploration of a variety of interdisciplinary themes relating to French culture. These themes outlined by the College Board will be explored through the use of authentic texts, poems, plays, music, and video and will prepare students for the AP exam while building their ability to speak and comprehend both written and spoken French. The class is conducted entirely in French and it is expected that students will communicate in French. All juniors enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

INTRODUCTORY SPANISH

This course is designed to help students master the phonology of the Spanish language and to teach him how to converse in Spanish, comprehend normal conversation of native speech and to be able to manipulate the language he has learned in an original, creative and spontaneous manner. Introduction to culture is implicit in the course. Students who successfully complete this course will move into Intermediate Spanish or Honors Intermediate Spanish the following year.

INTERMEDIATE SPANISH

This course is designed to help students improve their ability to speak and understand Spanish while introducing him to the reading skill through contemporary cultural selections. The student will expand his vocabulary. Grammar is presented and writing of a controlled nature is begun as well as listening comprehension activities.

HONORS INTERMEDIATE SPANISH

This course is designed for students who has excelled in Introductory Spanish. In addition to the goals of Intermediate Spanish, students in Honors Intermediate Spanish will pursue a study of Spanish grammar at a faster pace and in greater depth.

This course is conducted in Spanish to the greatest degree possible, and the main objective is to develop the student's ability in the four major language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing.

SPANISH 3

This course is designed to help students improve and refine their ability to understand and speak Spanish. Reading of literary selections is designed to help students expand their knowledge of Hispanic culture and literature as well as vocabulary and modern idiom. Students are engaged in a comprehensive review of grammar. Heavy emphasis is placed on speaking, listening comprehension, and reading skills.

HONORS SPANISH 3: ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND INTRODUCTION TO LITERATURE

This course is designed for students who have excelled in Honors Intermediate Spanish or Intermediate Spanish. In addition to those aims described for the regular Spanish 3 course, preparation for the AP Spanish course is an essential aim of Honors Spanish 3.

HONORS SPANISH 4: MODERN HISPANIC LITERATURE

This upper level elective course is offered to students who wish to continue their study of Spanish at the pre-AP level. Students will study advanced Spanish literature, the focus of which will be the comprehension of the writing styles and techniques of a variety of authors.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish.

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions). All juniors enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

AP SPANISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE

The AP Spanish Literature and Culture course uses a thematic approach to introduce students to representative texts (short stories, novels, poetry, and essays) from Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and United States Hispanic literature. Students develop proficiencies across the full range of communication

modes (interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive), thereby honing their critical reading and analytical writing skills. Literature is examined within the context of its time and place, as students reflect on the many voices and cultures present in the required readings. The course also includes a strong focus on cultural connections and comparisons, including exploration of various media (e.g., art, film, articles, literary criticism). All juniors enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam.

INTRODUCTORY LATIN

This course is an introduction to the language, history, and civilization of Ancient Rome. Students explore the basics of the Latin language and vocabulary and its impact on the English language and vocabulary. Emphasis is placed on reading and writing basic Latin sentences and passages.

INTERMEDIATE LATIN

In this course, students continue their acquisition of Latin grammar and vocabulary, with special emphasis placed on more complex grammatical structures, such as participles, infinitives, and the subjunctive mood. Students continue to compose in Latin, using the more complex grammatical structures. Students begin to read legends in Latin and adaptations of authentic Latin authors such as Livy.

HONORS INTERMEDIATE LATIN

In this course, students complete their acquisition of Latin grammar and vocabulary, with special emphasis placed on complex grammatical structures, such as participles, infinitives, and the subjunctive mood. Students compose to a greater degree in Latin, using the more complex grammatical structures. Students begin to read authentic Latin from authors such as Livy and Pliny the Younger.

LATIN 3: PROSE, HEROES AND LEGENDS

This course includes an extensive review of all Latin grammar and syntax, followed by exploration of Roman myths and legends, read in the original Latin language. In addition, students read authentic works from authors such as Caesar, Ovid and Vergil.

HONORS LATIN 3: LITERATURE OF THE LATE REPUBLIC AND THE AGE OF AUGUSTUS

Following a brief review of Latin grammar and syntax, students pursue a survey of Latin prose and poetry in the unadapted works of several Roman authors, such as Caesar, Cicero, Ovid, and Vergil. Late in the year, students begin the AP Latin curriculum in preparation for the AP Latin course.

AP LATIN

The AP Latin course promotes reading of Latin poetry and prose with historical and literary sensitivity by reading Caesar's Gallic War and Vergil's Aeneid. Students are encouraged to develop linguistic skills by engaging in multiple activities: translating poetry and prose from the required-reading list, precisely and literally, reading passages of poetry and prose with comprehension and analyzing literary texts in clear, coherent written arguments supported by textual examples. AP Latin is roughly equivalent to an upper-intermediate college or university course. All juniors enrolled in AP Latin are required to take the AP exam.

MATHEMATICS

The goal of the Mathematics Department is to develop in each of our students, logical, analytical and critical thinking skills. Through the use of mathematical modeling, graphing calculators and iPad technology, we provide a variety of learning and problem solving strategies.

CALCULATORS

The TI-84 Plus is the department's approved calculator. Students who already own a TI-83 Plus may continue to use it. No other models are permitted. Fairfield Prep requires students to have the same calculator to allow teachers to give clear instructions to students regarding the key strokes needed to solve calculator based problems. Calculator apps on the iPad are not a substitute for the TI-84 Plus.

REQUIRED COURSES

Four years of mathematics are required. Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II are offered at three ability levels: honors, average (level 2) and slower paced (level 3). Fourth year courses (Pre-Calculus and Calculus) vary by content and level of difficulty.

PLACEMENT

Students are placed into an appropriate course and level based on their GPA, performance on common questions on midyear exams, grades in math classes, and, where appropriate, performance on the PSAT exam. Initial freshman year placement is determined by a placement test, previous math grades, former mathematics teacher recommendations, and entrance exam scores. Each year, every student's performance is reviewed to determine proper placement for the following year.

ADVANCED STANDING FOR INCOMING FRESHMAN

Incoming freshman who will complete Algebra I by the end of 8th grade may apply to participate in the Advanced Math Track. Students interested in this option must register for a placement test at the time of course registration in March. Two placement tests are given – one for students completing Algebra I and another for those completing Geometry in eighth grade. Advanced standing for other courses, exceptions or special circumstances require the approval of the Mathematics

Department Chairperson in advance of the placement exam. Students will be expected to demonstrate knowledge and retention of Prep's required material before any consideration can be given to advanced standing.

ALGEBRA I LEVEL 3

Students learn how to solve problems using variables, work with exponents, factor polynomials and simplify rational and irrational expressions. Students solve linear equations and inequalities as well as radical and quadratic equations. Students learn to graph various types of functions and how to solve word problems using algebra. The Level 3 course provides students with the opportunity to spend more time studying fundamental concepts to ensure success in future math courses.

ALGEBRA I LEVEL 2

Students learn how to solve problems using variables, work with exponents, factor polynomials and simplify rational and irrational expressions. Students solve linear equations and inequalities as well as radical and quadratic equations. Students learn to graph various types of functions and how to solve word problems using algebra.

HONORS ALGEBRA I

Students learn how to solve problems using variables, work with exponents, factor polynomials and simplify rational and irrational expressions. Students solve linear equations and inequalities as well as radical and quadratic equations. Students learn to graph various types of functions and how to solve word problems using algebra. The Honors level course will challenge students with an accelerated pace, in depth study of important concepts, and application to real world situations.

GEOMETRY LEVEL 3

Students study spatial relationships in two and three dimensions and inductive and deductive reasoning. They study theorems involving parallel lines, congruent triangles, similar triangles, and circles. Students learn right triangle trigonometry and area and volume formulas. The Level 3 course provides students with the opportunity to spend more time studying fundamental concepts to ensure success in future math courses.

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HONORS GEOMETRY

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ALGEBRA II LEVEL 3

Students develop the skills to work in the real and complex number systems. Students study rational and irrational numbers and problem solving with them. Students review linear functions and begin a study of quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students also study conic sections as well as permutations and combinations. The Level 3 course provides students with the opportunity to spend more time studying fundamental concepts to ensure success in future math courses.

ALGEBRA II LEVEL 2

Students develop the skills to work in the real and complex number systems. Students study rational and irrational numbers and problem solving with them. Students review linear functions and begin a study of quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students also study conic sections as well as permutations and combinations.

HONORS ALGEBRA II

Students develop the skills to work in the real and complex number systems. Students study rational and irrational numbers and problem solving with them. Students review linear functions and begin a study of quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students also study conic sections as well as permutations and combinations. The Honors level course will challenge students with an accelerated pace, in depth study of important concepts, and application to real world situations.

INTRODUCTORY PRE-CALCULUS WITH TRIGONOMETRY

This course includes the study of many topics found in Pre-Calculus and also addresses topics commonly found in required college courses for non-math majors. The pace of this course will allow for review of key algebra and geometry concepts that are needed for success in this course and beyond. Topics will include linear, polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions as well as major areas of trigonometry including the Unit Circle, Law of Sines, Law of Cosines and basic identities. Applications to these topics will also be included.

PRE-CALCULUS

Pre-Calculus is designed to prepare students for a course in Calculus. One third of the course is spent studying trigonometry. In addition, students continue their study of polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Students also study basic sequences and series, probability and introductory topics in calculus.

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HONORS PRE-CALCULUS WITH INTRODUCTORY CALCULUS

(Open to students who have completed Algebra II Honors and with the approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson)
This is an accelerated course that is offered at the Honors level. Students will cover all topics covered in the Pre-Calculus curriculum, including polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions, and an extensive study of trigonometry. In addition students will study limits, rates of change, and derivative rules. Students who successfully complete this course can enroll in AP Calculus AB or BC in their senior year. Students will be expected to complete independent assignments throughout the year.

CALCULUS

Calculus is open to students who have completed Pre-Calculus. This course begins with a brief review of trigonometric functions, natural logarithms and exponential functions. This course includes a study of limits, rates of change, derivatives and an introduction to integrals and selected applications. All topics will be investigated numerically, algebraically and graphically.

AP CALCULUS AB

AP Calculus AB is open to students who have completed Pre-Calculus, Honors Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus with Introductory Calculus. AP Calculus AB covers all topics outlined in the syllabus written by the College Board. Students study limits, rate of change, derivatives and their applications, and integrals and their applications. These topics are investigated numerically, algebraically and graphically. Any junior enrolled in AP Calculus AB must take the AP exam to receive the AP designation on his transcript and to have his grade weighted on the honors scale. Students will be prepared to take the AP Calculus AB exam in May.

AP CALCULUS BC

AP Calculus BC is open to students who have completed Honors Pre-Calculus with Introductory Calculus, Calculus or AP Calculus AB. AP Calculus BC covers all topics outlined in the syllabus written by the College Board. Students will study all topics from AP Calculus AB. Additionally, students will study parametric, polar and vector function; L'Hop's Rule; Euler's method; applications of integrals; antiderivatives by substitution and parts; improper integrals; Polynomial approximations and series. These topics are investigated numerically, algebraically and graphically. Any junior enrolled in AP Calculus BC must take the AP exam to receive the AP designation on his transcript and to have his grade weighted on the honors scale. Students will be prepared to take the AP Calculus BC exam in May.

ELECTIVE COURSES

STATISTICS

(Open to seniors with the approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson)

In this elective course, students will study the major concepts and tools relating to collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to themes including exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns and statistical inference. The use of a TI-83/84 calculator is integral for this course

AP STATISTICS

(Open to seniors with the approval of Mathematics Department Chairperson)

AP Statistics covers all topics outlined in the syllabus written by the College Board. Students will study the major concepts and tools relating to collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to themes including exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns and statistical inference. The use of a TI-83/84 calculator is integral for this course. Students will be prepared to take the AP Statistics exam in May.

SCIENCE

Students must complete three years of Science. The Fairfield College Preparatory School Science curriculum includes the following courses:

- 9th grade:** Biology with Lab
- 10th grade:** Physics with Lab (Honors will be based on a GPA of 3.5 or higher and A in Biology/Math)
- 11th grade:** Chemistry with Lab (Honors will be based on GPA off 3.5 or higher)
- 12th grade:** Choice of AP Biology, AP Chemistry or AP Physics, all of which are college-level courses with a minimum of 20% time allocated to lab. The option of Environmental Science with Lab is also available to complete a 4-year sequence.

Labs activities every cycle and combining active, hands-on/minds-on STEM learning experiences with research and problem-solving opportunities, offers a powerful platform for building confidence, developing communication skills and making sense of the world around us – a world that is increasingly shaped by science and technology.

BIOLOGY

This course fulfills the first-year science requirement for all Fairfield Prep students and the Connecticut state requirement for Biology. This course will provide students with a comprehensive knowledge of Biology. The course uses a molecular biology approach. Topics will be illustrated through

the following themes that will recur throughout the course: scientific method, classification of organisms, evolution; structure and function of cells; reproduction and inheritance. The laboratory component of the course includes investigations intended to provide hands-on experiences and reinforce the concepts discussed in class. These include, but are not limited to, computer integrated microscopy, biochemical testing and some dissection.

HONORS BIOLOGY

(Department Approval Required)

Honors Biology will explore the same topics included in Biology at a faster pace and in more depth and detail. Independent work will be required of the students.

PHYSICS

This course is designed to provide students with the basic concepts and principles of Physics. This conceptual Physics course is designed to take the focus off the Math skills and emphasize the Physics topics. Topics typically include fundamentals of motion, forces, energy, momentum, sound, light electricity and magnetism. Students will investigate these topics through a variety of classroom activities which include: pre-written and open-ended laboratory experiments; small group discussions; lectures and note taking; viewing videos; learning and applying problem-solving techniques; and relating physics principles to daily experience. Students will understand the role of physics in explaining natural phenomena and in seeking solutions to scientific and technological problems that citizens of the 21st century will face. Quarterly STEM projects will be assigned to all students.

HONORS PHYSICS

(Department Approval Required)

Honors Physics will explore the same topics included in Physics at a faster pace and in more mathematical depth and detail. Independent work will be required of the students.

CHEMISTRY

This course is designed to help students understand basic chemical principles and master problem-solving skills. Students will develop an understanding of how those concepts and skills are relevant to other courses and their daily lives. Chemical topics covered in the course include basic science concepts, measurements, atomic theory, bonding, stoichiometry, states of matter, energy changes, solutions, acids & bases, and nuclear chemistry.

HONORS CHEMISTRY

(Department Approval Required)

This advanced sequence course will provide students with a detailed and intricate knowledge of chemistry and will prepare students for entry into the advanced placement program. Major topics of study include: gas laws, atomic and molecular structure, chemical reactions, the periodic table, the separation of substances, nuclear chemistry, organic chemistry, electrochemistry energy in chemical change, and solutions.

AP BIOLOGY

(Prerequisite Biology, Physics and Chemistry)

The AP Biology course is equivalent to a two-semester college introductory Biology course and has been endorsed enthusiastically by higher education officials. Students who earn high scores on the AP Biology exam may be able to earn university credit, placement in an Honors Program, or both. AP Biology is designed to enable students to develop advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, such as designing a plan for collecting data, analyzing data, applying mathematical routines, and connecting concepts in and across domains. The result will be readiness for the study of advanced topics in subsequent college courses — a goal of every AP course. Content, inquiry, and reasoning are equally important in AP Biology; therefore, each learning objective combines content with inquiry and reasoning skills described in the science practices.

AP PHYSICS I

(Prerequisite Biology, Physics and Chemistry)

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: kinematics; dynamics; circular motion and gravitation; energy; momentum; simple harmonic motion; torque and rotational motion; electric charge and electric force; DC circuits; and mechanical waves and sound.

AP CHEMISTRY

(Prerequisite Biology, Physics and Chemistry)

This course is a university level laboratory science course designed for students who have an interest in a science related major. This inorganic chemistry course includes both the lecture and laboratory components of a two-semester college program. Students will be prepared for the AP Chemistry exam in May. Students who earn high scores on the AP Chemistry exam may be able to earn university credit, placement in an Honors Program, or both. Topics covered in AP Chemistry (the study of matter and its changes) include: chemical change, energy, stoichiometry, quantum mechanics, periodicity, bonding, molecular structure, gas laws, nuclear physics, solutions, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, chemical reactions, and electrochemistry.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Environmental Science is a laboratory based science course designed to provide students with the content and skills needed to understand the interrelationships found in the natural world. Students will develop skills to identify and analyze environmental problems and to propose and examine solutions. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of Environmental Science, this course will draw on many different disciplines of science including Biology, Chemistry, and Earth Sciences. Topics included in this course are: Earth Systems and Resources, Biotic Systems, Population Dynamics, Land and Water Use, Energy Resources, Pollution, and Global Change. This course will involve many labs, on-site field studies, and off-site field trips.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Graduation Requirements: Students must complete three years of Social Studies including one non-American History course in sophomore year and American History in Junior year.

Placement in AP Courses is based on GPA and grades in Social Studies courses.

GLOBAL STUDIES

Students will gain a general understanding of the histories and cultures of the world and how these histories relate to and affect our own world. Students will study the civilizations of Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and the Middle East. The course will focus on the cultural, social, religious and political developments in each of these areas. The course will address how these developments created the world in which we live today.

SOPHOMORE SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Sophomores can elect from one of the following three courses.

WESTERN CIVILIZATION

In this course, students will explore the heritage of Western Civilization through an examination of the cultural and political contributions of the Ancient World, the Middle Ages and the Renaissance and Modern Era in Europe and the Americas. Emphasis will be placed on methods of historical inquiry and objectivity in order to reach a true understanding and appreciation of the many contributions of these past eras to our present.

ASIAN STUDIES

This course is designed to expose students to the wonders of the history and culture of India, China, Japan, and Southeast Asia from the time of the earliest civilizations, through the period of Western contact and up to the modern era. By studying the development of Asian social and political institutions, and its great religious and philosophical traditions, students will come to understand the importance of Asian cultures in world history.

ASIAN HONORS HUMANITIES

(Departmental Approval Required)

Asian Honors Humanities will focus on Japanese history, language, and culture from earliest times to the present. Since much of Japanese culture is borrowed from China and to a lesser extent India and Korea, when necessary, the major political, philosophical, and religious movements of countries contributing to the formation of Japanese culture will be covered as well. Japan's interaction with other Asian nations in recent history will also be discussed.

JUNIOR SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Juniors will enroll in one of the following two courses.

AMERICAN HISTORY

Today the United States ranks as the most influential nation in the world. For many years, the ideals of the American Revolution inspired imitators in the lands far removed from North America. The spirit of American enterprise and the ingenious nature of her technology have been imitated everywhere. But admiration and envy are mixed with hatred and scorn. Many people in developing nations believe that the United States has turned its back on the great revolutionary tradition in which it was born. Instead of trying to pack the course with factual information, the teachers of American History have chosen to select vital elements of the American tradition and to explore them in depth.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

(Departmental Approval Required)

AP American History is a college level course and is designed for students with a serious interest in Social Studies. The course syllabus will be in accordance with College Board guidelines for AP American History and will prepare the student for the AP exam at the end of the year

Placement in AP American History is based on GPA and grades in prior Social Studies courses. Students in AP American History are required to take the AP exam.

SENIOR ELECTIVES

AP GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

(Department Approval Required)

This AP course is designed to give students a critical perspective on government and politics in the United States. To accomplish this end, the course studies the development of our system of constitutional government, political beliefs and behaviors in the United States, the organization of the National government, civil rights and civil liberties. Placement in AP Government and Politics is based on GPA and grades in prior Social Studies courses.

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

(Departmental Approval Required)

AP European History is a survey of European History from "The Late Middle Ages to the Dawn of the 21st Century." This course will explore not only the political aspects of Europe's history, but also the important intellectual, cultural, and economic developments over the last 700 years. Special attention will be devoted to the important conflicts, borrowing of culture and economic interaction between Europe and Asia from the Renaissance to the present. Through lectures, student projects, primary documents, class discussion and exposure to artistic works, students will be provided with the background necessary to understand the important social, cultural and intellectual movements during this period.

ECONOMICS

This course will focus on the various theories of economic development, i.e., Keynesian, Monetarist, supply side, etc. Students will explore the various forces in economics and how they interact with each other. They will study how the manipulation of these forces can affect the national economy and how that national economy interacts with the international economy creating a world economy. Finally, the course will explore how the economic forces affect those decisions a company must make to determine how it should develop and how it handles its financial resources.

INTRODUCTION TO AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Introduction to American Government introduces students to key political ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the political culture of the United States. The course examines politically significant concepts and themes, through which students learn to apply disciplinary reasoning, assess causes and consequences of political events, and interpret data to develop evidence-based arguments.

INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

This course will serve as an introduction to the science of society, with an emphasis on modern America. Sociologists study how various social forces and institutions, such as religion, politics, technology and education mold our views about our world and our place in it. Topics for study will include sociological theory, socialization, deviance, stratification, power, and change.

MODERN ASIA

Over the last two centuries the countries of south and east Asia have undergone significant change and considerable turmoil. Imperial dynasties have fallen and traditional cultures have been subjected to foreign domination and radical ideologies. War and conflict have become the norm rather than the exception to it.

This course will investigate the main forces which have affected Asia in the modern era. Special attention will be devoted to major international conflicts including the Opium wars, World War II, and the clashes in Korea, Vietnam, and other Asian "hot spots."

In addition, the rise of Asian nationalism and communism will be closely examined, as well as the resultant tragedies such as the "killing fields" of Cambodia and failed insurrectionist movements in Indonesia and the Philippines. Finally, recent historical developments will be analyzed including the rise of Japan as an economic power, the pro-democracy movement in China, Burma, and other Asian countries.

THE MODERN MIDDLE EAST/US HISTORY SINCE 1945 (In tandem electives)

The Modern Middle East

The first semester course is a study of the Middle East and North Africa from the late 19th Century to the present. The region is defined to include the entire Arab world from Morocco in the west to Iraq in the east as well as Iran, Turkey and Israel. The topics of the course will focus on regional conflicts, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and the Palestinian question. Special attention will be placed on U.S. involvement in the Arab-Israeli conflict, dependence on foreign oil, the Iran-Iraq War, The Persian Gulf War, and the War on Terror. The goal of the course is for students to come away with an understanding of the political, cultural, social and economic forces that have shaped the Middle East in the modern world.

U.S. History Since 1945

The second semester course examines the recent events and trends which have shaped the world in which we live. The course will focus on the Cold War, the Civil Rights Movement, the rise of the consumer society, the Vietnam War, and the Reagan Presidency. We will use a variety of sources including textbooks, contemporary readings, music, and films. The goal of the course is for students to acquire a basic understanding of the forces which inform American society and politics today.

THEOLOGY

THEOLOGY I: JESUITS, RELIGIONS AND COVENANTS

This course begins with a study of the history of the Society of Jesus and Ignatian Spirituality. Students will learn that they are now part of a global network of Jesuit educational institutions. The course also examines what it means to be spiritual and religious in the past and present through a study of the major world religions. Finally, an exploration of the Pentateuch serves as a scriptural foundation for future study.

THEOLOGY II: THE LIVING WORD: OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT

This course continues the story of the People of God as students explore the post-Exodus Old Testament. Students will learn about the Major Prophets and kings of the United Kingdom of Israel, invasions and exiles, the Temple of Jerusalem, and the promise of the coming Messiah. The second half of the course will begin with an introduction to the New Testament via an exploration of the Gospels. God's "breaking into human history" through the Incarnation and the Holy Spirit's presence amongst the early Christian communities serve as the fulfillment of the covenants of the Old Testament. An investigation of the Acts of the Apostles and the Apostolic Letters completes the course of Scripture study.

THEOLOGY III: GOSPELS, LETTERS & LIVING: A PRAGMATIC UNDERSTANDING

The Junior Theology course is devoted in first semester to a detailed study of the New Testament, especially the Gospels. This study focuses on understanding the New Testament's constituent books in the context of the community of faith for which they were originally written. It highlights the theologies of the Gospels and of the letters of Paul. The relevance of scripture to current events, to liturgy and prayer, and to the personal life of each student is emphasized.

In second semester students ponder the nature and meaning of relationships with the aim of achieving a deeper and more mature understanding and love of self, of other persons and of God. Students are challenged to examine their own relationships with their family, friends and significant others through readings, presentations and class discussions about topics such as dating, sexuality, communication and genuine love.

SENIOR THEOLOGY COURSES

Seniors can elect one of the following two courses.

THEOLOGY IV: SOCIAL ETHICS AND GLOBAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The first semester of this course will focus on social ethics. The examination of contemporary problems in society is grounded in a study of Christian ethical principles in comparison to other philosophical and religious ethical traditions. The second semester of this course will investigate controversial topics concerning the wellbeing of the population and the environment with a focus on global awareness and understanding. Throughout the year, the academic components are accompanied by hands-on experience in ongoing community-service projects, which are integrated into the course through regularly scheduled small-group discussions centered upon the lessons, challenges and rewards associated with service to others.

THEOLOGY IV: SOCIAL ETHICS AND ECONOMY AND SOCIETY

The first semester of this course will focus on social ethics. The examination of contemporary problems in society is grounded in a study of Christian ethical principles in comparison to other philosophical and religious ethical traditions. The second semester of this course will explore moral and ethical issues in connection with the economy, law, business, and public policy. Throughout the year, the academic components are accompanied by hands-on experience in ongoing community-service projects, which are integrated into the course through regularly scheduled small-group discussions centered upon the lessons, challenges and rewards associated with service to others.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

FOUNDATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY AND CODING

Foundations of Technology and Coding is a required one semester or summer course for all freshman and transfer students. The first part of this course will introduce students to the iPad as an educational tool. Students will enroll in all necessary systems and learn about important schoolwide iPad apps including, but not limited to, Schoology, Google Drive, Notability, Pages, Numbers, and Keynote. Students will also learn about Digital Citizenship. The second part of this course will introduce students to coding languages including, but not limited to, Swift, Java and Python.

COMPUTER PROGRAMMING

Computer Programming is an elective course for upperclassmen that will incorporate the Java language. Topics will include, but will not be limited to, object-oriented program design, programming, coding, data structures, operations and algorithms.